

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

May 9, 2011

The meeting was convened at 7:30 p.m., with the following members present: Dave Cunningham, Sarah Reynolds and Simon Dean. Also present were Marc & Ellen Kaufmann.

1. The Kaufmann's came to discuss the acreage on their property, as there appeared to be a discrepancy in the deed and what Mr. Kaufmann believed his acreage to be. Cunningham began by explaining that the deed to Mr. Kaufmann's property shows the acreage to be 12 acres more or less, which conflicts with the 8 acres Kaufmann believes it to be. Cunningham went on to explain that the research the Board did on the deeds of the abutting properties supports the 12 acres showing on the deed. The Board explained that Kaufmann's and two other parcels were one large piece of land at one time, before it got split up. Kaufmann stated that he originally purchased the property with the house on it in 1974, then had a survey done in 2007, which he filed with the Registry of Deeds. After discussion and a review of the plan, the Board suggested that it was possible that the survey was based on the fact that the acreage had been believed to be 8 acres for so long. Kaufmann stated that he felt the survey was the legal reference and went on that assumption, then he received his tax bill for fiscal year 2011, and it had a different acreage, map and parcel number on it. The Board explained that after research and meeting with one of his abutters, it appeared that the property mixed up with the abutting property, and was switched. The Board apologized to Mr. Kaufmann and noted that he should have been written a letter to explain why the parcels were reversed. After further discussion, Kaufmann asked the Board what the best way to resolve this would be. The Board stated that they could hire the Registry of Deeds to do extensive research on this or suggested that Kaufmann could ask his surveyor to come in and meet with them to see if he could shed any light on this. Kaufmann agreed that he would call the surveyor and invite him to the Board's next meeting. The Board thanked Kaufmann for meeting with them to resolve this.
2. At 7:59 p.m. on a motion by Cunningham and seconded by Reynolds, the Board voted unanimously to enter into Executive Session, with the intent of returning to open meeting afterwards, in order to meet with an applicant and deliberate on pending abatement and exemption applications.

Roll Call:

Voting yes: Cunningham, Reynolds, Dean

Voting no: None

Motion passes unanimously.

The Board returned to open meeting at 8:17 p.m.

3. The Board reviewed the minutes from their 4/25/11 meeting. On a motion by Reynolds and seconded by Cunningham, the Board voted unanimously to accept the minutes as written.
4. The Board reviewed and signed Motor Vehicle Commitment 2010 #8A and 2011 #2A.
5. The Board reviewed an invoice from the Registry of Deeds for copies. On a motion by Cunningham and seconded by Reynolds, the Board voted unanimously to approve the invoice for payment.
6. The Board signed a letter of introduction for Duane Adams of Mayflower Valuation, as he will be checking building permits over the next few months.
7. The Board reviewed the deeds for April, 2011.
8. The Board reviewed the building construction report for April, 2011.
9. The Board reviewed their correspondence.

10. The Board reviewed a Forest Cutting Plan for 55 Vincent Road.
11. The Board reviewed the May, 2011 issue of the Beacon.
12. The Board discussed 73 East Harmony Heights. Millett noted that Barbara Harris had called inquiring as to when her street address changed from 73 Harmony Heights Extension to 73 East Harmony Road, as her mortgage company was looking for documentation. Millett explained that she had checked with the E-911 Coordinator, the Fire Department and the Highway Department and was unable to receive an answer. The Board believed the change was due to the E-911 service and directed Millett to have Barbara call the Fire Department, as their records should reflect the correct address for emergency purposes.
13. The Board discussed the pay distribution of their Secretary. Millett explained that when the Board asked the Finance Committee to distribute some of her salary among the other Boards she works for so it wouldn't be reflected all in the Assessor's budget, it didn't occur to her that this would require the submission of separate time sheets to the Treasurer. Millett explained that this was mentioned to her by the Executive Secretary and that it would require that her time be broken down for each Board, which could be time-consuming and difficult to determine. The Board stated that when they brought this up to the Finance Committee, this wasn't mentioned to them. Millett noted that the Select Board and Finance Committee were discussing it at the Select Board meeting, and she would inquire as to what was determined.

At 8:45 p.m., on a motion by Cunningham and seconded by Reynolds, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,

Carlene Millett,
Assessor's Secretary

List of Documents Viewed in Public Meeting of May 9, 2011*

1. Letter, deed and survey from Marc Kaufmann.
2. Motor Vehicle Commitment 2010 #8A and 2011 #2A
3. Invoice from Registry of Deeds, dated 5/2/11.
4. Letter of introduction for Duane Adams of Mayflower Valuation, dated 5/1/11.
5. Deeds for April, 2011.
6. Building construction report for April, 2011.
7. Forest Cutting Plan for 55 Vincent Road.
8. May, 2011 issue of the Beacon.

*Documents not attached to minutes are stored in their respective file in the Assessor's office.