

Sterling Board of Assessors  
Room 109, Butterick Municipal Building, 1 Park St., Sterling MA 01564  
**Minutes of Meeting** April 24, 2023

**Present:** Donlin Murray (Don), Chairman  
Richard Sheppard (Dick), Clerk  
Hannah Miller (Hannah), Member  
Robert Heckman (Rob) Regional Assessor  
Debbie Dreyer (Debbie) Assistant to the Assessor  
Richard Maki (Guest)

**Meeting Opened at 8:30am**

**Roll Call-** Sheppard present, Miller present, Murray present, along with Rob, Debbie & guest Richard Maki.

**Approval of Agenda - MOTION:** Dick made a motion to approve the agenda, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Hannah, all in favor, aye.

**Review past meeting minutes: MOTION:** Dick made a motion to approve the minutes of 3/20/23 as written, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Hannah, all in favor aye.

**Payables, any abatements, warrants signed.**

**Review Statutory Exemption list:** Returning Statutory Exemption applicants approved.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Guest Richard Maki / Economic Development Committee: Downtown revitalization. We would like to have the center of town looking better than it looks. A lot of energy & money will be going into burying the utility lines, new lighting, improving facades - these are some of the improvements, also lighting on the common & sidewalks are being looked at.

The EDC has been trying to bring new businesses into the downtown area; they were successful in bringing Emma's to Sterling from Stow. EDC has contracted with a vendor, an architect, to produce a rendering of what the facades might look like. Looking for a way to encourage the property owners to improve the front of their buildings. Possibly fund-raising, matching grants or TIF (Tax Incentive Financing) to help with the costs involved with this undertaking.

**RRG Update:**

R.E./P.P. Abatements: Abatement review. Signed off on approved administrative P.P. abatements.

Overlay: Rob reviewed the overlay account – after conferring with the accountant & David Manzello & the Board it was decided to release the total sum of \$40,000 from years 2013, 2014, 2015 & 2017.

**Future agenda items:** Liens, lien releases *Next mtg: May 15 @8:30am. Dick made a motion to adjourn the meeting @10:04 am, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Hannah, all in favor aye.*

*Respectfully submitted by Debbie Dreyer, Assistant to the Assessor*