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NEWTON BOARD OF SELECTMEN DATE: FRIDAY, November 10, 2017 TIME: 11:30AM LOCATION: NEWTON POLICE STATION, 8 MERRIMAC ROAD

PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES

I. Call to Order

Chairman Burrill called the meeting to order at 11:45am. In attendance were Selectmen, Matthew A. Burrill, Chairman, Selectmen Lisa L. Gonyer, Vice-Chairman, Lawrence B. Foote, James L. Doggett; and Nancy J. Wrigley, Town Administrator. The public session was not audio or video taped; the public session minutes were transcribed and typed by Nancy J. Wrigley.

Selectman Robert S. Donovan Jr. was excused this morning.

2017 Tax Rate Setting

Town Administrator Wrigley provided the Board of Selectmen with the preliminary figures submitted by the Department of Revenue for the proposed 2017 Tax Rate. The only decision the Board needs to make today is the amount of overlay to be used to cover abatements and the amount of fund balance to be used to reduce the tax rate.

Ms. Wrigley informed the Board that the town's portion of the tax rate was \$0.20 less than in 2016. However, the County and School tax rate went up. The Board stated that with their proposed number of \$20,000 for the overlay, they did not want to use any of the Town's Fund Balance to reduce the 2017 tax rate.

Selectman Gonyer moved to set the 2017 tax rate at \$26.38 per thousand. Second by Selectman Foote with a unanimous vote.

Candidates Night - Joint Meeting Request with the Selectmen and School Board

Chairman Burrill asked the Board if they remember his question to the School Board Candidates during the past election, asking if they would be receptive to holding a joint meeting to discuss the municipal and school plans in an effort to reduce some of the tax burden on our residents.

Selectman Burrill stated he would like to prepare a letter to the School Board to see if a meeting could be arranged. The Board was in favor of sending a letter but suggested it be held prior to the January 16th budget hearing.

II. Adjourn

Selectman Gonyer moved to adjourn at 12:03pm. Seconded by Selectman Foote with a unanimous vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy J. Wrigley Town Administrator