

**TOWN OF BARRINGTON  
AD HOC EXEMPTION COMMITTEE  
WEDNESDAY JULY 26 2017 AT 7:00PM  
BARRINGTON PUBLIC LIBRARY, "BOARD ROOM" 2ND FLOOR**

**Agenda #4**

**COMMITTEE CHARGE**

*The charge of the Ad Hoc Committee shall be to evaluate ways in which the Town can provide tax relief to those in financial need and other factors deemed appropriate and to make recommendations to the Town Council on ways to do so. Provided, however, that the Committee should make no recommendation for tax relief measures without a corresponding estimate of the cost, in terms of lost tax revenue, of implementing and maintaining such tax relief.*

**BOARD MEMBERS (7-Voting)**

Chairman-Sтивен Boyajian, Esq.-(Town Council Member), Vice Chairman-Peter N. Dennehy-(Town Council Member), Michael W. Tripp, CPA, Patricia M. Keefe-Senior Services Advisory Board, Arthur Richter, Karen Statser-Senior Services Advisory Board, Kas DeCarvalho, Esq., *James J. Cunha-Town Manager (non-voting), Michael R. Minardi-Tax Assessor (non-voting), Kathleen Rapossa, CPA-Finance Director (non-voting), Richard Staples-Committee On Appropriations, Town Solicitor-Michael Ursillo (when needed)*

**EXISTING MEANS TESTING CATEGORIES & CREDITS**

**Circuit Breaker Exemptions (based on income)**

CB28: \$28,000 maximum income **\$1,050** tax reduction  
CB24: \$24,000 maximum income **\$1,700** tax reduction  
CB20: \$20,000 maximum income **\$2,350** tax reduction  
CB16: \$16,000 maximum income **\$3,000** tax reduction  
*Elderly (65 & Over) \$18,400 off of assessed valuation (\$368.00 tax reduction)*

**CURRENT MINIMUM ELIGIBILITY CATEGORIES**

Age: currently minimum age of 65-years

Assessment Limits: currently any valued home qualifies for Elderly Exemptions

Filing Requirements: currently only Circuit Breaker have to file on an annual basis

Length Of Ownership: currently no minimum length of ownership

Means Limits: currently no maximum income limit

Occupancy: currently we require applicant to attest that they reside in their home at least 183-days a year

Residency: currently no minimum residency qualification

**1. Administrative issues;**

- A. Call meeting to order
- B. Confirm that a quorum is present (4-of-7 voting members must be present)
- C. Inform the public that no new business will be started after 8:30pm

**2. Approval of Minutes (if any)**

3 **Old Business:** Continue to discuss & act on possible changes to Elderly Exemptions (Agenda Item #5)

4 **Correspondence:** No correspondence since last meeting

5 Discuss and act on Alternative Minimum Eligibility Requirements and Taxing Options:

**Assessment Limits:** possibly limit exemption to homes under a certain value (% of median value)

**Filing Deadline:** change filing deadline from June 30th (end of the fiscal year) to October 31st of the prior year (so that there is sufficient time to determine how many people will be applying for the exemption in any given year).

**Length Of Ownership:** most communities require 5-years, some 10-years

**Means Limit:** Maximum yearly income to receive any exemption at all

**Tax Freeze:** Single resident vs. multiple-residents (no interest, difference accrues till change of

**Work Off Taxes:** allow those 65 & over the ability to work for the Town to pay off tax liability

OTHER: \_\_\_\_\_

6 **New Business:**

A: Set up meeting(s) at the Senior Center to gain input on proposed Elderly changes.

B: Review proposed Ordinance change per Town Solicitor

C: Consider "Income Exemptions" for those younger than 65-years of age (capture those that experience a job loss in their 50's and had to pull Social Security benefits early).

D: Consider some help for the homeowner 85-years of age & older (possible move up one or more steps thus acknowledging their length of time in Barrington)

E: Mass mailing to see if this will be a revenue neutral suggestion.

7 **Public Comment:** Three (3) minute maximum - This agenda item is for members of the public to speak regarding a topic that is **not** already on the agenda. Please indicate that you would like to speak by raising your hand. When you are recognized, please approach the Board with your comments.

8 Set date and agenda for next meeting

9 Adjourn (motion & vote)

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The Town of Barrington will provide accommodations needed to ensure equal participation in all meeting. Please contact the Town Clerk's Office prior to the meeting so arrangements can be made to provide such assistance. A request for accommodations can be made in writing to; Town Clerk, 283 County Road, Barrington RI 02806 or by calling 401 247-1900 x-301. Hearing impaired callers can dial 711 "Relay" for additional assistance. The Barrington Town Hall, the Barrington Public Library and the Barrington Public Safety Buildings are accessible to the disabled

Posted on July 24, 2017 at; the Barrington Town Hall, the Barrington Public Library, the Town's Website, and on the Rhode Island Secretary of States Website.