



**MINUTES OF THE TOWN OF CHESHIRE
TOWN COUNCIL BUDGET COMMITTEE SPECIAL MEETING
7:00 PM, TUESDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2025
ROOM 210, 84 SOUTH MAIN ST., CHESHIRE, CT 06410**

1. ROLL CALL

Present: Jim Jinks, Fiona Pearson and John Milone

Absent: N/A

Staff/Guests: Sean Kimball, Town Manager; Jim Jaskot, Finance Director; Chris McCardle, Town Assessor; Jeff Falk, Veterans Advisory Committee; Don Falk, Veterans Advisory Committee

Jim Jinks called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Noelle Shepard called the roll, and a quorum was present.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3. BUSINESS

Sean Kimball overviewed the updated legislation. There will be 7 additional individuals who will become eligible for the veterans tax exemption list even if no changes are made.

Additional municipal options include:

1. TDIU – Totally Disabled Individual Unemployable individuals
2. Surviving spouses whose spouses deceased prior to 10/1/2024
3. Gold Star – killed in line of duty spouses and parents
4. Extending the tax exemption to land as well (up to 2 acres)
5. Limiting the total exemption amount to the median assessed value of residential real property

Jim Jinks asked Emily Trudeau, an attorney and veteran, to provide an overview. She explained that for the disability percentage, the VA is looking at everything – caused by or aggravated by military service. They utilize a comprehensive math table – all conditions are assigned a percentage value.

She explained that TDIU individuals may have injuries that do not add up to 100%, but the injury itself is so debilitating, it makes them unemployable. These individuals are means tested, earning below poverty line and compensated by the VA.

The Town Assessor confirmed that the Town is aware of nine residents that fall under TDIU, and one possible Gold Star eligible individual.

Robin Chafe, a resident, spoke about her own experience as a surviving spouse whose spouse passed prior to October 1, 2024.

Sean Kimball explained that it would be good to have any decisions prior to the filing of grand list at the end of December to help with accuracy. Jim Jinks requested to further discuss this at the November 12th Budget Committee meeting.

4. ADJOURNMENT

Fiona Pearson motioned to adjourn the meeting, and John Milone seconded the motion. All in favor, the motion passed unanimously 3-0. The meeting adjourned at 8:09 p.m.

Attest:

Noelle Shepard, Management Specialist