

Board of Assessors
Meeting: March 9, 2010
Wayland Town Building

Meeting called to order by Chair Susan Rufo at 7:03 pm

Present: Members - Susan Rufo, Vice-chair; Jayson Brodie, Bruce Cummings, Molly Upton and Z. Ventress and Director - Ellen Brideau.

Public comment: None

Minutes: Minutes of February 22, 2010 approved as presented.

Status of office activities - presented by E. Brideau.

- Correspondence: None
- Requiring board sign-off:
 - Feb.'10 list of abated excise taxes - \$8,604.65
 - Jan.'10 – listed of abated real property (corrected) - \$50,707.10
 - Rescinded excise taxes ('08, '09 and '10) due to duplication in Vadar system.
- E. Brideau recommended that the board appoint Harald Scheid as Interim Assessor to assist in presentation of cases before the ATB. A motion was so made and seconded with the appointment to be effective immediately and continue through June 30, 2010. The motion passed 5-0.

Staffing: Two candidates scheduled for interviews with the board for position of Administrative Assessor. Resumes for both candidates were provided to the board.

- Savitri Ramgoolam began her presentation to the board at 7:15 pm. This was followed by individual questions from the board and the interview was complete at 7:35 pm. S. Ramoolam left the meeting and a discussion followed on the candidate's responses to the questions.
- Nancy Martin began her presentation to the board at 7:55 pm. This was followed by individual questions from the board and the interview was complete at 8:10 pm. Nancy Martin left the meeting and a discussion followed on the candidate's responses to the questions.
- The board then began a general review of the experience and strengths that each candidate would bring to the office. A motion was then made and seconded to offer the position of Administrative Assessor to Nancy Martin subject to the policies and procedures of the Personnel Department. The motion passed 4-0 with 1 abstention.

Old Business:

- Circuit Breaker: With the passage of the home-rule petition authorizing the Town of Wayland to fully match the state CB limits, Town Counsel advised the board that it was at the board's vote that the CB limits would be revised. The board was unclear about Town Counsel's advice and requested E. Brideau to seek additional clarification. The board reviewed the rationale for a permanent tie-in to state CB reimbursement levels and the financial ramifications to the town. This is in contrast to the town's annual vote on whether to adhere to the higher levels of town reimbursement for exemptions. The consensus of the board was that the level of CB reimbursement at the town level should be referred to the Finance Committee in preparation for a vote at the annual town meeting. To that end, a motion was made and seconded to maintain the current level of CB reimbursement at \$750. The motion passed 4-1.

- Full List & Measure (FLM): The board continued its discussion on the issues surrounding the FLM. No strong consensus arose as to the approach to take consistent both with the vote at Town Meeting and the significant progress made by the office since that vote to conduct a FLM. The board members recognized that different approaches would likely have different costs, which could ultimately lead to an impact on the final results. To assist the board in better understanding the interplay of scope vs. cost vs. results, a motion was made and seconded to hire an independent contractor to prepare a SOW to conduct a FLM. The SOW to present alternative approaches to attaining the maximum successful entry rate. The motion passed 4-1.

The chair set no specific date for the next meeting and the board voted unanimously to adjourn at 8:55 pm.

Respectfully submitted


Jayson Brodie