

**TOWN OF HOLLISTON
BOARD OF SELECTMEN**

**703 Washington Street
Holliston, MA 01746**

508-429-0608

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MEETING MINUTES
HOLLISTON TOWN HALL
DECEMBER 1, 2017**

Present: Jay Marsden, Vice Chairman; Mark Ahronian, Clerk

Also present: Jeff Ritter, Town Administrator, Board of Assessors, Mary Bousquet, Treasurer/Collector

Absent: Kevin Conley, Chairman

J. Marsden, Vice Chairman called the meeting and Public Hearing to order at 9:00a.m.

Tax Rate Hearing (Continued): M. Ahronian, Clerk read the legal notice for the Tax Hearing.

J. Marsden noted that handouts are available as were provided by the Board of Assessors and that the Board of Assessors will make a presentation after which questions will be welcome.

J. Marsden turned the meeting over to the Chairman of the Board of Assessors.

John Cronin, Chairman of the Board of Assessors briefed the Board in that they received all the information and data from the Department of Revenue including the new growth numbers.

The Board has two (2) options a single or a dual tax rate. The dual tax rate would place a higher financial burden on the business community and historically the Town has gone with a single tax rate. The Board reviewed with the Assessors the attached handout. The Assessors recommend remaining with a single tax rate.

J. Marsden asked if there were questions from the public. Jay Leary, 146 Karen Circle asked if the property values increased why would the tax rate increase?

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J. Cronin responded by stated there a number of factors that go into determining the actual tax rate including but not limited to levels of town spending, state funding, debt financing (M. Bousquet confirmed) and the amount of debt to be retired in any given year.

M. Bousquet noted that most school debt will be paid by 2023 as a result the levy will be reduced accordingly.

M. Ahronian made a motion to close the Public Hearing. Second, J. Marsden. Vote 2-0

M. Ahronian made a motion to adopt a Residential Factor (a factor of "1" which will yield a uniform tax rate for all properties. Second, J. Marsden. Voted 2-0

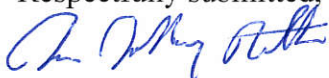
M. Ahronian made a motion not to adopt a residential exemption (shifting some residential tax burden from lower value properties to higher property values). Second, J. Marsden. Voted 2-0

M. Ahronian made a motion not to adopt a small commercial exemption. Second, J. Marsden. Vote 2-0

M. Ahronian made a motion note to accept an open space discount. Second, J. Marsden. Voted 2-0.

Adjourn: At 9:18a.m. M. Ahronian made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Second, J. Marsden. Voted 2-0

Respectfully submitted,



J. Jeffrey Ritter
Town Administrator