

MINUTES
TOWN OF MONTAGUE ASSESSING DEPARTMENT
1 Avenue A (2nd Floor) Turners Falls, MA
March 5, 2018

A meeting of the Montague Board of Assessors was held on Monday, March 5, 2018.

Assessors present: Chairman Paul Emery, Ann Cenzano and Karen Tonelli, Director of Assessing. Teresa Miner was absent. 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.

Time sheets for the Director of Assessing were signed and approved by the Chairman.

The Board members signed monthly abatement summaries for abatements issued in February, 2018.

The Assessors signed a Motor Vehicle Excise Recommitment 2018 #1A totaling \$766.50.

Regarding the request for extension for filing Form of List for First Light Hydro, the board took no action because we received their Form of List timely on March 1, 2018.

The Board approved an FY18 Omitted/Revised Assessment for 9 Turnpike Rd at the request of owner Scott Johnson.

The Board signed a denial notice for a veteran application. The veteran did not meet the residency requirement for FY2018.

The Board also signed a denial notice for a motor vehicle application submitted by Oscar Johnson because the abated amount is less than \$5.00.

Bill Tomb, Chairman of the Gill Board of Assessors, came to discuss the past arrangement of sharing expenses related to FirstLight's appraisal and legal matters. Bill provided the Montague assessors with several emails between him and Atty. Hutchinson regarding the split. In the emails, Atty. Hutchinson indicates that a 80/20 split was agreed upon. Mr. Tomb also provided a copy of a map which outlined the portion of the dam owned by Gill and the portion owned by Montague. Mr. Tomb said he draws his opinion that a 90/10 split is fair because it is based on the determination made by the appraiser, George Lagasse. He said the arrangement was similar to the regionalization of services. He also indicated

that Gill was not kept fully informed during the pending case. Paul did not feel that the 90/10 split is justified and asked how firm Mr. Tomb was to holding to that split. Mr. Tomb stated that he himself would be willing to appear before the ATB in the future to represent Gill along with Mr. Lagasse. He also indicated that they may use Gill's town counsel for future representation with FirstLight. Anne referred to the map of the dam which appears to show an equal share for each Town and questioned how that would support the 90/10 split. Mr. Tomb ended the conversation by indicating that if Montague wanted Gill to "help out" with their future costs, they would be willing to do so at the 90/10 split.

The Assessors decided to not meet next Monday, March 12, 2018. Karen will notify Terry Miner by email and by phone.

The regular session meeting adjourned at 4:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Approved:_____

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

List of Documents

Time Sheets

Emails provided by Bill Tomb

Map of

Monthly Summary Reports

2018 Form of List filed by First Light Hydro

Omitted/Revised Assessment Town & TFFD for 9 Turnpike Rd