

Minutes

Board of Assessors

Room 105

Tuesday, February 15, 2022

5:00 PM

The meeting convened at 5:02 PM in Room 105. Present were: Board members: Peter Barbieri, chair, Mary Greendale and Jeffrey Marshall. Staff: Kathryn Peirce and Kevin Rudden.

1. Mary Greendale made a motion, seconded by Jeffrey Marshall, to approve the December 21, 2021 meeting minutes as written. The motion carried 2-0-1 (Peter Barbieri abstained). Mary Greendale made a motion, seconded by Jeffrey Marshall, to approve the February 8, 2022 meeting minutes as written. The motion carried 3-0-0.
2. Mary Greendale made a motion, seconded by Jeffrey Marshall, to approve the 2015 Recommitment #243 for Motor Vehicle and Trailer Excise taxes in the amount of \$81.25 and the January, 2022 abatement report for Motor Vehicle and Trailer Excise taxes dated February 15, 2022 (1 abatement for \$53.63 and 13 abatements totaling \$974.60). The motion carried 3-0-0.
3. Mary Greendale made a motion, seconded by Jeffrey Marshall, to approve Veteran's exemption application #50 (Clause 22a – \$800); Senior exemption application #19 (Clause 41C – \$1,000); and, Community Preservation exemption application #28 (\$58.68). The motion carried 3-0-0.
4. Mary Greendale made a motion, seconded by Jeffrey Marshall, to approve Real Estate Abatement application #10 (\$23,300 in building value / \$404.95 in real estate taxes), based on Kevin Rudden's recommendation. The motion carried 3-0-0.

5. Mary Greendale made a motion, seconded by Jeffrey Marshall, to approve Real Estate Abatement application #11 (\$1,000 in building value / \$17.38 in real estate taxes), based on Kevin Rudden's recommendation. The motion carried 3-0-0.
6. Mary Greendale made a motion, seconded by Jeffrey Marshall, to deny Real Estate Abatement application #14, based on Kevin Rudden's recommendation. The motion carried 3-0-0.
7. Mary Greendale made a motion, seconded by Jeffrey Marshall, to approve Real Estate Abatement application #27 (\$57,000 in building value / \$990.66 in real estate taxes), based on Kevin Rudden's recommendation. The motion carried 3-0-0.
8. Kevin Rudden advised the board to take no action on Personal Property Abatement application #2, noting that the business had moved out of Holliston and thought a Form of List request sent to it in December was a bill. The last tax bill sent to the company was in Fiscal Year 2020 and it was paid, he said.
9. Mary Greendale made a motion, seconded by Jeffrey Marshall, to deny Personal Property Abatement applications #3 and #4, based on Kevin Rudden's recommendation that both were valued by the MA DOR's mandated methodology using calculations supplied by the utility involved. The motion carried 3-0-0.
10. Board members discussed meeting with the Select Board at 7:00 PM on Tuesday, February 22, 2022 along with other departments involved with town finances. It was agreed that Mary Greendale would discuss the Board of Assessors' budget to the Select Board.
11. Kevin Rudden gave each board member a copy of the MA DOR's February 10, 2022 memo regarding whether to participate in extending an existing valuation agreement with Verizon New England. He requested board members vote on this at their February 22, 2022 meeting.

12. Kathryn Peirce asked the board to consider supporting a Town Meeting article to raise the value of exempted Personal Property in Fiscal Year 2023 from the current \$3,000 to either \$4,000 or \$5,000. She listed the numbers of accounts and lost tax revenue to the town as: \$3,000 exemption: 91 accounts valued at \$93,930 and \$1,632.50 in taxes; \$4,000 exemption: 12 additional accounts valued at \$38,020 and \$660.79 in taxes; and, \$5,000: 26 additional accounts (above the 91) valued at \$104,540 (more than the \$93,930) and an additional \$3,449.41 in taxes. Mary Greendale made a motion, seconded by Jeffrey Marshall, to support a \$5,000 exemption level. The motion carried 3-0-0.

A motion was made by Jeffrey Marshall, seconded by Mary Greendale, to adjourn the meeting at 5:30 PM. The motion carried: 3-0-0.