

Board of Assessors Minutes
Wednesday, February 17, 2021 at 4:30 p.m.
East Longmeadow, MA – via-Zoom Webinar

Present: Martin Grudgen, Chairman; Marilyn Ghedini, Assessor; J. William Johnston, Clerk of the Board and Diane L. Bishop, Director of Assessing

Mr. Grudgen called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m. Chairman Grudgen stated this meeting is being recorded on Zoom and is live-streaming on Facebook and will be on ELCAT's YouTube 01028.

Meeting Minutes: Mr. Johnston reviewed the minutes from the meeting of January 20, 2021 and found them to be in order as to form and content and moved they be approved. Ms. Ghedini seconded. Roll call vote: Mr. Johnston, Yes, Ms. Ghedini, Yes, Mr. Grudgen, Yes. Motion passes 3-0.

Administrative:

Warrants: The board reviewed the following warrants and Chairman Grudgen made a motion to approve by roll call vote: Mr. Johnston, Yes, Ms. Ghedini, Yes, Mr. Grudgen, Yes. Motion passes 3-0.

- FY21 Supplemental Real Estate Warrant (\$41,671.54)
- FY21 CPA Supplemental Real Estate Warrant (\$416.70)

Reports: The board reviewed the following monthly reports and Chairman Grudgen made a motion to approve by roll call vote for each report which requires signatures: Mr. Johnston, Yes, Ms. Ghedini, Yes, Mr. Grudgen, Yes. Motion passes 3-0.

- MVE Abatement Report (January) 2021- \$813.16
 - Boat Abatement Report (January) FY20 & FY21- \$71.12
 - FY21 Exemption Report (January) - \$16,084.43
 - FY21 Abatement Report (January) - \$4,906.98
 - Accounting Notice (January) -\$1,822,099.11
 - LA-3 Sales Report (January): The board members reviewed the LA-3 and noted the assessment to sales ratio continues to drop below the acceptable levels for certification. Chairman Grudgen noted one sale was a family sale and a couple others were not on the MLS. The office will do their due diligence to discover any information needed to validate the sales.
 - BP Report (January): Ms. Bishop stated there was 1 new condo only but knowing it is January new construction is not as prevalent in the winter months. It was noted many permits for insulation and solar. One solar permit was of interest due to using solar shingle/roofing material and not the traditional solar panels.
 - Director's Report:
- a. **2021 Motor Vehicle Excise Bills:** The office has been very busy since the 2021 Excise bills were mailed on February 2, 2021. It is quite surprising the number of calls from taxpayers who have either relocated to another state or purchased a new vehicles. Many taxpayers who have moved out of state have had trouble registering their vehicles in their new state due to COVID and the limitations in getting appointments for their new license and new registrations.

Another handful have call stating they have never lived in East Longmeadow but received a bill from us. The staff advises the taxpayers to go on to the RMV's website and update the principal place of garaging as this is the field the Registry pulls to gather all vehicle. The garage coding must be fixed at the source which is the RMV.

Many people move and totally forget to notify the RMV which by law we are required to do within 30 day of moving when they move within Massachusetts or out of state. And lastly, many taxpayers are not aware the valuation for excise tax purposes is based on the Manufacturer Suggested Retail Price (MSRP) and follows a 5 year depreciation schedule as described in M.G.L Chapter 60A. It is not

what the car is valued at for resale purposes along with excise is assessed by the month and not per diem.

All excise bill mailed on February 2, 2021 are due by March 4, 2021.

- b. Biennial Conflict of Interest- As a reminder to the Assessors, please complete the Conflict of Interest Online training and return your Certificate of Completion and the Acknowledge of Receipt to the Summary of the Conflict Interest Law. (Last page of the Summary packet).
- c. FY22 Form of List and 3ABC Forms: The deadline for returning the FY22 Form of Lists and 3 ABC forms is March 1, 2021. If a taxpayer needs a form they should look on the Assessors webpage under Forms or give us a call, we would be happy to mail or email a form!

Mr. Grudgen made a motion to go into executive session at 4:40 p.m. to review the FY21 Exemption Applications, FY21 Abatement Applications and ATB Updates to return to open session to record our votes and adjourn. The following roll call was taken. Mr. Johnston, Yes, Ms. Ghedini, Yes, Mr. Grudgen, Yes.

The board returned to open session at 5:41 p.m. to record our votes taken in Executive Session.

The following list is the votes of the Board of Assessors on all FY21 Exemption and Abatement applications put before them requiring a roll call vote: Mr. Johnston, yes; Ms. Ghedini, yes; Mr. Grudgen, yes.

Parcel ID #	Location	Abt /Exemption	Clause	Date	Vote
70-26-4	397 Porter Rd	Exemption	41C	2-17-2021	Denied
5-28-7	5 Powder Hill Rd	Exemption	22	2-17-2021	Granted
12A-46-30	65 LaSalle St	Exemption	41C	2-17-2021	Granted
71-42-29	125 Brookhaven Dr	Exemption	22	2-17-2021	Granted
40-6-0	49 Chestnut St	Exemption	41C	2-17-2021	Granted
6-126-0	509 Chestnut St	Exemption	41C	2-17-2021	Granted
53-25-5	394 Somers Rd	Exemption	41C	2-17-2021	Granted
20-37-9	34 Windsor Ln	Abatement		2-17-2021	Granted
9-12-19	245 Benton Dr	Abatement		2-17-2021	Granted
12-20-37	33 Colorado St	Abatement		2-17-2021	Granted
7-5-1/22	38 Broadleaf Cr	Abatement		2-17-2021	Denied
7-5-2/17	2 Bluegrass Dr	Abatement		2-17-2021	Denied
PP#002033	HIGI SH LLC	Abatement		2-17-2021	Granted
PP#002183	Ascent Dental Care LLC	Abatement		2-17-2021	Granted
PP# 002183	Ascent Laser Aesthetics LLC	Abatement		2-17-2021	Denied

February 17, 2021

The Board of Assessors will hold an Executive Session meeting on Wednesday, March 3, 2021 at 4:30 p.m. The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Assessors will be held on Wednesday, March 17, 2021 at 4:30 p.m. via Zoom.

Mr. Grudgen made a motion to adjourn. Ms. Ghedini seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Meeting adjourned at 5:44 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

J.W. Johnston
Clerk of the Board

Documents Reviewed: Minutes; Warrants (2); MVE, Boat and FY21 Exemption/Abatement Reports (4); Accounting Notice; LA-3 Sales Report; Building Permit Report; Directors Report; FY21 Exemption Applications, FY21 Abatement Applications, ATB documents.