

FINAL

Board of Assessor Public Meeting Minutes

January 9, 2012, 5:00 p.m.

Attendance:

Principal Assessor, William B. Mitchell (WM)
Dan Matte, Chairman (DM)
Kevin Arena, Vice Chair (KA)
Carol Childress, Secretary (CC)

Meeting called to order: DM called meeting to order at 5:01 p.m. KA arrives at 5:07 p.m.

Meeting Minutes:

12/19/2011 Draft Public Minutes: DM motion to approve as written; CC 2nd; AIF.

Assessor Signatures Required:

- 3 Motor Vehicle Abatements
- 1 Notice of Refusal to Abate Motor Vehicle Excise Tax
- Exemption Applications: 1 Disabled Veteran
- December Report of 2011 Motor Vehicle Excise Tax Abatements
- December Reports of 2011 Real Estate Tax (2012), Boat Excise Tax (2012), and Personal Property Tax Abatements (2004, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2012)
- Property Tax Abatement Applications: #32; 67; 107; all motioned to approve by KA; CC 2nd; AIF.
- Property Tax Abatement Application: #34; 56; 63(2); 68; 69; 70 and 71; 74; 85; 90; 91; 92; 93; 106; all motioned to approve by CC; KA 2nd; AIF.
- Property Tax Abatement Application: #72; 98; CC motion to deny; KA 2nd. AIF.
- Property Tax Abatement Application: #75. CC motion to approve at .50 C Factor; KA 2nd; AIF.
- Property Tax Abatement Application: #76. Tabled to next meeting so WM can investigate further.
- Property Tax Abatement Application: #80. CC motion to deny; KA 2nd. AIF.

New Business:

CC asked WM about the January 3rd, 2012 Selectmen's Meeting with a Verizon Rep regarding a Pole Hearing at Maple Street and the Abutter's List provided for that pole hearing. The Selectmen's discussion included questions as to whether the Abutter's List was complete. In response to CC's request: WM provided: 1) a copy of the Abutter's List with two abutters on it; 2) four photos of the site effected by the pole; 3) a Drawing (part of the Petition to Verizon and NGRID) of the street with effected poles; 4) copy of M.G.L. Chapter 166, Section 22.

According to the language in the law, the abutter's list was appropriate and complete and it included: "all owners of real estate abutting upon that part of the way upon, along, across or under which the line is to be constructed, as such ownership is determined by the last preceding assessment for taxation."

Old Business:

Jeznach draft letter reviewed and executed by DM & CC. KA abstained as he is a client of Jeznach.

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Meeting Times:

The majority of the Board, KA, DM & WM, want to move the meeting time back to 4:00 p.m.

Document Locations:

All documents are located on file in the Assessor's office in the town of Sturbridge.

Next Meeting Date: January 23, 2012, 4:00 p.m., Town Hall Conference Room 2, 2nd Floor.

Meeting Adjournment: DM Motion; KA 2nd, AIF. 6:32 p.m.