

**Financial Management Team
Veterans Memorial Building
900 Main Street, Room 229
Millis, MA 02054
November 9, 2015 Minutes**

CALL TO ORDER: 6:30 pm Chairman Christopher Smith called the meeting to order. The following persons were present: Christopher Smith, Jennifer Scannell, Kathleen LaPlant, Charles Aspinwall, David O'Brien and Karen Bouret.

TAX FORECLOSURE/SALE OF TAX TITLE POLICY

Charles Aspinwall said two tax title properties were recently put out to auction. The first on Myrtle Street was auctioned off for approximately \$90,000.00. The other property owner filed for bankruptcy just prior to auction so the process was put on hold. Mr. Aspinwall said letting the amounts get high made the offer less attractive to many of the companies who usually buy tax title properties because they don't want the risk. Mr. Aspinwall suggested getting the auction process started sooner or at lower amounts.

Jennifer Scannell, Treasurer/Collector, presented documentation including an updated tax title list. (See attached) Ms. Scannell reviewed the list and noted the top five properties, explaining that some entered into payment plan agreements with the former Treasurer. Ms. Scannell said while some are paying each month, some are paying sporadically and almost all are not making any real headway into paying off their debt. Ms. Scannell said according to MGL Ch.62A agreements "shall be for a maximum term of no more than 5 years". Kathleen LaPlant said the Town needs to know if we are legally bound by the current payment agreements or if they are invalid because they are not in compliance. Christopher Smith said the Town should renegotiate for a reasonable payment plan if at all possible whether or not the current agreements are valid. Ms. Scannell said she will send letters out regarding renegotiating in January of 2016.

Mr. Aspinwall asked if there should be an amount owed that triggers a tax title auction. After some discussion the team agreed to stay with looking at the top outstanding and not set a particular amount. Mr. Aspinwall said the owner of the property that did not go out to auction because of bankruptcy has now withdrawn her bankruptcy application. The team agreed to have Ms. Scannell pursue auctioning off the property as soon as possible again. Ms. LaPlant and Ms. Scannell said they will research whether or not the current payment plans that are established are valid starting tomorrow. Mr. Smith said a meeting in January to follow up would be appropriate.

MINUTES APPROVAL

Mr. Smith made a motion to accept the minutes of 12/15/14 and 2/23/15 as written. The motion was seconded by Ms. Scannell. Mr. Aspinwall and Mr. O'Brien abstained.

ADJOURNMENT 7:00 pm

Motion made by Mr. Smith, seconded by Mr. Aspinwall to adjourn. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen M. Bouret