

Sterling Board of Assessors
Room 109, Butterick Municipal Building, 1 Park St., Sterling MA 01564
Minutes of Meeting April 24, 2017

Present: Donlin Murray (Don), Chairman
Robert Cutler (Bob), Vice Chairman
Richard Sheppard (Dick), Clerk
Rebecca Boucher (Becky), Associate Regional Assessor
Debbie Dreyer(Debbie) Assistant to the Assessor

Meeting Opened at 7:30am

Roll Call & Approval of Agenda

Sheppard present, Cutler present, Murray present - along with Becky & Debbie.

MOTION: Dick made a motion to accept the agenda, 2nd by Bob, all in favor, aye.

Any Payroll, Payables, abatements, warrants were signed.

NEW BUSINESS

Review & approval of previous meeting's minutes

MOTIONS: Dick made a motion to accept the 3/20/17 regular meeting minutes, also the executive minutes (not to be released) 2nd by Bob all in favor aye.

Statutory Exemption list: One new applicant was approved & the Veteran's adjusted exemption will be discussed in executive session next mtg.

Contract Regional Assessor (RRG) Update

3ABCs – Harald reviewed the 3ABCs; most were the same applicants from previous years, there were just 2 new ones. The Sterling Animal Shelter which is recommended to be exempt & a new cat shelter at 215 Worcester Rd which is to occupy the first floor with residential on the 2nd flr – this is recommended for a partial exempt. **MOTION:** Dick made a motion to approve the exemptions, 2nd by Bob all in favor aye.

Overlay Surplus – Ross sent an email – the assessors have accts from 2016 back to 2005 totaling \$209,699 – he wanted to know if any of these funds can be released to the overlay surplus account. We need to hold at least \$11,000 for the Verizon settlement (FY10 & FY11)& & \$8,500 for the Alcajape nursing home appeal. We need to always hold a total balance to cover any potential total liabilities. The Board decided to release everything up to 2012 (2009, 2010, 2011, 2012) equaling \$74,026.35. **MOTION:** Dick made a motion to approve releasing the amount of \$74,026.35 for the years mentioned, 2nd by Bob, all in favor aye.

Chapter Land Rates - Last year a lot of the rates went up, this year the only one that went up was productive woodland; a couple went down – harvested cropland, hay, vegetables, orchards, vineyards, blueberries, nurseries.....

CAI / Building footprints - On the GIS there are images of buildings on the parcel layer. Other departments have mentioned that some of the buildings are incorrect – it's not known when they were last maintained. You can maintain them by adding it to the mapping contract @\$15 per change. Becky will contact CAI & report to us at our next mtg.

Next meeting: Monday, May 22 @ 7:30am/*Agenda for next mtg: Verizon settlement, Chapter review, Statutory Exemptions, CAI, old records* **Adjourn:** Bob made a motion to adjourn the meeting @8:20am, 2nd by Dick, all in favor aye.

Respectfully submitted by Debbie Dreyer, Assistant to the Assessor
References: Appellant tax cases, Chapter Land Rates