

MINUTES  
TOWN OF MONTAGUE ASSESSING DEPARTMENT  
1 Avenue A (2<sup>nd</sup> Floor) Turners Falls, MA  
**May 6, 2019**

A meeting of the Montague Board of Assessors was held on Monday, May 6, 2019.

Assessors present: Chairman Paul Emery, Terry 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. The Board voted unanimously.

The Board reviewed and signed Motor Vehicle Commitment #99 for 2019 Section 5 Plates totaling \$4,603.75.

The Board also signed monthly summaries of abatements issued in the month of April, 2019.

The Board voted to approve an abatement application filed by William & Karen Murphy for 400 Turners Falls Road. An inspection performed indicated there was an additional bathroom fixture that could not be located and was therefore removed from the property card. The FY2019 adjusted assessment is \$374,900.00.

The Board reviewed an abatement application submitted by Christopher Savinski for a parcel of land they purchased on Randall Road (Parcel ID 21-0-138). It was noted that Mr. Savinski sought and received Special Permit from the ZBA in October of 2018 allowing a two family dwelling to be built on this lot. Upon review of the sales verification responses and land sales, the Board voted to deny the abatement application.

The Board reviewed an abatement application submitted by David and Diane Savinski for a parcel of land they purchased on Randall Road adjacent to the parcel Christopher Savinski purchased for the same price (Parcel ID 21-0-139). The Board voted to deny the abatement application for similar reasons.

Kathleen Lynch came before the Board to discuss her concerns. She stated that the Assessing Department had been notorious for being evil in the past. She also stated that it is important for a taxpayer to be able to come to town hall and have their questions answered in a respectful manner. Paul stated that he has been on the Board for over twenty years and disagreed that the office had a bad reputation. He agreed that all

taxpayers should be treated in a respectful manner and he asked what we could do to help her. Her issues arose regarding questions Ms. Lynch had regarding personal property located at Montague Center General Store which is owned by her mother. Karen offered a printout of FAQ from the DOR site regarding personal property. Karen also reiterated her offer to have staff conduct an inspection of the store to inventory personal property. Ms. Lynch declined both and asked for and received an apology.

The Assessors discussed the scheduling of meetings every other week for the summer and all were in agreement.

Upon a motion that was made and seconded, it was voted to adjourn at 4:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Approved:\_\_\_\_\_

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

**List of Documents**

FY2019 Abatement Applications and attachments  
2019 Commitment #99 (Section 5 Plates)  
Monthly summaries of abatement issued last month  
Personal Property DOR FAQs