

New Durham Board of Selectmen Meeting
November 9, 2016
DRAFT
NEW DURHAM BOARD OF SELECTMEN
New Durham Town Hall
November 9, 2016, 5:00p.m.

DRAFT: These minutes are strictly a draft copy and are awaiting amendment or approval at a subsequent, duly noticed public meeting. Amendments to these minutes will be noted in the minutes of said meeting. The draft will be posted on the website as a draft copy for public informational use only.

Present

Chair David Bickford
Selectman David Swenson
Selectman Gregory Anthes

Also Present:

Scott Kinmond, Town Administrator

Call to Order

Chair Bickford called the meeting to order at 5:00p.m.

Chair Bickford stated the tax rate has been received from the Department of Revenue Administration and the Board of Selectmen plan to discuss what they will apply towards that. Selectman Swenson stated the tax rate is based on the new valuation which is roughly 3% lower than 2015. He explained the tax rate for the Operating Budget of the Town and the school budget and also gave a review of last year's rates. Selectman Swenson noted the rates set by DRA for that Town is \$5.57 and the school rate is \$12.22. Town Administrator Kinmond noted the unassigned fund balance is \$1,128,045 and that represents 10.73%. A spreadsheet for the different rates was reviewed and discussed. There was discussion on how the overall tax rate could be reduced. Selectman Anthes stated he wants to get the tax rate much lower. Selectman Swenson and Town Administrator Kinmond noted they need to make sure the cuts are sustainable and the Town services can still function.

Chair Bickford made a motion to apply \$175,000 of the unassigned fund balance to the tax rate to reduce taxes. Selectman Anthes seconded the motion. Discussion:

Selectman Swenson serious issues such as those that may come up at Town Meeting, are not being considered and he is opposed to the excessive amount which won't be sustainable. He clarified that he is in favor of applying funds from the unassigned fund balance to reduce taxes. Town Administrator Kinmond noted there are items that have not been funded at all but should be. Selectman Anthes pointed out they are only arguing over \$25,000. Selectman Swenson noted there was no motion for the amount of \$150,000. **Motion passed, 2-1-0.** Selectman Swenson opposed.

Selectman Swenson made a motion to adjourn. Motion failed for a lack of second.

Selectman Anthes made a motion to adjourn. Motion failed for lack of a second.

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**Selectman Anthes made a motion to adjourn. Chair Bickford seconded the motion.
Motion passed, 3-0-0.**

The meeting was adjourned at 6:30p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jennifer Riel, Recording Secretary