

Minutes

Board of Assessors

Town of Harvard

Meeting Date: Wednesday, October 3, 2012
Called to Order: 3:00 p.m.
Meeting Adjourned: 4:15 pm.
Members Present: Debbie George, Joe Theriault
Other(s) Present: Linda Couture, Sue Fitterman, Harald Scheid

New Business:

1. Minutes: The minutes from August 16, 2012 were approved.
2. Reports: Board members signed the following reports and forms:
 - Motor Vehicle Abatement Report
 - Warrant & Commitment for Motor Vehicle Excise Tax
 - Warrant & Commitment for FY2012 Supplemental Tax Bill
 - Warrant & Commitment for Sewer Betterments
 - Chapter Land Tax Liens & Releases for 64 Westcott Road & 42 Old Mill Road
3. Verizon ATB Case: On September 7th the town received notification from Chu, Ring & Hazel LLP (the firm representing Verizon New England Inc.) concerning the tax abatement and refund due from the Town of Harvard for personal property bills from FY 2009. Since many towns in Massachusetts received similar notices, the Department of Revenue has scheduled a hearing for October 9th to discuss the abatements.

Ongoing Business:

Update on Geographic Information Systems (GIS): Cartographics is actively converting all the tax map text and expects to complete that step within the next two weeks. Once complete, they will begin to build the GIS website and plan to have it ready for password review by the end of October or early November. RRG will schedule a presentation about their GIS services to the Board of Assessors and other town departments during November or December.

Review RRG Calendar:

- a. FY 2013 Statutory Exemptions: The board reviewed the statutory exemption applications for Seniors, Veterans, Blind and Surviving Spouses. The board voted 2-0 to deny one application under Clause 22D for D. Winters, and voted 2-0 to approve the remaining 21 applications.

b. FY 2014 Chapter Land applications: The board voted 2-0 to approve Chapter 61 Forestry applications for:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Property</u>	<u>Parcel ID</u>
Nathaniel Beale & Julie Sniffen	89 Old Shirley Road	12/27/4
Jeffery & Ruth Bobzin	76 Old Mill Rd	4/13
Ruth B. Ernst Trust	Murray Lane	28/21
Robert B. & Gail Smith	281 Littleton County Rd	14/54
Peter & June Warren	52 Lancaster County Rd	8/19

All other FY2014 chapter land applications will be reviewed at the November meeting. Sue will send reminder letters to the 8 property owners who have not returned the applications which were due October 1st.

- c. RRG staff has completed all of the 244 periodic (cyclical) inspections due for 2012.
- d. Recap Update: Linda reviewed the sales ratios for 2010 and 2011 with the board and noted that there are no overall value changes. She plans to submit the following reports to the Department of Revenue in October:
- LA3 - Real Estate Sales
 - LA4 - Assessment/Classification Report
 - LA15 - Sales Ratio Analysis.
 - LA13 – Tax Base Levy Growth (New Growth)

RRG will schedule a Tax Classification Hearing at the Board of Selectmen meeting in November.

The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for Thursday November 8, 2012 at 3:00 p.m.

Date Approved: _____

Rick Maiore

Joseph R. Theriault

Debra M. George