

Board of Assessors Minutes
Tuesday, January 14, 2020 at 4:30 p.m.
Town Hall, Assessors Conference Room, 60 Center Square
East Longmeadow, Massachusetts 01028

Present: Martin J. Grudgen, Chairman; Marilyn Ghedini, Assessor; J. William Johnston, Clerk of the Board and Diane L. Bishop, Director of Assessing

Mr. Grudgen called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m. It was noted this meeting is being taped by ELCAT, 180 Maple Street, East Longmeadow. This office will tape this meeting in its entirety for the purposes of the minutes in accordance with MGL, Chapter 30A, Section 20.

Meeting Minutes: Mr. Johnston reviewed the minutes from the meeting of December 17, 2019 and found them to be in order as to form and content and moved they be approved. Ms. Ghedini seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Administrative:

- **Reports:** The board reviewed and signed when needed the following monthly reports:
 - Motor Vehicle Excise Abatement Report (2018 & 2019)
 - FY2020 Real Estate Statutory Exemption Report
 - FY2020 Real Estate Senior Work-off Abatement Report
 - Building Permit Reports (November & December): Ms. Bishop stated in November there were permits for 3 new condos and 2 new dwellings with December having 1 new dwelling totaling 14 new building for calendar year 2019.
 - LA-3 Sales Report (December): Ms. Bishop mentioned there were a few sales that she is aware of that could have been coded out but knowing the assessments will be adjusted based on the January 1st assessment date once we begin reviewing the FY2021 values she left them as is.
 - Director's Report:
 - FY20 Tax Bills: Ms. Bishop shared the FY2020 tax bills were mailed which resulted in many questions. Ms. Bishop stated the most common question from taxpayers is why did my taxes go up so much? Many taxpayers do not understand the quarter billing cycle where the first two quarters are based on one half of what they paid last year. Once the tax rate and assessments are approved the actual tax bill is processed and many times is catching up for the first two quarters. This office has devised a worksheet to show the taxpayers how the quarterly taxes work using their FY 19 versus FY20 taxes and help them to understand the FY21 first and second quarter tax will be lower than the FY20 third and fourth quarter taxes. Ms. Ghedini mentioned she saw our press release in the Reminder.
 - ELCAT Town Tube: Ms. Bishop shared ELCAT completed a short video which helps to explain how the preliminary vs. actual tax bills are calculated with Ms. Bishop being interviewed for this video.
 - GIS and Property Record Cards: Ms. Bishop mentioned the new Vision Software no longer has the capacity to maintain a counter terminal. This will not be a problem since our town GIS stores our RE Property Card with the mapping information noting the FY2020 Property cards are available on the GIS site. Ms. Bishop also stated she was working with our IT/GIS department since switching to our newer GIS application with hopes to make it a little more user friendly. IT/GIS is reviewing some of the suggestions and will see if they are able to make some of these changes. Chairman Grudgen took a moment to look at the GIS online and saw the PRC were moved and said to thank IT for moving it to a more visible location.
 - Vision Version 8 Upgrade: The upgrade is schedule for Tuesday, January 21, 2020. Ms. Bishop stated she has not made any changes

Mr. Grudgen made a motion to go into executive session to review several Boat and Motor Vehicle Abatement applications; FY20 Real Estate Statutory Exemptions; FY 20 Real Estate Abatements; FY19 I & E Abatement; FY18 ATB Update; to return to open session to record any votes if needed and adjourn. The following roll call was taken. Mr. Johnston, Yes; Ms. Ghedini, Yes, Mr. Grudgen, Yes.

The board returned to open session at 5:40 p.m.

Votes of the Board of Assessors:

The following is the vote of the Board of Assessors for Motor Vehicle & Boat Excise Abatements put before them:

Year	Bill#	Name	BOA Action
2019	6328	Honda Leasing	Denied
2019	1377	Bradley	Denied
2019	6430	House	Denied
2003	30101	Talbot	Granted
2004	30099	Talbot	Granted
2005	30106	Talbot	Granted
2006	90	Talbot	Granted
2007	118	Talbot	Granted
2008	133	Talbot	Granted
2009	130	Talbot	Granted

The following is the vote of the Board of Assessors to abate a FY2019 Income & Expense Fee:

FY Year	Parcel ID	Parcel Address	BOA Action
2019	18-17-0	180 Shaker Road	Granted

The following is the vote of the Board of Assessors for all Personal Statutory Exemptions put before them:

#	Parcel ID #	Location	Abt/Exemption	Clause	Vote /Date	BOA Action
1	5-28-7	5 Powder Hill Rd	Exemption	22	1/14/2020	Granted
2	40-27-64	232 Somers Rd	Exemption	22	1/14/2020	Granted
3	20-13-9	39 Canterbury Cir	Exemption	22	1/14/2020	Granted
4	46-6-13	4 Theresa St	Exemption	22E	1/14/2020	Granted
5	89-18-14	140 Sanford St	Exemption	22E	1/14/2020	Granted
6	15-39-1	34 Linden Ave	Exemption	22D	1/14/2020	Granted
7	7-13-5	439 Chestnut St	Exemption	22	1/14/2020	Granted
8	86-20-11	48 Millbrook Dr	Exemption	22	1/14/2020	Granted
9	38-39-38	28 Spring Valley Rd	Exemption	22	1/14/2020	Granted
10	32-19-30	82 Redin Dr	Exemption	22	1/14/2020	Granted
11	5-28-7	5 Powder Hill Rd	Exemption	22	1/14/2020	Granted
12	40-27-64	232 Somers Rd	Exemption	22	1/14/2020	Granted
13	20-13-9	39 Canterbury Cir	Exemption	22	1/14/2020	Granted
14	46-6-13	4 Theresa St	Exemption	22E	1/14/2020	Granted

15	89-18-14	140 Sanford St	Exemption	22E	1/14/2020	Granted
16	15-39-1	34 Linden Ave	Exemption	22D	1/14/2020	Granted
17	7-13-5	439 Chestnut St	Exemption	22	1/14/2020	Granted
18	86-20-11	48 Millbrook Dr	Exemption	22	1/14/2020	Granted
19	38-39-38	28 Spring Valley Rd	Exemption	22	1/14/2020	Granted
20	32-19-30	82 Redin Dr	Exemption	22	1/14/2020	Granted
21	5-49-3	275 Westwood Ave	Exemption	41C	1/14/2020	Granted
22	16-118A-2R	29 Edmund St	Exemption	22	1/14/2020	Granted
23	6-126-0	509 Chestnut St	Exemption	41C	1/14/2020	Granted
24	75-7-0	328 Parker St	Exemption	22	1/14/2020	Granted
25	75-7-0	328 Parker St	Exemption	22	1/14/2020	Granted
26	46-75-48	35 Pine Grove Cir	Exemption	22F	1/14/2020	Granted
27	36-79-1	11 Breezy Knoll Rd	Exemption	41C	1/14/2020	Granted
28	85-22-43	17 Holland Dr	Exemption	41C	1/14/2020	Granted
29	34-17-6	6 Concord Dr	Exemption	41C	1/14/2020	Granted

The next scheduled meeting of the Board of Assessors will be Tuesday, January 28, 2019 at 4:30 p.m. at Town Hall, Assessors Conference Room, 60 Center Square, East Longmeadow, MA.

Mr. Grudgen made a motion to adjourn. Ms. Ghedini seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Meeting adjourned at 5:45 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

J.W. Johnston
Clerk of the Board

Documents Reviewed: Minutes; MVE Abatement Report; RE Real Estate Exemption Report; RE Senior Work-off Abatement Report; Building Permit Report (2); LA-3 Sales Report; Director Report; Boat & MVE Abatement applications; FY 20 Statutory Exemptions; FY18 I & E abatement; ATB documentation.