

MINUTES
TOWN OF MONTAGUE ASSESSING DEPARTMENT
1 Avenue A (2nd Floor) Turners Falls, MA
July 23, 2018

A meeting of the Montague Board of Assessors was held on Monday, July 23, 2018.

Assessors present: Chairman Paul Emery, Teresa Miner, Ann Cenzano, and Karen Tonelli, Director of Assessing. The meeting was called to order at 3:30 p.m.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes of the previous meeting as printed. The Board voted unanimously.

The Assessors read an email dated July 17, 2018 sent by Bill Tomb, Gill Assessor. The email relates to an issue that had been previously discussed at an Assessor's meeting in the spring regarding the relationship between the two towns concerning FirstLight litigation.

The Board signed denials of Motor Vehicle Abatement Applications submitted by CAB East LLC and D. Norwood due to procedural issues.

Karen informed the Board that she received a request from an attorney representing the owners of 15 Lake Pleasant Road which is being sold. They've asked that the Assessors release the chapter 61A lien. A review of the historical data indicates that rollback taxes are due for two years. Karen computed the penalty tax and provided this information to the Attorneys. We will revisit this request when we hear back from them.

At the request of the DOR, the Assessors signed an authorization allowing the Director of Assessing to e-sign and submit various tax forms on DLS Gateway.

The Board signed LA-13A and the Omitted/Revised Assessment Report for Fy2019.

At the request of the Tax Collector, the Assessors signed a recommitment for a 2012 excise tax bill in the amount of \$29.06.

Karen provided the Assessors with recent emails sent by Nishi Shah concerning his assessments at 59 Main Street, Montague. Karen was seeking direction on how to respond to Mr. Shah due to his aggressive tone and threatening remarks. Karen has concerns about the escalating and intimidating language used in the emails. The Assessors reviewed the Town's Policy and Protocol for Dealing With Difficult Visitors. Karen indicated that she felt Mr. Shah's emails were unnecessarily abrasive and he should be made aware of the policy.

The Board asked Karen to provide a brief response to Mr. Shah's latest email and to inform him of his rights to appeal his assessment.

The regular session meeting adjourned at 4:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Approved:_____

Karen M. Tonelli, M.A.A.
Director of Assessor

List of Documents

- Norwood/CAB East MVE Abatements/Denials
- Emails from Bill Tomb & Nishi Shah
- Town of Montague Policy & Procedure For Dealing With Difficult Visitors
- Authorization to Allow Director of Assessing to sign on behalf of Board
- FY2019 LA-13A & FY19 Omitted/Revised Assessment Report
- 2012 Recommitment MVE