

## OPEN SESSION



The Board of Assessors met on Wednesday, February 2, 2022, at approximately 6:08 PM. Present were Chairwoman Cheryl Smith, Clerk Paula Bunker, Member Steve McCarthy, Principal Assessor John Donahue, and Principal Secretary Daniela Nilsson. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the meeting was open to the public via remote participation only. A video recording of the meeting was documented by community access television.

The Principal Assessor read aloud the State of Emergency Public Access Notice from the agenda.

The Principal Assessor stated the Budget Presentation with the Board of Selectmen was scheduled for February 9<sup>th</sup> at 7:40 PM, and the Budget Presentation with the Finance Committee was scheduled for February 10<sup>th</sup> at 8:05 PM.

The Principal Assessor presented the CAI Tax Map Maintenance Agreement for 2022. Member McCarthy inquired about the cost of adding different layers to the current tax maps. He stated that some communities offered many layers on their maps. The Principal Assessor stated that this contract outlines the costs as \$2,700 for revisions to the Assessor's maps, up from \$2,500 in previous years, \$3,000 for hosting services which does provide many layers, and \$15 per building footprint for new construction. Member McCarthy stated he had the opportunity to use the maps recently and also recommended that the Principal Assessor check the OLIVER GIS maps, if he hadn't recently, because he was impressed by the updates and more user friendly features. The Principal Assessor added that the CAI maps used by the Assessors were similar and were linked to Google features. The Chairwoman made a **motion** to accept the Tax Map Agreement as presented. Seconded by Member McCarthy. Voted 3-0-0.

Warrants/Bills Payable, Motor Vehicle Excise Abatement Certificates, Motor Vehicle Monthly Lists, Statutory Exemption Applications, Certificates, and Denials, Statutory Exemption Monthly Lists, Real Estate and Personal Property Abatements, Property Tax Deferral Applications and Certificates, Warrants and Commitments for Motor Vehicle and Boat Excise, Chapter Land Lien Releases for Spadea, and the CAI Tax Map Maintenance Agreement were presented for signatures.

A **motion** was made by Chairwoman Smith to adjourn the Open Session and to enter into Executive Session in order to Review Applications for Abatement/Exemption/Classification relative to Purpose 7, MGL CH 59, section 60; to review and discuss strategy of pending Appellate Tax Board Cases relative to Purpose 3 and 7, MGL CH 59, section 60 - because to do so in open session could be detrimental on the Board's litigating position; to discuss the Town Administrator's correspondence dated January 14, 2022 regarding the Principal Assessor Position relative to Purpose 1, MGL CH 59, section 60; and, to reconvene in Open Session at the conclusion of the Executive Session. The motion was seconded by Member McCarthy. A **roll call vote** was taken as follows: Chairwoman Smith = affirmative, Clerk Bunker =

affirmative, Member McCarthy = affirmative. The Board adjourned Open Session and entered Executive Session at approximately 6:18 P.M.

The Board reconvened in Open Session at approximately 7:09 PM. The Chairwoman stated the Board had granted abatements for Abatement Applications numbered 11 and 18. Additionally, the Board had denied Abatement Applications numbered 4, 7, 9, 15, 16, 20, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, and 92.

The Chairwoman made a **motion** to adjourn. Seconded by Member McCarthy. Voted 3-0-0.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 7:10 PM.

Next Meeting: February 16, 2022

I certify that the minutes of this meeting are true and accurate to the best of my recollection.

Respectfully submitted,



Paula Bunker, Clerk

Prepared by Principal Secretary, Daniela Nilsson

*Documents referenced during the meeting:*

- *Warrants/Bills Payable, Motor Vehicle Excise Abatement Certificates, Motor Vehicle Monthly Lists, Statutory Exemption Applications, Certificates, and Denials, Statutory Exemption Monthly Lists, Real Estate and Personal Property Abatements, Property Tax Deferral Applications and Certificates, Warrants and Commitments for Motor Vehicle and Boat Excise, Chapter Land Lien Releases for Spadea, the CAI Tax Map Maintenance Agreement and any miscellaneous administrative documents referenced during the meeting*