

Board of Assessors
Minutes of Meeting
January 28, 2020

6:00 p.m.: Meeting came to order with Thomas Barry, Chairman; Donald Minney, Vice Chairman; Raymond Goff, Clerk; and John Whelihan, Director of Assessments present.

Documents Presented:

- Fiscal Year 2021 proposed office budget
- Memo from Assistant Assessor Zach Bombard
- Memo regarding May 11, 2020 Special & Annual Town Meetings

Signatures:

• Schedule of Bills Payable;	\$2,921.48
• Schedule of Bills Payable:	\$230.00
• Monthly List of Exemptions;	\$3,248.00
• Monthly List of Abatements;	\$6.29
• Monthly List of Abatements;	\$147.09
• Monthly List of Abatements;	\$217.69
• Uncollectable Personal Property List (2018)	\$306.69
• Uncollectable Personal Property List (2019)	\$627.95
• 61B Lien for 480 State St (251-2)	
• Warrant & Commitment;	
2019 Motor Vehicle Excise	\$5,147.15
2019 Motor Vehicle Excise	\$7,695.84

Old Business:

- Mr. Goff made the motion to approve the January 7, 2020 regular session and executive session meeting minutes. Mr. Minney seconded. The motion passed 3-0.
- A Department Head Meeting was held on January 9, 2020. Items discussed at the meeting included the town's budget process and storm closing policy. The attendees also discussed an organization that's conducting "first amendment audits" throughout the state. The organization appears unannounced at municipal buildings and seeks access to public space while filming the situation. If the employees don't cooperate with their informational requests, the individuals become aggressive. To restrict unauthorized access, an "employee only" sign was installed in the assessor's office at the staff entrance.
- Mr. Barry supported the recent purchase of a laser pointer to be utilized during field work.

New Business:

- The Board and office staff received paperwork from the Town Clerk regarding the State Ethics Commission's conflict of interest/financial disclosure procedures. Municipal employees and elected officials are required to complete an on-line test with the State Ethics Commission every two years.

- The Board approved a recent request from Crown Castle LLC to return their fiscal year 2021 personal property (Form of List) return after the March 1 deadline. The Board approved the request as a courtesy to Crown Castle.
- The Board approved Assistant Assessor, Zachary Bombard's request to have his Massachusetts Accredited Assessor (MAA) designation renewal fee paid from the office budget.

Discussion/Decision:

- The Board discussed the proposed FY21 office budget. The Board stated that last year's budget appeared to meet the office needs. Mr. Whelihan stated that money was encumbered in FY19 to fund the FY20 revaluation. The Board discussed ways to cut down on advertising costs. Mr. Whelihan will contact the Division of Local Services and ask whether the annual Classification Hearing notice can be posted on the town's website rather than in a local newspaper.

The Board approved the FY21 office budget which mirrors last year's budget.

- The due date to file a FY20 tax abatement application is February 3.
- The Board would next meet on February 11 & 25.

6:27 p.m.: Mr. Barry made the motion to move into executive session to discuss FY20 exemption applications under Purpose 7 of MGL Ch 30A, s. 21(a) to comply with or act under the authority of MGL Ch 59, s. 60 with respect to confidentiality, and not reconvene in regular session. Mr. Goff seconded the motion.

Minney	Yes
Barry	Yes
Goff	Yes

Respectfully submitted,

Raymond Goff
Clerk

Board of Assessors
Minutes of Executive Session
January 28, 2020

6:27 p.m.: Meeting came to order with Thomas Barry, Chairman; Donald Minney, Vice Chairman; Raymond Goff, Clerk; and John Whelihan, Director of Assessments present.

The Board approved the following FY20 Exemption applications. All votes were unanimous at 3-0

NAME	PROPERTY ADDRESS	PARCEL ID	EXEMPTION
Courtney, Michael E.	14 Jon Drive	251-33	Cl. 22
Currier, Joseph E.	141 Kennedy Road	260-1.033	Cl. 22E
Grasso, Gerald A.	30 Shaw Street	266-45	Cl. 22E <i>Increased from Cl. 22</i>
Strom, Nathan E.	111 Daniel Shays Hwy #47	231-57.047	Cl. 22 NEW
Wilkins, Mark	21 Shea Avenue	109-7.07	Cl. 22

The Board noted that many applicants that file later in the fiscal year do not receive their exemption until the 4th quarter tax bill.

6:55 p.m.: Motion to adjourn

Respectfully submitted,

Raymond Goff
Clerk