BOLTON BOARD OF SELECTMEN TAX ISSUE SUBCOMMITTEE SPECIAL MEETING

6:30PM, THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2024 BOLTON TOWN HALL, 222 BOLTON CENTER ROAD

In-Person and Virtual (Hybrid Format)

MINUTES

Tax Issue Subcommittee Members Present In-Person: Chairperson Ross Lally, Robert Morra, Amanda Gordon,

Staff Present Via Zoom: Recording Secretary, Patricia Hicks

Others Present In-Person: Laurie Bushnell, Tax Collector, Rodney Forrier, First Selectmen

Others Present Via Zoom: Karen Fishman, Accessor,

Others Present Via Zoom: Member of the Public; Jim Loersch,

1.Call to order: R. Lally called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

2. Discuss path forward for resolving tax issue. Focus will be on the method for returning surplus funds to taxpayers.

R. Lally, began discussion on drafting of the letters that will be sent to individual taxpayers and the steps to be taken to issue credits and refunds for citizens. The letter will include how taxpayers can access the credit.

L Bushnell would like to make sure taxpayers know it is not a refund but a return of excess revenue. The credit can be received in a check or applied to an individual's account, but it is not meant to correct tax issues. Mil rate will remain as set by the finance committee and will be used for your usual tax bill.

R. Lally we recommend you use the current Mil rate of 32.74 when budgeting for next year's estimated taxes.

A.Gordon said to make sure the letter was not confusing to the citizens and worded so they can understand it.

The draft Letter from the 12th was read to implement suggested revisions.

- R. Morra wanted to know the date for individuals to return the letter.
- A. Gordon and L Bushnell suggested putting a date of 30 days out for the letter to be signed and returned.

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A Gordon also suggested putting in the letter for individuals to allow 6-8 weeks for processing and mailing of refund and if form is not signed and returned the credit will automatically be added to the individual account.

- L. Bushnell also suggested to put in letter that if a check is requested, the check will be made out to all names that are on the property.
- R. Lally would like to also add that if an individual is in arrears on any payments to the town and requests a check the amount in arrears will be deducted from the check.
- L Bushnell suggested putting a statement on the letter saying if there are any questions the individual should consult a tax professional or tax attorney.
- L. Ross will make the revisions to the letter to taxpayers and send it out to the committee for review. will have the town attorney look at the letter before final submission.
- A. Gordon will do a press release upon approval by the board of selectman to let the public know where we are in the process.

Next meeting of tax issue subcommittee will be September 24th at 5:30pm

3. **Adjournment**: R. Morra MOVED to adjourn the meeting at 7:12 p.m. A. Gordon SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED 7:12

Respectfully submitted by Patricia Hicks

Patricia Hicks

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