

## **Charlemont Board of Assessors Meeting Minutes**

Date: June 25, 2008

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

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The meeting was convened at: 6:30p.m.

The minutes for meetings June 11, 2008 and May 28, 2008 were reviewed and approved by the Board.

As a follow-up from last meeting, the Board received the recommendation from the Assessment Consultant to assess telephone poles with in the town limits. The Assessors voted to assess telephone poles starting in fiscal year 2009.

Three new abatement applications were received, voted and approved in the amounts of \$44.48, \$30.00, & \$32.50. Two denials of excise abatement were signed by the Board and sent with a letter of explanation to the taxpayers. The certificates of abatement generated from the approval of excise abatement at the last meeting were signed and copies were forwarded to the tax collector and taxpayer. The Monthly Excise list for June 2005 was reviewed and signed in the amount of \$32.50. The Farm Plate Warrant and Commitment were voted on and signed by the Board for the amount of \$1073.75. The Repair Plate Warrant and Commitment were voted on and signed by the Board in the amount of \$300.00.

The Warrant and Commitment for the preliminary Real Estate bills of fiscal year 2009 were voted on and signed by the Board in the amount of \$951,144.74. An appeal by a taxpayer to reevaluate his property has been denied due to unpaid back taxes. Another appeal for a revaluation of property has been approved by the Board of Assessors and the Board will contact their consultant to oversee the revaluation. The Assessors' office submitted reimbursement for Property Tax Exemptions. A letter from the tax collector about Municipal Lien Certificates and unpaid Personal Property bills was discussed in length and a reply to the tax collector was drafted. The Board decided that if a Personal Property bill is not deemed uncollectible under Chapter 60 Section 93, regardless of the amount of the bill, all avenues for collection must be pursued including Small Claims Court. The COMP report was reviewed and filed. The Board received a request for Chapter 18 exemption. It was decided to send the taxpayer an application and to vote on a new policy regarding all Chapter 18 applications at the next meeting. Three Special Warrants for Real Estate pre-pay were signed and submitted to the tax collector in the amounts of, \$600.00, \$200.00, & \$114.14. The Building Construction reports were considered and filed. The Assessors requested that Ms. Hathaway be contacted to see if Personal Exemptions can be included on the actual tax bills. The Assessors also requested the Ms. Stegner compile a Quarterly Tax Billing binder for each Assessor. Once the Assessors receive copies of the laws concerning Quarterly Tax billing, they will hold a special meeting to discuss the changes.

The Warrant and Commitment for the preliminary Personal Property bills for fiscal year 2009 were voted on and signed by the Board in the amount of \$31,159.26. The Assessors received a late submission of registration for a camper. Two abatements were approved; one for a Personal Property bill in the amount of \$58.68 and one for Real Estate bill in the amount of \$1333.81.

The office received a notice from Daimler Chrysler of change of name. A press release was submitted to the Recorder and the West County news about the summer office hours. The budget was completed for FY2008 and the Assessors decided to purchase a needed computer program, postage and office supplies with the remaining balance. A probationary performance review was given to Ms.

Stegner and the Board has unanimously voted to retain Ms. Stegner. The Board reviewed Ms. Stegner's doctor's notes about her returning to work. The tax mapper's bill and the Assessors' consultant's bill was approved and submitted to the accountant for payment. The dates and cost for the MMAO summer workshop were discussed and it was decided that the summer session be skipped and to reevaluate in the fall. A letter to the owners of the Mohawk Park was signed by Mrs. Rice asking about a venue for Ms. Purinton's retirement party. The Assessors requested Friends of the Fairgrounds also be contacted. The Board decided on a summer meeting schedule: July 23 & August 13.

All publications and advertisements were reviewed and filed.

The meeting was adjourned at: 9:15 p.m.

The next meeting will be held July 9, 2008

Respectfully submitted,

Bree Stegner

Secretary