

**ADOPT M.G.L., CHAPTER 59, §5, CLAUSE 41A –  
TAX DEFERRAL**

ARTICLE 27: To see if the Town will vote to adopt a lower interest rate from 8% yearly interest to 5% yearly interest on the deferred taxes to for the purpose of real estate tax deferrals for qualifying persons age 65 and over, as provided in MGL Chapter 59, §5, Clause 41A. By request of the Board of Assessors. Estimated Cost: \$500

*Explanation: The Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Department of Revenue allows cities and towns to establish the simple interest rate charged on deferrals of real estate taxes. The current environment on interest rates would dictate that the Town of Harwich lower the rate from 8% to 5%. The town has averaged 3 deferrals a year. Lowering the rate to 5% may encourage qualified seniors to apply for this program. Based on previous averages this change will result in a cost of approximately \$500 to the Town of Harwich.*

**FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS THIS ARTICLE BE ACCEPTED  
AND ADOPTED TO ALLOW A REDUCED DEFERRAL RATE FOR CERTAIN  
CITIZENS OVER THE AGE OF 65 TO HELP THEM THROUGH DIFFERCULT  
TIMES**

**VOTE: YES-7, NO-0**

**The Board of Selectmen Recommends: 4-0**

**MOTION:** (Dana DeCosta, Chairman- Finance Committee) I move that this article be accepted and adopted as printed in the Warrant. Duly seconded

**ACTION:** It was a unanimous vote, so declared.

A true copy

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_

Anita N. Doucette, MMC/CMMC  
Town Clerk