

**SHELBURNE BOARD OF ASSESSORS
MINUTES of August 25, 2015 Meeting**

- 1) Meeting called to order at 5:57PM Attending: Alan Coutinho, Jim Richardson, Joe Mattei , Bill Barry
- 2) Bill Barry resigned from the Assistant Assessor position, with a one month notice of his employment end-date of Sept 24, 2015. Bill expressed his thanks to the Assessors for their support during his 25 months working for the town. Bill shared four reasons for his resignation: 1.) The Selectboard's continued rejection of proposed ideas to address concerns about statutory compliance, missed tax revenue opportunities, and a failure to enable the Assessors Office to better serve town needs; 2.) The Selectboard's failure to communicate to employees on the fiasco that was the Position Compensation & Classification Study; 3.) The Selectboard's decision on a zero increase in Bill's rate of pay; and 4.) an increase in Bill's other job, his teaching work.

Alan & Jim asked if there was any way Bill would reconsider. All the Board members expressed their frustrations with the Selectboard's lack of support for the work of the Assessors Office. Joe expressed concerns about the challenges of finding a new Assistant Assessor and the issue of the long startup time for a new person.

After some discussion, and Bill's assurance that his decision was final, the Board voted to accept his resignation, with regret. Bill offered to continue working, beyond Sept 24, as an independent contractor, through the FY2016 tax rate setting process which needs to be completed before early December, if the terms of a contract can be agreed upon.

- 3.) The Assessors signed: Meeting Minutes; MVE Tax Abatements; and MVE tax warrant for 2015 Commitment #4
- 4.) Bill reported no action on the move of CAMA and the Personal Property System to a remote server. Still waiting for DOR staff.
- 5.) the Board discussed the status of work on setting the FY2016 Tax Rate, and the LA-3 Report on Valid Sales 2013-2014. Bill presented questions on six property valuations that were outside of the valid ranges used in the DOR's LA-15 ratio analysis. Assessors approved some adjustments that Bill should include in the submitted LA-3 report.
- 6.) Bill reported: no news yet from Appellate Tax Board on Thomas Fantini's appeal re 280 Colrain-Shelburne Rd
- 7.) Bill reported that he had recently sent a dozen edits of our tax maps to CAI Technologies – involving various parcel splits from the last 18 months.
- 8.) Bill reported that we've gotten two responses to efforts to schedule inspections: Jean Paul Migeon – 51 Skinner Rd, new construction in 2014 and G. William Jubinville – 15 Allen Rd, new construction in 2014. Bill agreed to try to schedule inspections prior to the next Assessors Mtg
- 9.) Confirmed date of next meetings planned as Tuesday Sept 8, 6PM
- 7) Adjourned at 6:36 PM
