

**Sterling Board of Assessors
Room 109, Butterick Municipal Building, 1 Park St., Sterling MA 01564
Minutes of Meeting September 9, 2015**

Present: Donlin Murray (Don), Chairman

Michael Rivers (Mike), Vice-Chairman

Robert Cutler (Bob), Clerk

Harald Scheid (Harald), Contract Assessor (RRG/Regional Resource Group)

Meeting Opened at 7:30am

Roll Call & Approval of Agenda

Robert Cutler present, Mike Rivers present, Donlin Murray present - along with Harald Scheid. Mike made a motion to accept the agenda, 2nd by Bob, all in favor, aye.

Payroll, Payables, Statutory Exemption list, any abatements, warrants were signed.

NEW BUSINESS

Sign Chapter 61A partial lien release for 1 Heywood Rd / Lot 1 Tuttle Rd – This is one of two lots on Tuttle Rd – rollback taxes have been paid. **MOTION:** Mike made a motion to approve the partial lien release from Chapter 61A, 2nd by Bob, all in favor aye.

CONTRACT REGIONAL ASSESSOR (RRG) UPDATE

Revaluation update – Harald said they are in the process of a 6 week audit certification that started last Friday. They're working with a certification advisor from the DOR who after studying the data will come back with a mini audit with questions and asking for additional analysis. Recently we had to move our primary land line from 1 acre to 2 acres – now they all reflect a 2 acre standard lot. The DOR requires that our land schedule be re-formatted around a 2 acre base lot.

Values are going up with a 3-5% increase in residential & comparable on the commercial side. At our next meeting Harald will be sharing 30 different reports & analysis to give you an idea of how the process evolved & how our values are formulated.

David has updated our depreciation schedule – we're finding older homes in "tired" condition are tending to be over-valued relative to other properties. He modified the depreciation curve on older homes - built in the 60's or before with not many renovations.

OLD BUSINESS:

Finalize and sign RRG Contract – The Administrator came down last week to see if we had a contract to review – the Town should be drawing up the contract. He asked Harald to email him a copy of his last contract. This will be addressed at our next meeting.

Sign Chapter liens – These will be signed at our next meeting.

Future agenda items: Sign Chapter liens, finalize RRG contract, reval update, review Chapter 61B policy

Next meeting: Sept 28 @7:30am

Mike moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:21am, 2nd Bob, all in favor aye.

Respectfully Submitted

Debbie Dreyer

Assistant to the Assessor