

MINUTES  
TOWN OF MONTAGUE ASSESSING DEPARTMENT  
1 Avenue A (2<sup>nd</sup> Floor) Turners Falls, MA  
**August 24, 2020**

A meeting of the Montague Board of Assessors was held remotely via Zoom on Monday, August 24, 2020. Assessors present: Chairman Paul Emery, Ann Cenzano and Karen Tonelli, Director of Assessing. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Emery at 3:35 p.m.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes of the previous meeting (held on June 22, 2020). The Board voted unanimously to approve as printed. The board also voted to approve the meeting minutes for the executive session meeting held on the same date.

The Board received a letter from Barbara Alconada expressing an interest in the vacant position on the Board of Assessors. Barbara is a resident of Turners Falls and was a teacher in the Greenfield school system. She is now retired. The Board decided to recommend Barbara to the Board of Selectmen and ask them to appoint her at their next meeting to fill the vacancy until the next election. Paul will contact Selectmen Rich Kuklewicz about this as well.

The Board signed Commitment #4 totaling \$33,348.00 in 2020 Motor Vehicle Excise tax. The Board also signed Commitment #3A totaling \$1,312.45 in 2020 MVE taxes. MVE Recommitments for 2010, 2011 and 2013 were also signed by the Board.

The Assessors signed monthly summary of abatements and exemptions issued in July, 2020.

The Board denied two (2) MVE abatement applications due to lack of proper documentation (bill of sale/registration cancellation).

The Board also signed Warrants for rollback penalty taxes issued to Henry Komosa as follows: Town: \$3,062.42; MCFD \$230.62 and MLD \$15.00.

The Assessors reviewed the draft Memorandum of Agreement (MOU) prepared by the Town of Gill BOA relative to sharing costs for the hydro appraisal which is required for the FY22 recertification year. Karen suggested two edits – adding language that prohibits either town sharing the appraisal with FirstLight unless they exchange their appraisal simultaneously and removing language relative to Gill assisting with the scope of work because Karen has already prepared it. Clarification on the language regarding the costs

associated with the Turners Falls Hydro facility which is located entirely in Montague will be separated and paid entirely by Montague will also be made.

Karen reported that there are a few abatement applications for FY2020 that remain to be acted upon. The taxpayers have agreed to an extension of time within which the Board can act on the abatement which allows us additional time to inspect the properties.

The next regularly scheduled meeting will be held on September 14, 2020.

Upon a Motion duly made and seconded, it was voted to adjourn the regular session meeting at 4:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen M. Tonelli, M.A.A.

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

**List of Documents**

- Monthly summary of abatements/exemptions for July (June signature stamped so that accountant could close books).
- Draft letter of agreement re: sharing appraisal costs with Gill
- MVE Commitments
- Rollback Warrants (Komosa)
- MVE Applications and denials