

MEMORANDUM

DATE: May 30, 2012
TO: Town Council
FROM: Anne Gregory, Assessor
RE: Request for Supplemental Appropriation of \$40,000

The purpose of this request is to appropriate funds to cover \$35,500 in abated taxes that exceeded this year's overlay of \$3,650. The additional \$4,500 is to cover any appeals that may be granted by the Board of Assessment Review (BAR). The attached spreadsheet and chart document the history of overlays, abatements and supplements.

Overlay: Any additional value above the estimated value will generate additional taxes. These taxes are called the overlay. According to MRSA Title 36 §170, *The Assessors may assess on the estates such sum above the sum necessary for them to assess, not exceeding 5% thereof as a fractional division renders convenient, and certify that fact to their municipal treasurer.*

Abatements: Reductions in assessed values after committing the tax rolls are called abatements. According to MRSA Title 36 §841.1, the assessor may make abatements within one year of committing the tax rolls to the Tax Collector.

Supplements: Supplements are additional taxes not included in the original commitment. According to MRSA Title 36 §713, supplemental assessments may be made within 3 years from the last assessment date for errors or omissions. Tree Growth penalties are assessed as supplements, for example.

As of this week, nine abatement requests may appeal my decision to the BAR. I granted six partial abatements and denied three. Should all taxpayers appeal to the BAR, I estimate the BAR might grant an additional \$4,500 in abated taxes.

The following table illustrates that the 2011 overlay and abatement total is below the 10 year average.

2000 to 2011	AVERAGE	2011
Overlay:	\$147,600	\$3,650
Abatement Total:	\$51,900	\$40,600
Number of Abatements:	62	48