

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

February 17, 2015

Members Present: Jacqueline Cashin; Chair, Sarah Reynolds, Karen LaClair.

The meeting was convened at 7:00 p.m.

1. The Board reviewed the minutes from their meeting of 1/12/15. On a motion by Reynolds and seconded by Cashin, the Board voted unanimously to approve the minutes as written.
2. The Board reviewed and signed the following:
 - a. 2014 motor vehicle commitment #7 & 2015 motor vehicle commitment #1.
 - b. Monthly abatements for January, 2015.
3. The Board reviewed Fiscal Year 2015 Chapter 61 applications and notices of action. On a motion by Reynolds and seconded by LaClair, the Board voted unanimously to approve and sign the documents.
4. The Board reviewed a letter to Berkshire East regarding property they had recently purchased which was in Chapter 61A. The letter explained that in order for the land to remain in Chapter 61A designation, an affidavit would be required, as well as a forest management plan and owner's acknowledgement. On a motion by Cashin and seconded by LaClair (Reynolds abstained), the Board voted unanimously to sign the letter.
5. The Board reviewed the deeds and building construction for January, 2015.
6. The Board reviewed a memo from the Select Board regarding the due date for Town Reports.
7. The Board reviewed and approved a request for reimbursement for travel to a meeting.
8. The Board reviewed an email from new Town Administrator, Peg Dean, introducing herself and asking if there was anything the Board would like posted to the Town Hall sign.
9. The Board read an email from the Baker Administration regarding better partnership between the state and cities and towns and identifying unfunded mandates and unrealistic regulations.
10. At 7:50 P.M. Doug Dean came in to follow up regarding his property on Route 2, which is in Chapter 61A and a portion in gravel bank usage. Dean explained that because he is unable to meet the Town's new Earth Removal Bylaw regulations, he will be closing the pit and returning the land to fields. Dean notified the Board that there is about 3 acres of the property currently in gravel use. As previously discussed, the acreage in gravel use will be removed from Chapter 61A and Dean will be issued a bill for the difference in value. On a motion by Reynolds and seconded by Cashin, the Board voted unanimously to remove 3 acres of Dean's property from Chapter 61A. Dean will notify the Board when the pit is closed.
11. The Board discussed the property inspections on Maxwell Road and 1245 Route 2. Millett informed the Board that the property on Maxwell Road is not eligible to be enrolled in Chapter 61 as it does not meet the minimum acreage. The Board asked her to inform the owner of this. Next, the Board discussed 1245 Route 2. Millett noted she had forwarded the pictures from the inspection to the Board of Health, which after an inspection of the property, had condemned it as unfit for habitation. The Board reviewed a comparison property on Main Street which had previously been condemned. The Board reviewed what the value would result in if the same influences (reductions) were applied on this property and agreed that the value was fair and should be treated the same as the Main Street property. It was noted that the owner's condemned property on 56 Burrington Road should be reduced likewise. On a motion by Reynolds and seconded by LaClair, the Board voted unanimously to reduce the property value on 1245 Route 2 and 56 Burrington Road by applying the same influences as were applied to 33 Main Street.
12. The Board agreed to cancel their next regularly scheduled meeting on February 23rd.
13. At 8:25 p.m., on a motion by Reynolds and seconded by Cashin, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn their meeting.

At 8:25 p.m., on a motion by Cashin and seconded by Reynolds, the Board voted unanimously to enter into Executive Session in order to deliberate on pending abatement and/or exemption applications, with the intent to not return to open meeting afterwards.

Roll Call:

Voting yes: Cashin, Reynolds, LaClair

Voting no: None

Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,
Carlene Millett,
Assessor's Secretary

List of Documents Viewed in Public Meeting of February 17, 2015*

1. Minutes from Assessors meeting of 1/12/15.
2. 2014 motor vehicle commitment #7.
3. 2015 motor vehicle commitment #1.
4. Monthly abatements for January, 2015.
5. Chapter 61 application from Carol Summers, dated 9/20/13.
6. Chapter 61A application from David Wallace, dated 1/20/15.
7. Letter to Berkshire East, dated 2/17/15.
8. Deeds for January, 2015.
9. Building construction report for January, 2015.
10. Memo from Select Board regarding Town Report, dated 1/9/15.
11. Request for reimbursement for travel to a meeting, dated 1/22/15.
12. Email from Peg Dean, Town Administrator, dated 2/5/15.
13. Email from Governor Baker's Office, dated 2/9/15.
14. Google images of Doug Dean property.
15. Property record cards for Maxwell Road (Mosher), 1245 Route 2 & 56 Burrington Road (Heist) and 33 Main Street (Faufaw, formerly).

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