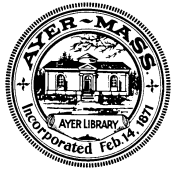


# Town of Ayer

## Treasurer/Tax Collectors Office



1 Main Street – Ayer, Massachusetts – 01432

**Barbara Tierney, CMMT, CMMC Finance Manager -Treasurer/Tax Collector**

**Natalie Goodwin, Asst. Treasurer/Tax Collector**

**Michelle Bishara, Finance Assistant**

Tel: (978) 772-8220 EXT 152

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Date: April 20, 2024

To: Robert Pontbriand, Town Manager

From: Barbara Tierney, Finance Manager -Treasurer/Tax Collector

Re: Report of activities during March

*BMT*

During the month of March we experienced heavy volume due to Motor vehicle first commitment being due March 28, 2024. This is our largest number of bills issued at one time, (7,563), along with a large uptick in information inquiries due to tax filing season. Add in budget season and we have had a very busy month. The tax team remains up to date with collections and is vital to the town's success.

The final budget draft of Fiscal 2025 was presented at a Select Board meeting and the second public budget forum was held. The changes in this draft are minor department changes along with wages due to union negotiations. The budget will be final on April 2<sup>nd</sup>, when the Select Board review and approve the warrant.

I attended a three-day accounting training offered by the Massachusetts Municipal Accounting and Auditor Association. As the new Finance Director, it is vital to gain a better understanding of all the finance positions. This line of education will serve well for the budget process, tax reporting and year end reporting. Natalie Goodwin has enrolled in an online accounting class to help her gain a better understanding of general accounting principles.

I attended various meetings including, Rate Review, Finance Team, Executive Bi-Board, MCTA, Select Board and Hilltop Securities,(our bond counsel).

We successfully collected \$140,168 of delinquent tax title taxes, interest and fees, resolving one long standing tax title issue along with other payments due to payment plans.

Thank You