

OPEN SESSION

RECEIVED  
TOWN CLERK  
2022 MAY 19 AM 8:30

The Board of Assessors met on Wednesday, May 4, 2022, at approximately 6:10 PM. Present were Chairwoman Cheryl Smith, Clerk Paula Bunker, Member Deborah Cauley, Principal Secretary Daniela Nilsson, and Assistant Town Administrator/Human Resource Director Linda Torres. 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 Secretary reminded the Board the International Association of Assessing Officers (IAAO) was holding their annual conference in Boston this year from August 28 to 31. She also stated the Proposed Verizon Agreement for FY2023 to FY2027 was before the Board tonight. If the Board agreed with the Proposed agreement, she asked that they make a motion to allow her to sign, on their behalf, on the virtual DocuSign document. Clerk Bunker asked if the proposal was the same as in the past. The Principal Secretary stated that it was, in general terms. A **motion** was made by Clerk Bunker to accept the agreement and to allow the Principal Secretary to virtually sign. Seconded by the Chairwoman. Voted 3-0-0.

The Principal Secretary stated there was Bills Payable, Abatements, and Exemptions before the Board for signatures tonight.

Status of the Principal Assessor Position was next on the agenda. Ms. Torres stated she came to the meeting to see what the status was, and how the Board wanted to move forward. The Chairwoman made a **motion** to proceed with two (2) interviews at the next Board of Assessor's meeting. Seconded by Clerk Bunker. Voted 3-0-0. Next the Board discussed if they should continue with their remote meeting, COVID protocol, that was extended by Executive Order until July 15, 2022. Clerk Bunker stated that she would like to reopen the meetings to the Public. The Chairwoman agreed. The Chairwoman made a **motion** to reopen the meetings to the public and to move the meetings back to the Small Conference Room. Seconded by Clerk Bunker. Voted 3-0-0.

The Board discussed reorganization of the Board. Clerk Bunker stated she would like to be the Chair. The Chairwoman made a **motion** to make Paula Bunker the Chairwoman. Seconded by Deborah Cauley. Voted 3-0-0. Clerk Bunker inquired when the motion would take effect. The Board decided it should be effective the next day, May 5, 2022. Member Cauley made a **motion** to make Paula Bunker the Chairwoman effective May 5, 2022. Seconded by Chairwoman Smith. Voted 3-0-0. Member Cauley asked who would be the Clerk. Clerk Bunker suggested that Chairwoman Smith should be the Clerk, and after Member Cauley completes her Course 101 requirement, the Board could revisit their titles. The Board was in agreement. Member Cauley made a **motion** to make Cheryl Smith the Clerk. Seconded by Clerk Bunker. Voted 3-0-0.

Clerk Bunker stated that at the last meeting on April 27, 2022 in Executive Session, the Board Abated Applications #6, 7, 17, 65, 66, 67, 83, 93, and 94. The Board Denied Applications #80, 81, and 82.

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 review Executive Session Minutes; and to Review the Open Meeting Law Complaint by the Chairwoman relative to Purpose 1, MGL CH 59, section 60; and not to reconvene in Open Session. The motion was seconded by Clerk Bunker. A **roll call vote** was taken as follows: Chairwoman Smith = affirmative, Clerk Bunker = affirmative, Member Cauley = affirmative. The Board adjourned Open Session and entered Executive Session at approximately 6:22 P.M.

Next Meeting: May 18, 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, Real/Personal Tax Abatement/Exemption Applications/Certificates or Denials and any miscellaneous administrative documents referenced during the meeting*