Ryan Knapp, Chair Phil Carroll, Vice Chair Neil Chaudhary Joe Girgasky Mary Ann Jacob Lisa Romano



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## **TOWN OF NEWTOWN**

Draft Minutes of the Legislative Ordinance Committee Meeting

The Ordinance Committee met on Wednesday April 9th, 2014 in the Municipal Center, 3 Primrose Lane, Newtown. Committee Chairman Ryan Knapp called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm.

Present: Ms Jacob, Mr. Chaudhary, Mr.Carroll, Mr. Girgasky and Mr. Knapp

Also in attendance: Attorney David Dobin and several members of the public

Absent: Ms. Romano

PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

## **Old Business**

Ms. Jacob made a motion to accept the new language of Ordinance 45A, the review and modification of Senior Tax Relief as referred to the Ordinance Committee by the Legislative Council during the regular meeting of January 30<sup>th</sup>, 2014, and recommend the Council send it to public hearing. Mr. Carroll 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. Mr Knapp invited Attorney Dobin to join the discussion.

Attorney Dobin reviewed the changes as suggested during the April 7<sup>th</sup> meeting which have been rolled into the ordinance language. This included making the asset test start in 2015, extending the application date for 2014 and clarifying some language.

Mr. Chaudhary had questions about the use of the word "cap" in 208-8 because that number can be increased if needed. Attorney Dobin said it is acceptable.

Ms. Jacob suggested that we make this an annual process. Noted that we were told it would not be a lot of additional work.

Mr. Knapp suggested we make language to do so effective 2015 as we are in the midst of an application period.

Ms. Jacob asked about any surplus and thought it should be ear marked for senior tax abatement. Mr. Knapp suggested changing "shall be allocated to the General Fund of The Town of Newtown" to "shall be made available to fund the following year's council approved senior tax abatement budget allocation." No other changes.

Mr. Chaudhary made a friendly amendment to change the motion to include "with the two changes as agreed upon during the Ordinance Committee meeting of April 9th". Mr. Carroll 2<sup>nd,</sup>ed.

Mr. Knapp called for a vote on the friendly amendment. All in favor.

Mr. Knapp called for a vote on the amended motion. All in favor.

Mr. Knapp opened the discussion on the agenda item: An amendment enabling the municipal option of Public Act No. 13-224, providing a tax exemption for One Hundred Percent Disabled Veterans as referred to the Ordinance Committee by the Legislative Council during the regular meeting of January 8<sup>th</sup>, 2014. Mr. Knapp reported no news from the state on this topic.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Anthony Filiato, 24 Washbrook Road, asked if is our intention to guarantee group D's

funding and why we would not first fully fund groups A B and C.

Robert Merola, 22 Ashford Lane, had a question about allocations.

Mr. Chaudhary motioned to adjourn at 7:30pm. Mr. Carroll seconded.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ryan W. Knapp Ordinance Committee Chairman