

Tax Fairness Committee
Minutes
May 24, 2019

The Tax Fairness Committee met at 8:00 am on May 24, 2019 in the Select Board Room. Present were members James Phelps, Nancy Cronin, Bill Kemeza, Jonathan Keyes, and David Karr. Also present were Michael Lawson, Select Board liaison, and Lane Partridge, Town Assessor.

The minutes of the April 5, 2019 meeting were approved.

Lane Partridge provided the committee with his letter in which he suggests that the Concord exemption not be calculated based on the Circuit Breaker Program which his office has been doing, but rather using the applicant's gross income as shown on their federal tax return for the previous tax year. This would simplify the Assessors office work.

Michael said he would like a tax accountant or auditor to review our home rule petition. He will get the auditor, and he, David and the auditor will review it together and will report back to the Tax Fairness Committee.

Lane Partridge said the Department of Revenue will have to review the Massachusetts Assessors bill, but if it passes, it probably will not affect passage of the Concord home rule petition.

Jonathan asked whether Concord could use the MAAO bill. Lane said that would make the tax calculation by the Assessors office more difficult.

Bill Kemeza suggested that using the points made in Lane's letter, the Committee develop a draft of our new home rule petition.

The next meeting was set for June 21.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:40.

Respectfully submitted:

Nancy Cronin
Clerk