



STATE OF CONNECTICUT – COUNTY OF TOLLAND
INCORPORATED 1786

TOWN OF ELLINGTON

MICHAEL J. PURCARO
Chairman

55 MAIN STREET – PO BOX 187
ELLINGTON, CONNECTICUT 06029-0187
www.ellington-ct.gov

DAVID J. OLENDER
Vice Chairmen

BOARD OF FINANCE

PEGGY A. BUSSE
JAMES F. FAY
DOUGLAS B. HARDING
BARRY C. PINTO

SPECIAL MEETING WEDNESDAY, MAY 10, 2023

MINUTES

Members Present: Michael Purcaro -Chair, David Olender, James Fay, Douglas Harding, Barry Pinto.

Members Absent: Peggy Busse.

Others Present: Tiffany Pignataro – Finance Officer, John Rainaldi – Town Assessor, Dave Blovish – Ad Hoc, Ed Suchecki– Ad Hoc, Tim Heaney – Ad Hoc, Jeff Olender – Ad Hoc, Miriam Underwood – Ad Hoc, Tom Palshaw – Resident, Joe Burns – Resident, Ann Harford - Resident, Mary Blanchette – Hall Memorial Chairman via zoom.

Call to order

The chairman called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm

Pledge of Allegiance

Citizen Forum

No one came forward.

Presentation

a. Ad Hoc Tax Relief Program Review Committee Report

Mr. Purcaro thanked the Ad Hoc Tax Relief committee for their dedication. Mr. Blovish recognized the Ad Hoc committee members. He stated the committee was charged to identify a new tax relief program for our elderly residents. During their review, they referred to the current Circuit Breaker program, collected information from selected surrounding towns and collected data on the financial impact of the circuit breaker program. Looking at the 2020 census, he stated that about 17% of our population falls under the elderly tier. The goal is to keep our seniors in town and make it affordable for them to do so.

The committee came up with three different property tax relief options for residents aged 65 and older, including a fourth local enchantment option followed below.

Program Option 1: Flat rate of \$500 credit for any enrolled participant.

- All participants will receive a flat \$500 credit against their annual property tax as long as their income level does not exceed the maximum income level described under the Circuit Breaker program (\$49,100 for a married resident and \$40,300 for a single resident).

Program Option 2: Scaled flat amount for any enrolled participant.

- All participants will receive a flat dollar credit against their annual property tax according to the following schedule (whether they are married/single)

<u>Over</u>	<u>To</u>	<u>Flat Credit</u>
\$0	\$20,200	\$700 (Married or Single)
\$20,200	\$27,100	\$600 (Married or Single)
\$27,100	\$33,800	\$500 (Married or Single)
\$33,800	\$40,300	\$400 (Married or single)
\$40,300	\$49,100	\$300 (Married Only)

Program Option 3: 50% bonus credit applied to an enrolled participant's actual or deemed Circuit Breaker program.

- All participants would receive an additional credit equal to 50% of the credit that they receive under the Circuit Breaker program.

Program Option 4: Additional eligibility layer flat \$200 credit for any enrolled participant.

- All participants not otherwise eligible for relief due to the income limitations above would receive a flat \$200 tax credit if their income level does not exceed the levels described below.

<u>Over</u>	<u>To</u>	<u>Flat Credit</u>
\$40,000	\$50,000	\$200 flat amount for a single resident
\$49,100	\$65,000	\$200 flat amount of a married resident

New Business

a. Recommendation of Tax Relief Program

Mr. Blovish stated the committee is proposing that the board choose one of the options listed and then expand the program further. Mr. Olender asked Mr. Rainaldi which program would be the easiest for the town to work with. He stated the easiest would be a flat rate, this way they

wouldn't have to go out and collect more information from our residents. Residents that participate in the Circuit Breaker program will automatically be enrolled in the chosen local program.

The Board of Finance decided to keep this on the agenda for the June 7, 2023, Regular Meeting for further discussion.

Adjournment

MOVED HARDING SECONDED OLENDER AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 7:11 PM.

Respectfully submitted:

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Elizabeth Phelps".

Elizabeth Phelps, Recording Secretary