

Board of Assessors
Minutes of Meeting
July 10, 2018

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

Signatures:

- Schedule of Bills Payable; FY18 \$278.53
- Schedule of Bills Payable; FY19 \$1,036.86
- Monthly List of Abatements; 2018 Motor Vehicle Excise (MVE) \$2,784.61
- Monthly List of Abatements; 2013 MVE Uncollectable \$5,732.57
- Monthly List of Abatements; 2018 MVE \$166.25
- Monthly List of Abatements; 2018 MVE \$1,537.05
- Monthly List of Abatements; 2018 MVE \$1,537.05
- Revised Chapter 61B Lien, Sargent Street (238-109)

Old Business:

- Mr. Whelihan stated that the attorney representing James Hodgen and John Conkey is providing them with incorrect information regarding Massachusetts personal property laws. Both Mr. Minney and Mr. Whelihan stated that corporations are assessed for machinery used in the conduct of business. Whether one pays a corporate excise tax at the federal/state level is immaterial to assessing local personal property. Mr. Whelihan will send Mr. Hodgen a letter stating this information.
- The Board discussed how best to educate local business owners of their responsibility in returning a Form of List as required by law. The Board wants to value all personal property accounts in a fair and equitable manner. The Board discussed whether to sponsor an educational seminar regarding personal property along with other topics. In the meantime, the office will update the assessors' page of the town website with additional personal property information including links to the Massachusetts general laws and Division of Local Services.
- The FY17 Appellate Tax Board (ATB) case with Universal Forest Products is scheduled for July 16. The Board is prepared to defend the assessed value at the ATB.

6:30 p.m.: Town Administrator, Gary Brougham attended the meeting.

New Business:

- Mr. Brougham gave the Board an overview of various solar projects under consideration in town. He stated that the proposed projects on Gulf/North Streets have met resistance from the neighborhood. Mr. Minney raised concerns over panels not being removed from solar fields after they exceed their life span.

- The Board discussed the new assisted living facility in town. This project is being assessed in fiscal year 2019. Mr. Minney and Mr. Whelihan recently attended a meeting with the corporate officers of the project along with their consultant. Roy Bishop, the Assessor's consultant, also attended the meeting. The Board is requesting projected income & expense information from the owners of the project.
- The Board and Mr. Brougham discussed how department head's vacation requests are approved. Mr. Brougham stated that the accounting department tracks all vacation time for record keeping purposes. He stated that although he signs off on all vacation requests; he doesn't need to monitor the attendance of most employees'. The parties agreed that Mr. Whelihan will forward his vacation requests to Mr. Brougham along with the Board's Chairman.

7:10 p.m.: Mr. Brougham left the room to attend another meeting.

Discussion/Decision:

- The Board reorganized for FY19:

Raymond Goff;	Chairman
Thomas Barry;	Vice Chairman
Donald Minney;	Clerk
John Whelihan was reappointed as Director of Assessments	
- The Board denied the following motor vehicle excise abatement applications:

Doug Cameron	still retained ownership of the vehicle
Robert Fitzpatrick	still retained ownership of the vehicle
ACAR Leasing	vehicle registered for entire year of 2017
Gabrielle Engel	still retained ownership of the vehicle
- The Board discussed the Division of Local Services reporting requirements regarding properties with "views" or waterfront influences. The Board will review the standards at their next meeting.
- Mr. Barry made the motion to approve the minutes of the June 19, 2018 meeting. Mr. Goff seconded. The motion passed 3-0.
- The next Board meeting would be held on July 31 @ 6 p.m.

7:50 p.m.: Motion to adjourn,

Respectfully submitted,

Donald Minney
Clerk

