

Board of Assessors
Minutes of Meeting
February 26, 2019

5:40 p.m.: Meeting came to order with Raymond Goff, Chairman; Thomas Barry, Vice Chairman; Donald Minney, Clerk; and John Whelihan, Director of Assessments present.

Documents Used: Stormwater System Assessment Report prepared by the Wood Group

Signatures:

• Schedule of Bills Payable:	\$245.23
• Warrant & Commitment;	
FY19 Supplemental Tax	\$65,255.48
FY19 CPA	\$851.02
• Monthly List of Abatements; FY19 RE	\$418.39
• Monthly List of Exemptions; FY19 RE	\$5,824.07
• Monthly List of Abatements; 2019 MVE	\$578.75
• Monthly List of Abatements; 2019 MVE	\$5,588.52
• Monthly List of Abatements; 2019 MVE	\$153.75
• Monthly List of Abatements; 2019 MVE	\$527.60
• Revised Chapter 61B revised Lien; (269-96)	

Discussion/Decision:

- Mr. Barry made the motion to accept the regular session and executive session minutes of the February 19, 2019 meeting. Mr. Minney seconded. The motion passed 3-0.
- The Board unanimously denied a 2018 motor vehicle excise abatement application for Hulmes Transportation. The requested information was not provided in a timely manner.
- The Board unanimously approved 2018 & 2019 disabled veteran excise exemptions for Corey Loranger. The applicant received a DV license plate from the Registry of Motor Vehicles.
- The Board unanimously approved a 2019 motor vehicle excise abatement for Jason Vann. Mr. Vann is not a resident of Massachusetts but rather stationed here per military orders.
- The Board reviewed a stormwater utility report presented to the Board of Selectmen by the Wood Group. Belchertown has been mandated by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to create a stormwater utility program. The Selectmen will eventually decide on a funding mechanism for the program. The Board discussed the fact that this is an unfunded mandate and will continue to require municipal funding in subsequent years. At least one public hearing will take place before the issue is discussed at the upcoming town meeting.

Old Business:

- Mr. Whelihan stated that the income & expense (I&E) forms will be mailed to the commercial and industrial property owners this week. The form pertains to the FY20 revaluation, is a requirement of the Massachusetts Division of Local Services (DLS) and will establish income and expense schedules. Mr. Whelihan will be meeting with the DLS to establish a work plan regarding the revaluation.

New Business:

- Mr. Barry requested the office investigate whether the Patriot Properties record card can be upgraded to show more property characteristics. Mr. Whelihan stated that Patriot has a new version of their software (Apr 5) available. An improved record card may be part of the upgrade. He will reach out to Patriot Properties for more information regarding this issue.
- The Board of Selectmen is seeking suggestions from town committees/Boards regarding a proposed Social Media Policy. All parties agreed that social media should not be utilized by the Assessors or the staff to discuss valuation related matters. The assessor's page of the town website has been updated with relevant information regarding assessment procedures and laws. The Board suggested that the webpage be further updated with additional data links.
- The next scheduled board meetings are on March 12 & March 26 at 6:00 p.m.

6:45: Motion to adjourn

Respectfully submitted,

Donald Minney
Clerk