

L.H. Mc

TOWN OF LUNENBURG
BOARD OF ASSESSORS
P.O. BOX 135
LUNENBURG, MA. 01462

Minutes from the Board of Assessors meeting held: January 7, 2014

The meeting opened at 5:30 pm. Present: Chairman, Louis Franco, Board Members, Christopher Comeau & Matt Papini, Sr., Regional Assessor Harald Scheid, and Louise Paquette, Administrative Assistant.

Board reviewed and approved December 10, 2013 minutes, current expense vouchers, abatements, warrants, commitments & payroll.

Louise presented (4) Statutory Exemption applications to the Board for review. After reviewing all the applications, the Board approved all the applications for exemptions totaling \$2,500.00.

Harald reported on one Chapter 61A application decision that was tabled at the last meeting until more information was received regarding Lunenburg Realty LLC, 35 Leominster Rd. Harald stated that the office is in receipt of a letter dated 12/12/2013 from the "Lessee" in reference to the land farmed in 2012 and 2013. The "Lessee" confirms that he has been growing vegetables on the land during 2012 & 2013 and states that sales from this farming were in excess of \$1,000.00. Louise stated that the "Lessee" dropped by the office on 12/31/13 to check to make sure we had received his letter. He reported that he leases approximately 5 acres. (15.6 acres are classified under Chapter 61A) BOA made note that there were no tax returns showing farm income derived from the growing of agricultural products as requested to be received in the office by December 31, 2013. After much discussion, the Board felt that the statutory income test had not been met, so the vote to deny was unanimous. Harald will send a final letter of denial.

Harald reported that he has received a request from an Attorney seeking information to view the applications currently classified under Chapter 61, 61A & 61B. He stated that the applications are not for public viewing and that a spreadsheet of the properties under classification was provided to him. He explained that there have been several taxpayers in town who are challenging the office to be vigilant in allowing the Chapter classifications only when there is sufficient evidence that meets the statutory qualifying criteria.

Harald presented 17 abatement applications (1 RE & 16 PP) that were prepared and filed by Regional Resource Group, Inc. He explained that 16 personal property bills under the \$2,500.00 value threshold had been committed in error. The Board reviewed and granted the abatements totaling \$469.53 on the following:

KWON'S TAE KWON DO, INC 781 PAGE ST	BILL # 27	\$26.00
BOWSER, BARON 512 WEST TOWNSEND RD	BILL # 188	\$22.04
INDIVIDUAL POWER SOLUTION OF NE KULPINSKI / 719 FLAT HILL RD	BILL # 42	\$22.49
MERCHANTS VACATION BY CRANE 423 LANCASTER AVE	BILL # 59	\$21.49
RIVER HYDROLICS - MULLEN 44 PEARL ST	BILL # 132	\$22.00

449 CORPORATION / LAKEVIEW CLUB 439 WHALOM RD	BILL # 190	\$28.25
MIKE'S AUTO SCHOOL 5 R SUMMER ST	BILL # 139	\$16.98
PK DESIGNS / KENNEDY, PATTI 316 HOLLIS RD	BILL # 49	\$16.99
TNT QUILT N TOOLS / KENNEDY, TRACY 355 HOLLIS RD	BILL # 50	\$16.99
EGENISSIS, LLC / SUPPRENANT, ROBERT 572 TOWNSEND HARBOR RD	BILL # 168	\$27.59
PATRICK SLATTERY ARCHITECT 139 LEOMISNTER RD	BILL # 65	\$88.24
LAKEVIEW TREE NURSERIES / BURSCH, R. 308 ELECTRIC AVE	BILL # 24	\$45.74
PROMISE FARM / COURTEMANCHE, C & D 46 ARBOR ST	BILL # 4	\$35.95
RG SCOOTERS BAR & GRILL / NEWMAN 84 LAKEFRONT AVE	BILL # 53	\$65.95
WHITE FARM LTD. 826 LEOMINSTER RD	BILL # 64	\$11.55
THOMAS SZOCIK CONSULTING 40 TURKEY HILL RD	BILL # 172	\$22.09
	16	\$469.53

Harald reported that FY14 Real Estate Bill #4661 was committed in error to a 3 ABC Charitable organization located at 67 West St. Terrace. The Board reviewed this and determined that the property taxes should be exempt and voted to approve the administrative abatement.

THE INSTITUTE OF PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE, INC. 67 WEST ST TERRACE	Bill # 4661	ABATED	3 ABC Property Tax Exempt
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Louise reported that the office is in the process of mailing approximately 506 personal property forms of list. She also stated that (6) 3ABC applications for Charitable Organizations have also been mailed.

Harald reported that the FY15 Budget Instructions were received in the office from the Town Manager. Harald stated that he reviewed the (5) forms as follows:

- 1: Budget Spreadsheet
- 2: Departmental Personnel Detail
- 3: Organizational Chart
- 4: Departmental Programs & Performance Measures
- 5: Departmental Mission & Goals

The Board reviewed the forms and voted to accept the FY15 Budget as proposed.

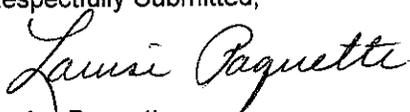
Louise presented a question regarding an applicant seeking exemption from the 2014 motor vehicle excise tax. The applicant is currently operating with a farm registration plate. She explained that the farm is no longer in operation and in order to receive an exemption, the vehicle listed on the application must be solely operated for farm business purposes and cannot be operated in any way for personal use. Board voted to deny the exemption and advised that the applicant be notified of their decision.

Louise reminded the Board that the Special Town Meeting will be held tonight at 7pm at the High School.

Next meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 4, 2014 at 5:30 pm.

Meeting adjourned at 6:28 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Louise Paquette".

Louise Paquette
Administrative Assistant
Office of the Board of Assessors