

Minutes

Board of Assessors

Town of Harvard

Meeting Date: Thursday, March 14, 2013
Called to Order: 9:01 am
Meeting Adjourned: 10:45 am
Members Present: Debbie George, Rick Maiore, Joe Theriault
Other(s) Present: Harald Scheid, Linda Couture, Sue Fitterman, Worth Robbins, Mark Curry

New Business:

1. Minutes: The minutes from February 25, 2013 were approved.
2. Reports: Board members signed a motor vehicle abatement report.
3. Veteran Exemption Application: The board reviewed one Veteran exemption application and voted 3-0 on a Maiore/George motion to approve the application.
4. Review FY2013 Real Estate Abatement Applications: Since Mr. Mark Curry attended the meeting to discuss his abatement application for 221 Old Littleton Road, the board voted 3-0 on a Maiore/Theriault motion to review his application first. Mr. Curry presented an overview of his position, and after some discussion the board agreed to postpone their decision until the April meeting to allow time for members to review in depth the 17-page abatement application for the unique property.

Board members then discussed and voted on the following real estate abatement applications:

<u>Owner Name</u>	<u>Property Location</u>	<u>Motion</u>	<u>Vote</u>
Bamford	Codman Hill Rd	Maiore/George to approve	3-0
Myllykangas	Westcott Rd	Maiore/George to approve	3-0
Walsh	50 West Bare Hill	Maiore/George to approve	3-0
Blair	57 Whitney Rd	Maiore/George to approve	3-0
Harvard Historical Society	213 Still River Rd	Maiore/George to approve	3-0
M. MacRae Inv Trust	9 Woodside Dr	Theriault/Maiore to approve	3-0
Qin	6 St. John Lane	Theriault/George to approve	3-0
Day/MacLaughlin	77 Pinnacle Rd	George/Maiore to approve (Theriault abstained)	2-0
Rossi	8 Harris Lane	George/Theriault to approve	3-0
Flokas/DeAugustinis	72 Pinnacle Rd	George/Maiore to approve	3-0
Sowizrel	51 Westcott Rd	Maiore/George to deny	3-0
Stoddard	15 Old Littleton Rd	Maiore/Theriault to approve	3-0
Chang/Chung	91 Ann Lees Rd	George/Theriault to approve	3-0
Vitale	189 Stow Rd	George/Theriault to approve	3-0
Russell	255 Bolton Rd	Theriault/Maiore to approve	3-0
McLaughlin Family Trust	181 Old Littleton Rd	Theriault/George to approve	3-0

At next month's meeting, Sue will update the board about the total impact of the real estate abatements on the overlay account.

Ongoing Business:

1. ATB Case for LTI Harvard Appleworks: The hearing is still set for March 18th at 9:30 am in Boston.

2. Update on Solar Projects:

a. Report from Harald Scheid: Harald stated that the Department of Revenue (DOR) workshop he attended on 2/26/13 on valuing solar photovoltaic systems dealt mainly with Payment In Lieu Of Taxes (PILOT) agreements and not with solar gardens. He will draft a letter to the DOR (with input from board members and Worth Robbins) asking if solar gardens qualify for a 20-year tax exemption, and will follow up with a call to DOR to inquire when a response might be coming.

b. Discussion by board with input from Worth Robbins: Worth Robbins from the Harvard Solar Garden I, LLC attended the meeting to further discuss the question of community-shared photovoltaic solar systems receiving a 20-year tax exemption under Mass. General Law. Worth stated that the project cannot begin until the Harvard Solar Garden I LLC receives confirmation from DOR and the board of assessors that the project is tax exempt.

3. RRG Calendar: Harald reported that action items for March are underway.

The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for Thursday, April 11, 2013 at 9:00 a.m.

Date Approved: _____

Rick Maiore

Debra M. George

Joseph R. Theriault