

THESE MINUTES ARE SUBJECT TO APPROVAL AT THE NEXT BOS MEETING

TOWN OF CHESTER, CONNECTICUT  
BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
SPECIAL MEETING  
Thursday, April 11, 2024  
Chester Town Hall  
Community Room and via TEAMS

CALL TO ORDER

First Selectwoman Lignar called the meeting to order at 12:02 p.m.

ATTENDEES

First Selectwoman Lignar, Selectwoman Pat Bandzes, Selectman Paul Radicchi, Emily Eckenroth, Assessor, John O'Hare, BOF Chairman, John Chillock, BOF, Chief Grzybowski, Fire Chief, Peter Evankow, Finance Director (TEAMS), Charlie Greeney, (TEAMS), Deborah Lynde, (TEAMS), Jim Schafer, (TEAMS), and Madaline Meyer, Tax Collector (TEAMS).

DISCUSS AND FINALIZE HOSE COMPANY TAX EXEMPT ORDINANCE

Copies of the Hose Company Tax Exempt Ordinance, as edited by the Assessor, Fire Chief and Attorney Roberts, Town Attorney, were distributed and discussed in detail.

Topics of discussion included:

- Tax Abatement vs. Tax Exemption – value is the same, processing is different.
  - Consensus was to use the exemption option capped at \$2 million.
- Appropriate maximum assessed value amount and availability.
- Potential addition of eligible volunteer members (non-salaried), i.e. Search and Rescue, EMS, Ambulance etc.
- Pros and Cons of the use of a potential “step system”.
- Formula used to determine the number of points issues for each call/event/training.

Paul Radicchi made a motion to revise the approved changes per the recommendations made by the Town Attorney and this afternoon's discussion which will make the document whole and when changes agreed upon, the Ordinance will be forwarded to a Town Meeting for further action. Cindy Lignar seconded the motion. Discussion followed.

Discussion - The Town Attorney will be asked to clarify that if compensation is provided during the year, an individual is not eligible for the benefit.

The document will be updated as discussed and distributed to all appropriate parties for review.

Vote on motion – unanimously approved.

ADJOURNMENT

Paul Radicchi made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Pat Bandzes seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Suzanne Helchowski  
Clerk