

BOARD OF ASSESSORS

March 22, 2017

Minutes of Assessors Meeting

The meeting was called to order at 2:00pm. Clerk Cornellier, Member Bresnahan, Assessing Administrator Hogan and Assessing Department Assistant Jacquelyn Guthrie were present.

Member Bresnahan made a motion to have C. Edward Cornellier appointed Chairman for this session. Clerk Cornellier seconded the motion which was approved by a 2-0 vote. Clerk Cornellier made a motion to appoint Member Bresnahan Clerk for this session. Member Bresnahan seconded the motion which was approved in a 2-0 vote.

The Board of Assessors read the agenda for March 22, 2017. A motion to approve the agenda as written was made by Chairman Cornellier, seconded by Clerk Bresnahan and approved by a vote of 2-0.

The Board of Assessors read the minutes of February 22, 2017. A motion to approve the minutes as written was made by Chairman Cornellier, seconded by Clerk Bresnahan and approved by a vote of 2-0.

At 2:15 Kenneth Diskin of 180 Washington Street arrived at the meeting and asked to address the Board about the status of Old Quarry Road aka Old Groton Harvard Road and the proposed solar array involving parcels 13-1, 13-2 and 4-39.

The Assessing Administrator provided the Board with a revised memorandum to the Town Accountant regarding the FY2018 tax levy growth estimate. Due to recently reported utility growth valuation by National Grid the tax levy growth estimate was revised to \$839,000. A motion was made by Clerk Bresnahan to accept the revised FY2018 tax levy growth estimate memo. The motion was seconded by Chairman Cornellier and approved in a 2-0 vote.

The Board of Assessors reviewed the FY2018 Utility and Growth Valuation letters submitted by National Grid and discussed the potential impact on FY2018 tax rates of the growth valuation.

The Assessing Administrator explained that the Montachusett Regional Planning Commission (MRPC) provided the Assessing Department with the initial rollout of both the internal and public versions of their web based GIS mapping tool MRMapper for testing and comment.

The Assessing Administrator updated the Board on the status of MassIT's plan to convert Community Software Consortium (CSC) communities to Tyler Technologies' iasWorld appraisal software. He provided the Board with a MassIT newsletter detailing plans to complete the software conversion and implementation in 44 communities by the end of FY2019.

At 3:21pm, pursuant to Purpose 7, G.L. c.59 s.60, Chairman C. Edward Cornellier called for a vote to go into Executive Session to review two FY2017 Real Estate Abatement Applications and two FY2017 Personal Property Abatement Applications, with Open Session to reconvene at the conclusion of the Executive Session. Motion was seconded by Clerk Bresnahan. Vote: Paul Bresnahan: Aye; C. Edward Cornellier: Aye. Motion passes by a vote of 2-0.

At 3:36 pm, the Board reconvened into Open Session.

The Board of Assessors reviewed the Assessing Department Monthly Report for February of 2017. A motion to approve the report was made by Clerk Bresnahan, seconded by Chairman Cornellier and approved by a vote of 2-0.

The Board of Assessors reviewed the February 2017 Motor Vehicle Excise Abatement Report. There were 3 abatements posted totaling \$422.19. A motion to accept and sign the report was made by Clerk Bresnahan, seconded by Chairman Cornellier and approved by a vote of 2-0.

Old Business:

There were no issues of old business.

New Business:

The Board of Assessors reviewed the Assessing Department's Annual Report for 2016. A motion was made to accept the report by Clerk Bresnahan seconded by Chairman Cornellier and approved in a 2-0 vote.

The Assessing Administrator provided the Board with the corrected form showing the Division of Local Services 2016 Equalized Valuation for the Town of Ayer. Clerk Bresnahan made a motion to accept the valuation. A motion was seconded by Chairman Cornellier and approved in a 2-0 vote.

The Board read a memorandum from the Town Administrator concerning an opportunity for the Town of Ayer to purchase 4.27 acres on property known as Emily's Way.

The next Board of Assessors meeting is scheduled for April 19, 2017 at 2:00pm.

A motion to adjourn at 3:59pm was made by Chairman Cornellier, seconded by Clerk Bresnahan and approved by a vote of 2-0.

Respectfully submitted,


Clerk

jag