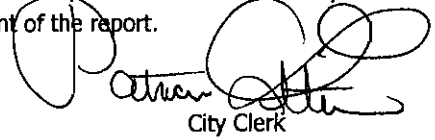


City of Keene  
NEW HAMPSHIRE

3A4

November 24, 2009

In City Council December 3, 2009. Voted unanimously  
to carry out the intent of the report.



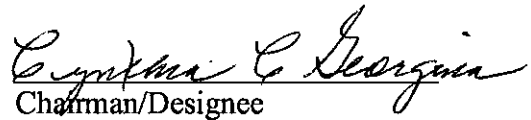
City Clerk

TO: Mayor and City Council

FROM: Finance, Organization and Personnel Committee

SUBJECT: **MEMORANDUM: City Assessor - Property Tax Exemptions Solar,  
Wind, Wood**

On 5-0 vote, the Finance, Organization and Personnel Committee recommends the City Council make no change to the Solar, Wind or Wood exemptions.



Chairman/Designee

Background:

The City Assessor stated that she wanted to preface today's discussion by saying that her staff has looked very closely at the exemptions and credits in preparation for today's meeting. She indicated that there are seven exemptions and three credits before the Committee. She explained that exemptions are a reduction in value and credits refer to a certain dollar amount.

Ms. Thibodeau stated that with reference to solar, wind and wood, staff is not making any recommendation to the present exemption. She added that this exemption is for the cost, including installation, of a solar energy, wind powered or wood heating system, up to \$10,000 in value. For 2009 there were two exemptions applied to qualifying properties, one is at \$10,000 and the other was at a fraction of \$10,000.

Councilor Roberts made the following motion which was seconded by Councilor Lane.

On 5-0 vote, the Finance, Organization and Personnel Committee recommends the City Council make no change to the Solar, Wind or Wood exemptions.

City of Keene  
New Hampshire

November 20, 2009

To: Finance, Organization and Personnel Committee

From: Laura J. Thibodeau, City Assessor

Through: John A. MacLean, City Manager

Re: Property Tax Exemptions - Solar, Wind, Wood

**Recommendation:** The Finance, Organization and Personnel Committee recommends the City Council make no change to the Solar, Wind or Wood exemptions.

**Background:** The City's fiscal policies require a review of property tax exemptions on a three year cycle or more frequently if legislative changes occur. The purpose of the review is an opportunity for the City Council to revisit the exemptions and implement change if necessary. The last review of exemptions occurred in 2007 and resulted in the adoption of a Solar, Wind or Wood exemption.

Property tax exemptions are applied as a reduction to an individual's total property value. These exemptions are for the cost, including installation, of a solar energy, wind powered or wood heating system, up to 10,000 in value. For 2009 there were 2 exemptions applied to qualifying property.

For purposes of the 2009 review City staff is recommending no change to the amount of the benefit.