

SHELBURNE BOARD OF ASSESSORS

Meeting Minutes

February 20, 2019

The meeting was called to order at 3:50 p. m. by Alan Coutinho

Board Members Present: Alan Coutinho, Joseph Mattei, Jennifer Morse - **Assistant** Assessor

Board Members Absent: Jim Richardson

Appointment

Mr. Dun of Old Albany Road was present to discuss the land values and the percentage increase to his property. Mr. Dun provided the board with an analysis of properties on Old Albany Road ¹ and felt that the increase value was not equitable. It was agreed that the board will look into the land values for properties on Old Albany Road and will discuss again at the next meeting. Mr. Dun also noted that the dwelling has only 1 ½ bath – not the recorded 2. JM stated that the inspector was out in the fall and that was one of the changes to be made to the property record card.

Minutes

Minutes of February 4, 2019 ² were reviewed and approved

Signatures- signed by both board members unless otherwise noted

Monthly List – Motor Vehicle – January 2019 – Levy 2018³

Warrant to Collect – Motor Vehicle Commit #7 – Levy 2018⁴

Warrant to Collect – Motor Vehicle Commit #1 – Levy 2019⁵

Real Estate/Personal Property Abatements

Applications are not open to public inspection (GL Chapter 59 §60)

A motion was made and seconded to deny the following abatement applications: [Map 14D, Lot 3], [Map 13D Lot 15], [Map 32D, Lot 3], [Map 12D, Lot 3]. Reason: Land Values in neighborhood 2 and 4 increased due to an interim year adjustment in FY19. Values were reviewed by Patriot Properties and approved by the Department of Revenue and are based on sales from July 1, 2016 – June 30, 2018. **Vote: 2-0**

A motion was made and seconded to grant an abatement in the amount of \$936.79, Map 20, Lot 3. Reason: Survey/Lot change. **Vote 2-0**

A motion was made and seconded to grant an abatement in the amount of \$90.66 (Town) and \$5.23 (Fire District). Reason: Personal property business closed **Vote 2-0**

A motion was made and seconded to grant an abatement in the amount of \$441.77 (Town) and \$28.24 (Fire District), Map 23D, Lot 40. Reason: House was in foreclosure and disrepair January 1, 2018, adjustments made to the value. **Vote: 2-0**

A motion was made and seconded to grant an abatement in the amount of \$87.78, Map 20, Lot 2. Reason: Survey/Lot change. **Vote 2-0**

Real Estate Exemptions – Signed by both members unless otherwise noted

Applications are not open to public inspection (GL Chapter 59 §60).

One Senior exemption (41C) was granted in the amount of \$500 (Town) and \$141.18 (Fire District)

One Veteran exemption (22E) was revised from exemption (22) in the amount of \$1000.

One blind exemption (37A) was granted in the amount of \$500 (Town) and \$ 207.96 (Fire District)

Chapter Land

John Lee Map 32, Lot 6 Forest Management Plan⁶ was received and signed by chair Alan Coutinho. The Chapter application for FY2021 was signed by both members.

Letter to DOR from Board of Selectmen

The letter dated February 6, 2019 to the DOR, Subject: 2016 Assessing Department Review as read.

An email from the Town Admin on February 11, 2019 stated "Members of the Selectboard have asked the Division of Local Services to review what the Assessing Department has accomplished since their Technical Review in 2016 and where should the Town go from here in terms of the overall structure of the Assessing Department. The Town has invested a great deal of money to professionalize the office and to ensure accuracy and timeliness of data. Members of the Select Board want to be sure that the town moves in the right direction so not to compromise our accomplishments thus far."

JM shared that she had a conversation with DLS assessment representative Ryan Johnson about the possible recommendations which could include a one member board, an appointment of the board vs. elected, elimination of the board to an appointed assessor. It is JM understanding that the Technical Assistance bureau will be conducting a study with recommendations this spring and the assessors would be involved in the process much like the review in 2016. Alan Coutinho feels as if this is the Towns way of cutting back on stipends for boards including the Board of Health and mentioned that the town may consider how many meetings are attended by members moving forward.

Assistant Assessor Updates

None

Items not reasonably anticipated by the chair 48 hours in advance of the meeting

Next Meeting: March 4, 2019

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting at 4:40 p.m. all in favor.

Respectfully Submitted:

Jennifer Morse
Assistant Assessor
February 25, 2019

Document List

1. Mr. Dun analysis of properties on Old Albany Road
2. Minutes of February 8, 2019
3. Monthly List – Motor Vehicle January 2019 – Levy 2018
4. Warrant to Collect – Motor Vehicle Commit #7 – Levy 2018
5. Warrant to Collect – Motor Vehicle Commit #1 – Levy 2019
6. John Lee – Forest Management Plan
7. Letter to DOR from BOS dated February 6, 2019

Approved: 3/20/19