



**BOARD OF ASSESSORS
TOWN OF HALIFAX
499 Plymouth Street, Halifax, MA 02338
TEL: 781-293-5960 FAX: 781-294-7684**

MINUTES

MEETING OF DECEMBER 10, 2013, 6:30 PM

ATTENDANCE: Meeting called to order at 6:35 PM. Tom Millias, John Shiovone, Holly Merry and Suzan Duggan present.

1. APPROVE MINUTES OF MEETING OF NOVEMBER 12, 2013

Motion by Holly Merry, Second Tom Millias to approve minutes as written. Vote unanimous.

2. TAKE ACTION ON CHAPTER LAND APPLICATIONS

None

3. TAKE ACTION ON EXEMPTION APPLICATIONS

None

4. TAKE ACTION ON REAL & PERSONAL PROPERTY ABATEMENTS

Motion by Holly Merry, Second Tom Millias to grant three (3) FY 2014 Real Estate abatements and deny two (2) FY 2014 Real Estate abatement applications. Vote unanimous.

5. DISCUSS FY 2015 BUDGET & TOWN MEETING WARRANT ARTICLES

Budget is due by January 6, 2014. The office needs another 4-drawer fireproof cabinet. All files that can be either stored in the vault or disposed of according to the Records Retention Schedule have been done. We will look into a used cabinet as a new one would cost \$3,000.00. Appraisal software maintenance, support and web hosting increased by 1%. Sue Duggan will complete the budget and submit it by January 6, 2014.

The Board discussed presenting an Article for the ATM which would exempt from taxation personal property accounts with less than a certain taxable value. The law allows a maximum value of \$10,000.00 be exempted. Sue Duggan presented the Board with examples of the impact this exemption would have in increments of \$1,000 up to \$10,000.

Motion by Holly Merry, Second Tom Millias to submit for Town Meeting approval on May 12, 2014, an Article exempting taxable value up to and including \$3,000.00. By exempting P/P accounts \$3,000.00 and under, the levy loss would be approximately \$5,000 or .04% of the total levy. Vote unanimous.

The Board then discussed a proposal by Sue Duggan to no longer mail the Personal Property State Tax Form 2 (revised 11/2013) with cover letter to existing and new accounts. This is not required and costs the town about \$200 each year. Instead, a postcard would be mailed explaining that the Form 2 would be available to download on the Town's website, the DOR website or available for pick-up at the office. This would save time, paper and about \$85.00. Motion by Holly Merry, Second Tom Millias to proceed with this beginning in January for FY2015. Vote unanimous.

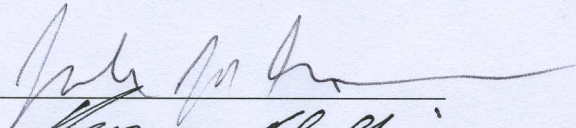
6. NEXT MEETING DATE:

Motion by Holly Merry, Second Tom Millias to meet again on Tuesday, January 21, 2014, at 6:00 PM. Vote unanimous.

7. MEETING ADJOURNED

Motion by Holly Merry, Second Tom Millias to adjourn at 7:45 PM. Vote unanimous. Meeting adjourned.

MINUTES ACCEPTED ON: 1/21/2014

BY: 
Thomas Millias