



Town of Panton Chartered 1761

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Special Selectboard Meeting

October 2, 2018

Selectboard Member's present: Chair Howard Hall, Zachary Weaver, and Teresa Smith. Also present was Town Treasurer/Clerk Pam Correia, Assistant Clerk/Treasurer Linda Devino, and Lister Dave Sullivan.

At 6:33pm, Howard Hall called the meeting to order.

1. Public comments – There were no public comments.
2. Tax Rate – Howard Hall stated that a miscalculation had occurred when the new tax rate was set and that the new tax rate would need to be fixed. Howard stated that he would like to correct the problem right now and that he agreed there could be a problem created with homestead filings if a revised tax bill was not done. Howard Hall and Teresa Smith both agreed that they did not think the Board should wait and see. Howard suggested getting a letter out to all taxpayers of the 320 parcels. The Board discussed an extension of the due date for the first installment. The Board discussed the timeline of when revised bills would need to be reprinted in order to be postmarked 30 days in advance of the extended due date. Howard stated that he would rather see the tax bills reprinted by October 5, 2018 since the more time the Board waits, the more tax dollars could come in. Dave Sullivan inquired about the proposed letter. Teresa stated that a letter should be mailed out as soon as possible. Zachary Weaver wondered if the Board has the authority to waive any penalties incurred on an unpaid balance of the first installment. The Board discussed and encourages taxpayers to come to a meeting to discuss the waiving of any interest if they have been faced with an interest charge. Town Treasurer/Clerk Pam Correia advised the Board that the taxpayer may also need to go to the Board of Abatement to address any interest charges. Zachary stressed his concern about how mortgage companies will be notified of the revised tax bill. The Board discussed adding verbiage to the letter and revised tax bills in order to be as proactive as possible. Teresa stressed her concern that the Board needs to be sensitive to any penalty incurred to the taxpayer. Zachary stated that pushing the balance of the first installment to the second half of the bill could be used as an option.

Teresa stated that she is ready to waive any penalty and interest incurred by May 1, 2019 on 1st installment balances due to the calculation error and would like to remain as transparent as possible. Zachary Weaver moved to send a letter to the taxpayers before sending the new tax bills. Teresa Smith seconded. The motion passed. More discussion followed. Teresa Smith moved to meet with the NEMRC representative on Friday, October 5, 2018. Zachary Weaver seconded. The motion passed. The Board further discussed the extended due date and thought that making courtesy calls to the taxpayers that may have already paid to make them aware of any remaining balance due was a good idea. Teresa Smith moved to make the tax bills due on November 9, 2018, Zachary Weaver seconded. The motion passed. Teresa stated that she would like to be flexible on a case-by-case basis pertaining to any balance due from the miscalculation and let them slide to the second half without penalty if necessary. Howard Hall moved to accept the new municipal tax rate to be .5680, Teresa Smith seconded. The motion passed.

3. Communications – Town Treasurer/Clerk Pam Correia advised the Board that the new truck for the Highway Department was expected to arrive on October 15th or 16th from Sheldon Trucks. Pam advised the Board that she would have more information at the October 23, 2018 Selectboard meeting regarding any borrowing necessary for the truck accessories.

At 7:52pm, Zachary Weaver moved to adjourn the meeting. Teresa Smith seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Pam Correia
Town Treasurer/Clerk