

Summary of Appropriations and Revenues

APPROPRIATIONS & OTHER EXPENDITURES

| | |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------|
| Total Appropriations of Town Meeting | \$18,260,837.00 |
| Overlay Deficits Prior Year | 8,332.86 |
| Cherry Sheet Offsets | 7,642.00 |
| State and County Charges | 49,997.00 |
| Allowance for Abatements & Exemptions | 107,681.42 |

TOTAL **\$18,434,490.28**

ANTICIPATED REVENUES

Property Tax Levy \$13,185,441.28

State Distributions - General Government

| | |
|--------------------------|------------|
| State Aid | 764,476.00 |
| Veterans Benefits | 51,516.00 |
| Exemption Reimbursements | 50,138.00 |
| State Owned Land | 80,480.00 |
| Public Libraries | 7,642.00 |

Local-Non-Property Tax Revenues (anticipated)

| | |
|---|------------|
| Motor Vehicle Excise | 800,000.00 |
| Other Excise | 2,300.00 |
| Penalties & Interest on Taxes & Excises | 99,200.00 |
| Payment in Lieu of Taxes | 68,000.00 |
| Other Charges for Services | 358,600.00 |
| Fees | 96,650.00 |
| Licenses and Permits | 126,500.00 |
| Fines and Forfeits | 23,600.00 |
| Investment Income | 5,000.00 |
| Miscellaneous Recurring | 84,480.00 |
| Miscellaneous Non-Recurring | 1,906.00 |

Other

| | |
|-----------------------|--------------|
| Enterprise Funds | 1,600,306.00 |
| Free Cash | 650,879.00 |
| Other Available Funds | 377,376.00 |

TOTAL REVENUES **\$18,434,490.28**

How Your Tax Dollars Are Spent

Based on Operating Budgets

| SERVICES/DEPARTMENTS | BUDGET% | BUDGET\$ |
|-----------------------------|----------------|---------------------|
| General Government | 6.69 | 1,060,001 |
| Police Department | 8.62 | 1,366,236 |
| Emergency Dispatch | 1.81 | 287,120 |
| Fire Department | 5.31 | 841,556 |
| DPW/Snow & Ice | 7.48 | 1,185,801 |
| IT Expenses | 1.58 | 249,666 |
| Schools/Education | 45.25 | 7,172,742 |
| Municipal Buildings | 1.26 | 199,048 |
| Human Services | .79 | 124,855 |
| Culture/Recreation | 1.43 | 226,383 |
| Debt Service | 12.26 | 1,943,085 |
| Employee Insurance Benefits | 7.54 | 1,195,201 |
| TOTAL TO BE SPENT | 100.00% | \$15,851,694 |

Approximate Cost of Services to the Average Homeowner

| TOWN SERVICE | AVERAGE TAXES |
|-------------------------------|-------------------|
| General Government | 313.49 |
| Police Department | 404.05 |
| Emergency Dispatch | 84.91 |
| Fire Department | 248.88 |
| DPW/Snow & Ice | 350.69 |
| IT Expenses | 73.84 |
| Schools/Education | 2,121.28 |
| Municipal Buildings | 58.87 |
| Human Services | 36.92 |
| Culture/Recreation | 66.95 |
| Debt Service | 574.65 |
| Employee Insurance Benefits | 353.47 |
| TOTAL AVERAGE TAX BILL | \$4,688.00 |

(Based on an average valuation of \$204,109)

Compliments of
The Ashburnham Board of Assessors
32 Main Street
Ashburnham, MA 01430

Town of Ashburnham
Valuation and Tax
Summary
Fiscal Year 2017



Prepared by the Board of Assessors

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Sherri DiPasquale – Administrative Assistant Assessor

THE ROLE OF ASSESSORS IN MUNICIPAL FINANCE

In Massachusetts, assessors are either appointed or elected to three-year terms. The assessors' primary responsibility is to value all real estate and personal property subject to taxation. Assessed valuations are based on "full and fair cash value" as of the January 1st preceding each fiscal year.

In order to maintain assessments at or near market value, the assessors' regularly compare property valuations with the selling prices of properties that have sold. Assessment-to-sale ratio statistics are analyzed to determine the median assessment level, as well as, assessment uniformity.

No valuation methodology can accurately predict what a property will sell for. A secondary and perhaps more important role of the Board of Assessors is to generate equitable assessments. To that end we continually strive to maintain an accurate property database and refine valuation tables and formulas that yield both equitable and explainable assessments.

ABATEMENTS

All taxpayers have the right to file for an abatement of their taxes if they believe that their property has not been fairly valued.

Information regarding applications and deadlines to file for abatements are printed on tax bills, or can also be obtained by calling the Assessors' Office at 978-827-4100 ext. 111. Applicants should present compelling evidence to support a claim of overvaluation.

Applications for abatements are due on or before the due date for payment of the 3rd quarter bill (February 1, 2017). Mailed applications must be postmarked no later than February 1, 2017.

EXEMPTIONS

An exemption releases an individual from the requirement to pay all or a part of their property tax obligation. Exemptions are available to those individuals that meet the various requirements in the following categories:

- Elderly
- Blind
- Minor children of police/firefighters killed in the line of duty
- Disabled Veteran
- Widows or Widowers
- Orphaned Minor Children

Applications for personal exemptions are due on April 1st, or three months after mailing of the 3rd quarter bill (March 30, 2017).

APPEALS

If you are not satisfied with the action taken by the Board of Assessors office regarding your request for abatement or exemption, you have the right to appeal to the State Appellate Tax Board, 100 Cambridge St. Boston, MA 02204 (617-727-3100).

Valuations by Property Class

| <u>Property Class</u> | <u>Accts</u> | <u>Valuation</u> |
|-----------------------------------|--------------|----------------------|
| Mixed Use | 11 | 3,434,635 |
| Single Family Homes | 2,414 | 492,720,339 |
| Condominiums | 14 | 2,510,800 |
| Mobile Homes and Other Res | 41 | 8,303,100 |
| Two Family Homes | 39 | 6,958,600 |
| Three Family Homes | 6 | 1,315,100 |
| Apartments 4 - 8 Units | 4 | 1,329,100 |
| Vacant Land | 968 | 30,635,000 |
| Commercial | 41 | 9,532,600 |
| Industrial | 29 | 4,291,300 |
| Personal Property | 356 | 10,852,315 |
| Forest Lands - Chapter 61 | 45 | 262,500 |
| Agricultural - Chapter 61A | 17 | 398,600 |
| Recreational - Chapter 61B | 34 | 1,484,800 |
| TOTAL TAXABLE | 4,019 | \$574,028,789 |
| Exempt Properties | | \$107,833,300 |
| TOTAL TAXABLE & EXEMPT | | \$681,862,089 |

History of Valuations, Tax Rates, and Levies

| <u>Fiscal Year</u> | <u>Valuation</u> | <u>Tax Rate</u> | <u>Tax Levy</u> |
|--------------------|------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| 2017 | 574,028,789 | 22.97 | 13,185,441 |
| 2016 | 565,846,177 | 22.75 | 12,873,000 |
| 2015 | 563,925,497 | 22.28 | 12,564,260 |
| 2014 | 560,427,319 | 19.83 | 11,113,274 |
| 2013 | 572,781,675 | 18.85 | 10,796,935 |
| 2012 | 575,771,428 | 18.34 | 10,559,648 |
| 2011 | 606,776,865 | 17.15 | 10,406,223 |
| 2010 | 627,539,382 | 16.15 | 10,134,761 |
| 2009 | 691,016,094 | 13.88 | 9,591,303 |
| 2008 | 669,584,735 | 12.93 | 8,657,731 |
| 2007 | 660,244,905 | 13.00 | 8,583,184 |
| 2006 | 625,403,918 | 12.76 | 7,980,154 |
| 2005 | 559,678,668 | 13.56 | 7,589,243 |