

MINUTES
OF THE TAX RELIEF COMMITTEE
DATE and TIME: January 27, 2016 8:30 AM
Lunch Room, Town House

ATTENDANCE: MEMBERS- Terry Rothermel (Chair), Helena Long, Stan Black and Jane Hotchkiss

Approval of minutes from December, 2015.

Committee reviewed current donations received, totaling \$101,568.00. This is the highest level of donations received in the history of the Tax Relief Committee. The average fundraising per year has been about \$70,000 over the last 5 years.

Currently, qualifying households receive \$1100 per year in tax relief. Approximately 45 households per year qualify and receive tax relief. The total expenditure is \$49,500.

Historically, any increase in tax relief would be tied to CPI at a minimum while maintaining a two year reserve.

Given the increase in reserve due to very generous donations, a move was made and approved to increase the tax relief amount to \$1300 annually.

Also discussed was the Town Warrant Tax Fairness Article that will offer seniors property tax relief, if passed. The proposed budget for tax relief would not exceed .05 of tax levy of town or approx. \$375,000.

Should Article 8 pass, the mission of the Tax Relief Committee will be reviewed by the Committee in consultation with Hugh Cargill Trust.

Motion made and accepted to schedule next meeting on Wednesday, April 20, 2016 at 8:30AM, Hearing Room, Town House.

ADJOURNED: Moved and voted at 9:00 a.m.

Respectfully submitted.
Helena Long, Scribe