

SHELBURNE BOARD OF ASSESSORS
Meeting Minutes
April 22, 2019

The meeting was called to order at 3:57 p. m. by Alan Coutinho

Board Members Present: Alan Coutinho, James Richardson, Jennifer Morse - Assistant Assessor

Minutes

Minutes of April 8, 2019¹ were reviewed and approved.

Abatements/Exemptions

*Abatement & Exemption applications are not open for public inspection (GL Chapter 59, Section 60)

A real estate abatement was denied for Map 12, Lot 19 by unanimous vote. Reason is that neighborhood and abutting properties have the same set land values. Jenn felt that the abatement may be warranted due to the utility easement and front footage of the property affected. Jenn stated that a study of all easements should be conducted for Fiscal Year 2020.

Section 5 – Farm Plate Excise Bills

Jim Richardson invoked the rule of necessity to vote on Farm Excise Plates as he has three farm plates at the suggestion of the Assistant Assessor. *A motion was made by AC not to bill for farm plates for 2019, seconded by JR. Vote: 2-0.*

Vacant Seat on Board

Jenn shared that the Town Clerk will be posting the open Assessors seat to be appointed by the Board of Selectmen at the recommendation of the Board of Assessors. The term will expire in May 2020.

Ethics Reminder

Jenn shared that the Town Clerk sent an email to municipal employees regarding the online ethics training which Jim Richardson has not completed the training to date.

Bylaw Change – Village Zoning

Jenn shared an email from Liz Kidder, planning board clerk. Jenn had explained to Liz that there are too many unknowns and Assessors can't predict future values. She shared that if an additional dwelling was added to lots then there would be an increase in value. Also if a lot was to be divided then there would be two primary building lots which would increase the value.

Assistant Assessor Updates

Jenn has completed Course 5 and begins Course 6 (4/25, 4/26, 5/2, 5/3, 5/10)

Jenn will be attending the FCAA Roundtable meeting on April 24th at 10 a.m. in Turners Falls.

Next Meeting

May 6, 2019 at 4 p.m.

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting at 4:25 p.m. - unanimous

Respectfully Submitted:
Jennifer Morse
Assistant Assessor
April 24, 2019

Document List

1. Minutes of April 8, 2019
2. Section 5 Farm Plate Excise
3. Email from Town Clerk re. Ethics Training