



*Town of Mendon*

## MEETING MINUTES

BOARD/COMMITTEE NAME: Taxation Aid Committee

DATE OF MEETING: Thursday, March 10, 2022

TIME OF MEETING: 5:30 pm

LOCATION OF MEETING: Remote via Teams (link below)

<p>Attendees: Alejna Brugos, Joyce Gilmore, Kathleen Nicholson, Kevin Rudden</p> <p>Jody Kurczy planning to join at 5:55pm.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Remote Participation</b></p> <p>Join on your computer or mobile app <a href="#">Click here to join the meeting</a> Or call in (audio only) <a href="tel:+13474671434">+1 347-467-1434</a>, <a href="tel:+1347010483">347010483#</a> United States, New York City Phone Conference ID: 347 010 483#</p>
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## AGENDA

1. Call to Order: 5:40pm EST – *Using new Town guidelines: full remote meetings allowed through July 13<sup>th</sup>*
2. Accept Minutes: *Joyce approved; Kevin seconded*
3. Treasurer’s Report: *skip until Jody joins. Same information – no changes since annual report:*
  - a. *Resident recipient thanked Jody in Town Hall – methodology worked – keeping seniors in their homes*
  - b. *Sent packet to go with it – nice award letter with statement and how it impacts taxes and referenced other services and directed to Council on Aging*
  - c. *2021: FY \$4,045.50 and awarded / distributions \$3,150.00 = Balance of \$895.50*
  - d. *Donations (no donations)*
4. Update on means-tested property tax exemption (METER) for senior citizens: *House Bill 3901 – it moved today! Sent to the Committee of Steering Policy and Scheduling – decides when it will*

*be voted by the House. Brian Murray filed on our behalf. Brian/Kevin/Alejna testified in January. Favorable readout – on the way for a vote by the full House. Committee on third readings – schedules another vote – then on to Senate. Kevin will keep checking on progress. On timetable we envisioned – if by July/August, we are ready for FY 2023. Governor Baker proposed a rise in circuit breaker for funding due to unprecedented rise in housing. Top level could be \$4,358 off tax bill – also tracking Governor’s Bill. De Facto Dual Tax Rate for anyone that qualifies. Applied to 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter bill. DOR approves tax rate.*

5. Review and update forms and application for Tax Aid Fund for fiscal year 2023: *Requesting for same information that assessors ask for. Stacked all their assets and totals and expenses for spreadsheet year end evaluation. Discussion of potential changes; update dates: okay for applications for FY23 October 31<sup>st</sup>, 2022; notify by December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2022. Time communication with tax bill – end of year or first week of January 2023. Leave limits where it is until we research it. Assessor’ task force looking at exemptions – look at again then. Joyce makes a motion to keep changes we just updated on form and proceed accordingly. Kevin seconds. All in favor.*

a. *April 15<sup>th</sup> – Alejna Brugos will update on the website.*

6. Plans and next steps: Outreach and publicity

a. *Donation request with the tax bill – May 2<sup>nd</sup> due – Crier announcement; next mailing will be July 2022 with bills due August 2<sup>nd</sup> – add on to mailing – paper in Town Hall – community hours to support?*

b. *Add to online cart option – sizable # of people have it go to the mortgage company – if you escrow your taxes – still contribute online or see the Treasurer –*

c. *Flyer – window traffic – rounding up option – do you want to help a senior*

d. *Students for interpersonal outreach – service opportunities? Senior Center communicating different things – word of mouth*

*e. Potential volunteers – encouraging students to help with the publicity / election day publicity and Town Meeting Flyer (May 6<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm) – couple hundred – ask Moderator in the advance and Ellen Agro – election day table (May 17<sup>th</sup>) – service project for kids*

*i. Student outreach – schools – Kathleen and Jody to follow up*

*ii. Kevin makes a motion to publicize at ATM and town election, Joyce seconds unanimous*

7. Topics not anticipated within 48 hours

8. Set next meeting and adjourn April 11<sup>th</sup> @ 1:30pm EST

**a.** Motion to adjourn by Kevin; Joyce seconded

**b.** 7:07pm EST Meeting Close

The listing of matters are those reasonably anticipated by the Chair which may be discussed at the meeting. Not all items listed may in fact be discussed and other items not listed may also be brought up for discussion to the extent permitted by law. Also, the timeframe for each topic is a general guideline and may not be strictly adhered to.