

**MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF ASSESSORS PUBLIC MEETING
TOWN OF CHARLEMONT**

December 10, 2012

Members Present:

Jacqueline Cashin, Chair

Sarah Reynolds

Simon Dean

The meeting was convened at 7:35 p.m.

1. The Board reviewed the minutes from their 11/26/12 meeting. On a motion by Cashin and seconded by Dean, the Board voted unanimously to approve the minutes, as written.
2. The Board reviewed and signed the LA-5 Percent form.
3. The Board reviewed a letter from a camper personal property owner stating that they had sold their camper. Per the discussion at their last meeting on the DOR ruling that all property tax is a single liability for the entire year, the Board reviewed and approved a letter to the camper owner stating this. On a motion by Reynolds and seconded by Cashin, the Board approved and signed the letter.
4. The Board reviewed a letter to be sent to camper owners with the Form of List, regarding the RV supplement sheet. Millett explained that Joe from the DOR would not approve an amendment to the State FOL, but granted permission for the Board to could include a supplement sheet requesting the needed information, without prior DOR review or approval needed. After some discussion, the Board felt it best to add Town of Charlemont/Board of Assessors to the top of the supplement sheet to distinguish it from the State form. On a motion by Dean and seconded by Reynolds, the Board approved the camper/RV supplement sheet, with Charlemont Assessors added to the top, and signed the letter to camper owners.
5. The Board reviewed and signed 3 copies of a Fiscal Year 2014 Chapter 61 certificate; one for the applicant, one for the Department of Conservation and Recreation and one for the file.
6. The Board reviewed and signed 1 Chapter 61 land lien.
7. The Board reviewed the deeds for November, 2012.
8. The Board reviewed a bill schedule/request for payment of Assessor's Salaries. It was noted that Millett had signed and submitted this to be included with the next payroll.
9. The Board reviewed a request for reimbursement for attendance to the FCAA fall meeting. On a motion by Reynolds and seconded by Cashin, the Board voted unanimously to approve the request.
10. The Board reviewed an invoice from the Recorder. On a motion by Reynolds and seconded by Cashin, the Board voted unanimously to pay the invoice.
11. The Board reviewed a bill schedule to Verizon New England, Inc., per Appellate Tax Board appeal 2009-851. It was noted that the Board had previously voted to pay the appeal, and that Cashin had signed the bill schedule at the Special Town Meeting, where it was unanimously voted to pay the abatement from free cash.
12. The Board reviewed emails from the Massachusetts Association of Assessing Officers (MAAO) as well as from the Erving Assistant Assessor regarding a possible MAAO dues increase for Fiscal Year 2014. The Board reviewed documentation showing their dues would increase by more than 200% if the proposal passed. The email from the Erving Assistant Assessor urged members to forward their concerns to the MAAO. Discussion ensued as to the fact that most MAAO meetings are held in the central or eastern part of the state, are often of little benefit and that an increase in dues would likely cause them to either reduce their membership to just one member or withdraw membership altogether. On a motion by Reynolds and seconded by Cashin, the Board voted unanimously to have their Secretary compose a letter noting their concerns to the MAAO and asking them to reconsider raising membership fees.

At 7:59 p.m., on a motion by Reynolds and seconded by Dean, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn the public meeting.

At 7:59 p.m., on a motion by Cashin and seconded by Dean, the Board voted unanimously to enter into Executive Session with the intent of not returning to open meeting afterwards, in order to deliberate on pending abatement and/or exemption applications.

Roll Call:

Voting yes: Cashin, Dean, Reynolds

Voting no: None

Motion passes unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Carlene Millett,
Assessor's Secretary

List of Documents Viewed in Public Meeting of December 10, 2012*

1. Minutes from the meetings of 11/26/12.
2. LA-5 Percent form.
3. Letter from camper personal property owner, dated 12/7/12.
4. Letter to camper personal property owner, dated 12/10/12.
5. Letter to camper/RV personal property owners, regarding supplement to Form of List, dated 12/30/12.
6. Camper/RV supplement page to Form of List.
7. Fiscal Year 2014 Chapter 61 certificate for (319) Avery Brook Road.
8. Fiscal Year 2014 Chapter 61 land lien for Warner Hill Road.
9. Deeds for November, 2012.
10. Bill schedules and invoices for Assessor's Salaries, the Recorder and Verizon New England, Inc.
11. Request for reimbursement for FCAA fall meeting expenses.
12. Email from Erving Assistant Assessor dated 12/3/12.
13. Email from Massachusetts Association of Assessing Officers, dated 12/3/12.

***Documents are stored in their respective files in the Assessor's office.**