

**Selectmen's Minutes
Senior Center**

December 12, 2016

Present: Chairman Lisa J. O'Donnell, Selectman David A. Doane, and Town Administrator Brendhan Zubricki.

Also Present: Assessor Richard Cairns, Assessor Barry Ewing, and Assessor Kurt Wilhelm.

Board of Selectman Chairman O'Donnell and Board of Assessors Chairman Cairns called the meeting to order 6:30 p.m. at the Senior Center on Pickering Street.

A motion was made, seconded, and unanimously voted by both boards to resume the Board of Assessors Public Hearing regarding the adoption of a Residential Factor that had been continued from November 28, 2016.

Board of Assessors' Chairman Richard Cairns explained that, in Essex, in order to make any meaningful difference to residential taxpayers (which comprise 90% of taxpayers), the commercial rate would have to be unreasonably high. As such, as in past years, the Board of Assessors is recommending a residential factor of 1.0. Mr. Cairns also reviewed the DOR LA-5 form and noted a small amount of excess levy capacity.

Chairman O'Donnell acknowledged that there were no members of the public present, and, as such, no additional comments were provided as part of the hearing.

A motion was made, seconded, and both boards voted unanimously to close the hearing.

Selectman Doane moved to set the residential factor for fiscal year 2017 at 1.0, and also, that Mr. Zubricki be authorized to sign any and all paperwork or DLS Gateway forms on behalf of the Selectmen with regard to the setting of the fiscal year 2017 tax rate. The motion was seconded and unanimously voted by all present.

The Selectmen were reminded that their attendance is requested at a public hearing on Wednesday, December 14, 2016, in the High School Library, starting at 7:00 p.m. regarding the tentative School District budget for FY18.

The next regular Board of Selectmen's meeting will take place on Tuesday, December 20, 2016, at 7:00 p.m. in the Fire Station meeting room, 24 Martin Street.

The Selectmen will attend a public hearing on Tuesday, January 31, 2017, at the Essex Elementary School, starting at 7:00 p.m., regarding the final School District budget for FY18.

There being no other business before the boards, a motion was made, seconded, and unanimously voted by all present to adjourn the hearing, at approximately 6:45 p.m.

Prepared by: _____
Brendhan Zubricki

Attested by: _____
David A. Doane