

Sturbridge Board of Assessors Meeting Minutes

2016

Final

April 11

Attendance:

Paul Murphy (PM), Sophia Lengyel-Rogers (SR), Jess Brigham (JB), Ann Murphy (AM), Dale Meehan McNeil (guest), Barbara Barry(BB)

Meeting called to order:

PM called meeting to order at 4:36 P.M.

Old Business:

There were eight applicants for the data collection position. Four were interviewed. One was given a second interview. None will be hired.

BB offered a discussion about Bishop and Assoc doing the cyclical inspections. Their charge is \$22/parcel including the data entry. They will do 189 cyclical inspections by 6/30/16. For 2017 they will do 550 inspections, primarily cyclical @ cost of \$12,100. SR: motion to authorize Bishop and Assoc to do the above inspections. JB 2nd, AIF. SR: motion to re-allocate 60 hours from the data collector salary, available since the resignation of Al Jones, to Liza Peters, JB 2nd, AIF.

New Business:

Reviewed minutes from 2/1/16 meeting. JB motion to accept as written, PM 2nd, AIF.

Reviewed minutes from 2/29/16 meeting. SR motion to accept as written, PM 2nd, AIF.

Discussed allowing Liza to use stamps for assessor signatures for motor vehicle abatements. SR: motion for signature stamp use by Liza for MV abatements, JB 2nd, AIF.

Am received a call from Will Hazel, attorney for MCI. Last year they asked for \$6,000 in abatements. Will indicated that more towns and some cities are settling for 26-27% of their originally billed amounts. He is willing to settle for \$5,835 (only a 9.3% reduction of originally billed amount). SR: motion to offer settlement as above, JB 2nd, AIF.

AM updated board as to progress on personal property data. AM asked if the board would reconsider changing minimum standards for shed sizes to be assessed. AM will do research on the practices in similar towns and report back to the board.

Sign all necessary documents:

127 Motor Vehicle Abatement Applications

Monthly Abatement Report

1 Sewer Betterment Warrant & Commitment

MV 2016 Commitment #2 & Warrant

MV 2015 Commitment #50 & Warrant

Next meeting:

The next meeting is scheduled for May 9, 2016 at 4:00 PM in Conference Room 2, Town Hall, 308 Main St.

Meeting Adjournment:

SR made a motion to adjourn, JB 2nd. AIF. Meeting was adjourned at 6:07 P.M.