

Charlemont Board of Assessors Meeting Minutes

Date: April 1st, 2009

Present: Carol A. Rice, Michael E. Kane and Andrea Santos

The meeting was convened at: 6:25 p.m.

The Assessors had a scheduled appointment with a property owner wondering what could be done about a boundary line dispute. The Assessors told the property owner that, although they sympathized with his dilemma, that it was out of scope of their office and the Town for that matter. They recommended that he seek legal counsel. The property owner left at 7:15.

The next order of business was the review and vote of 13 Motor Vehicle Excise abatement applications. Twelve of the thirteen abatement applications were approved in the following amounts: \$31.25, \$2.60, \$62.50, \$46.25, \$37.50, \$56.15, \$200.52, \$28.12, \$55.21, \$41.67, \$98.54, and \$38.54. One application was denied for non-payment of the bill in the amount of \$23.75. Abatement certificates 1232-1243 were signed and submitted to the tax collector and the taxpayer.

A building permit and the COMP report were reviewed by the Board. A Chapter 61 application submitted by a property owner that had been given a deadline extension was voted approved by the Board.

The Board of Assessors unanimously granted all abatement applications submitted for FY 2009 tax bills a one month extension. The Board granted this extension based on unforeseen delays due to quarterly billing and wanted to give each application time for thorough consideration. The Board received an email from the Tax Collector requesting an administrative abatement of all past tax bills of the Wagle/Page property due to a tax taking. Also included in the note was a request to abate part of a tax bill due to a partial sale of the property to the State of Massachusetts. The Assessors researched the sale and could not find a deed of sale. The Assessors voted against the abatement pending a registered deed. Personal property bills were updated and bills were mailed. The Assessors will be sending out omitted tax bills as some personal property bills were not added before the bills were mailed. The consultant cancelled his appointment with the office and all abatement concerns were voted postponed for one more week.

An exemption application in the amount of \$1000 was voted approved by the Board of Assessors. Exemption certificate 608 was signed by the Board.

The Board decided to take advantage of a book binding sale in the month of June. The Board voted to change tax mapping companies for a lower rate. A response from the Board of Selectmen to warrant articles submitted by the Board of Assessors

was read aloud. The Board of Assessors requested an appointment with the Board of Selectmen at their next meeting to discuss the warrant articles. Pictometry software has been installed on the Assessors' computer. The Assessors will be adding pictures to the property cards pulled from the Pictometry software. The Assessors voted against submitting a warrant article to the Board of Selectmen that would start a fund to digitize the tax maps.

All publications and advertisements were reviewed and filed.

The meeting was adjourned at: 8:30 p.m.

The next meeting will be held February 11, 2009

Respectfully submitted,

Bree Stegner

Secretary