# Tax Relief Programs' Committee Meeting Town Hall Conference Room February 20, 2013 Minutes

Present: Leonard Fried, Brian Manware, Dolly Mezzetti, Lynn Pinder, Donna Sempey and

Melanie Yanus

The meeting was called to order at 5:07 P.M.

## <u>Visitors</u>

Glenn Coffin

Yanus made a motion, seconded by Mezzetti to have Pinder chair this committee. *Unanimously approved*.

### **Discussion:**

# Town of Clinton Volunteer Fire Department Tax Exemption Program

Manware and Coffin discussed the need to extend the current ordinance for another year. The federal taxing of the exemption as income has been an issue for the past two years. The hope is that federal legislators will once again consider this exemption free of any federal tax liability.

Mezzetti made motion, seconded by Fried to extend the ordinance for one more year and to revisit the program for the Grand List of 2013. *Unanimously approved.* 

### **Discussion:**

Town Benefit Program

Tax Deferral Program

Tax Freeze Program

Yanus and Sempey explained the current town programs available for real property for those 65 and over or under 65 and totally disabled.

After much discussion, the committee recommends the following:

Mezzetti made motion, seconded by Fried to increase the qualifying income level from \$55,000 to \$60,000 for the town benefit program and increase the maximum yearly allowable relief from \$500 to \$550.

Unanimously approved.

Manware made motion, seconded by Mezzetti to increase the qualifying income level from \$55,000 to \$60,000 for the tax deferral program and remove the sunset clause. *Unanimously approved.* 

Mezzetti made motion, seconded by Fried that there shall continue to be no interest charged on the deferred tax amount effective from the 2001 Grand List until such time as may be amended.

Unanimously approved.

The committee recommends a handout defining the town benefit programs be placed in all town departments, the Library and numerous local businesses. Use the Clinton Events quarterly magazine to reach out to the homeowners and contact local news media to write articles about our programs as the legal notices are missed by most residents.

# <u>Adjourn</u>

Mezzetti made a motion, seconded by Fried to adjourn the meeting at 6:13 P.M. *Unanimously approved.*