

MINUTES
TOWN OF MONTAGUE ASSESSING DEPARTMENT
Second Floor - Montague Town Hall - 1 Avenue A Turners Falls, MA
March 28, 2022

A meeting of the Montague Board of Assessors was held on Monday, March 28, 2022. Public access was available via Zoom. Assessors present: Chairman Paul Emery, Ann Cenzano, Ann Fisk, and Karen Tonelli, Director of Assessing. The meeting was called to order at approximately 3:30 p.m.

Upon a motion made and seconded it was voted to accept the minutes of the previous meeting as printed with one correction to a name spelling.

Upon a motion made and seconded it was voted to accept the minutes of the previous Executive session meeting as printed.

Ed Stone and Ann Marie Kittredge came before the Board in person to ask about his Chapter 61A application for FY22. A question came up regarding the timely filing of the application. Karen will follow up with DOR legal and will report back. Mr. Stone also asked about the commercial valuation on his property and indicated he would seek an abatement on that issue. He believes that not all of the land should be valued commercially.

The Board reviewed data regarding historical tax levy and the tax rates for Montague.

The Board signed an agreement keeping the same value methods being used for Verizon property by the DOR going forward another five (5) years.

Tony Somers appeared before the Board remotely to discuss his abatement application. He said the increase of 64,000 was above the median assessment increases and that the renovations were finished and were needed to carve out space for his children. The kitchen had very little done to improve it and all renovations done were within the same footprint as the old kitchen. The additional kitchen was removed he believes his overall assessment should have been lower.

Karen asked about submitting FY2023 budget figures for the three Districts. It was agreed that a 3% increase across the board would be acceptable.

The Assessors signed 2022 MVE Commitment # 2 in the amount of \$83,754.97 as well as Commitment #01A in the amount of \$542.35.

The Board signed a Chapter lien for new owner Lindsey Gorman.

At 4:14 p.m. a Motion was made by Chairman Emery and seconded by Ann Cenzano to enter into Executive Session under purposes 7 & 9 to discuss/take action on pending litigation and abatement applications. Chairman Emery stated that we will not return to open session. Roll call taken: Emery Yes Cenzano Yes Fisk Yes.

Regular session meeting adjourned at 4:14 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen M. Tonelli, M.A.A.

Approved:_____

List of Documents

Somers abatement application and documents
Stone Chapter w/ application and survey
MVE Commitments and Warrants
Historical tax information
Verizon Agreement for FY2023 – FY2027
Gorman Chapter Lien