Templeton Board of Assessors

Meeting Minutes

12/18/2013

Present: Brad, John and Luanne. Fred was unable to attend.

Meeting opened at @ 2:35 pm.

Minutes from 12-4-13 meeting were approved.

Motor Vehicle Abatements were signed. (4)

Sewer Betterment Payoff was signed (2).

Bill Warrant was signed.

New Business: Upcoming holiday hours were discussed and will be posted on the door.

Old Business: Update on the Tax Recap sheet. In light of the meeting held on 12-13 and 12-16, the tax rate will not be set in time to issue tax bills for January 1. For multiple reasons the FY13 books are not closed out yet and as it looks now, the town has overspent the levy limit by $505,000 (so far). This means before we can have a tax rate set we will need to decide how we are going to fund this deficit. Going into town meeting the options are ask for an override, major budget cuts, wait for free cash to be certified (which is suggested not to do as we do not know when this will be certified and we should not use free cash as a revenue source), move monies out of stabilization and other various town accounts or a combination of these. It appears that the tax rate will not be set until mid to end of February. So, 2 tax bills will be going out come April. Luanne did inform the Board that due to this delay, our office will be backed up at least 6 months as no value changes can be done until the tax rate is set. The Board agreed we will move forward with what we can.

 Update on hiring Administrative Assistant. Luanne informed the board that no one applied in-house for this position. It will now need to go out to the public. However, it was discussed at the 12-16 meeting to institute a hiring freeze. It was agreed that we will wait and see what transpires and Luanne will just continue doing what she has been doing, for now.

 FY15 budgets were submitted but again at the 12-16 meeting it was suggested to revamp our budgets with a 2% cut across the board on all budget accounts. We will wait for a memo from the Board of Selectmen instructing us on what to do and when.

A motion was made to go into Executive Session at 2:50 p.m. The reason for this session is to review and sign FY14 Exemption Applications.

A motion was made to come out of Executive Session at 2:55 p.m.

In Executive Session the following took place: 3 - Clause 17D Exemptions were approved

 4 – Clause 41C Exemptions were approved

A motion was made to adjourn @ 2:57 p.m.

Respectfully submitted.