

**TOWN OF FAIR HAVEN, VERMONT**  
**SELECTBOARD; Water and Sewer Commissioners; Liquor Commissioners; Cemetery Commissioners**  
**Municipal Building, Fair Haven, VT – July 06, 2021 -- 6:00 P.M. -- Special Meeting**

**APPROVED MINUTES**

**Members Present:** Chris Cole, Glen Traverse, Rod Holzworth, II, Jeff Sheldon, Carol Egon

**Others Present:** Town Manager Joseph Gunter,

**Call To Order:** Chairman Chris Cole called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

**Amendments to the Agenda:** None

**Property Tax Rate Approval:**

Manager Gunter opened the discussion. The proposed 2021-2022 tax rates are:

Homestead tax rate: \$2.4320

Non-Residential tax rate: \$2.5890

Discussion ensued.

Mr. Traverse asked what the percent increase was from last year to this year and what caused that increase. Mr. Gunter responded that it is a 3.25% increase over last year's homestead property taxes. The Selectboard Budget was only increased by \$84,691 of that \$76,000 was the sewer bond payment. The remaining \$8,691 was mostly contractual wage increases. Manager Gunter said there was a big increase in appropriation requests last year. Voters approved a total of \$290,034 in appropriations. These funds go to outside organizations not just the Town. These funds accounted for 6.7% of the tax rate. If the voters did not approve the appropriations taxes would have gone down by 3.45% this year.

**Mr. Sheldon motioned to approve the property tax rate as presented and requested the calculation sheet be attached to the minutes, Mr. Traverse Seconded for more discussion.**

Discussion continued. The topic of the 1% option tax was discussed. It was noted that had the voters approved the option tax the \$76,000 bond payment would not have had to be in the property tax. Manager Gunter noted that had the option tax been approved there would have been surplus revenue that could be used to pay the bond off faster.

Motion passed unanimously to approve the property tax rate

Respectfully submitted,  
Joseph Gunter

  
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Jeff Sheldon, Board Clerk