



TOWN OF PROVINCETOWN
DEPARTMENT OF MUNICIPAL FINANCE - ASSESSORS' OFFICE

260 Commercial Street, Provincetown, MA 02657
Telephone (508) 487-7017 Fax (508) 487-9560

Minutes of the
BOARD OF ASSESSORS MEETING
Town Hall, Thursday, October 13, 2016
Caucus Hall Conference Room
260 Commercial Street

CALL TO ORDER: Mr. Sanborn called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mr. Robert Sanborn (Chair)
Mr. Scott Fahle
Ms. Patty DeLuca

MEMBERS ABSENT: Ms. Leslie Parsons
Mr. Greg Muse

STAFF PRESENT: Mr. Scott Fahle, Principal Assessor
Ms. Cheryl MacKenzie, Administrative Assistant

PREVIOUS MINUTES:
Mr. Fahle made a motion to accept the BOA Minutes of September 15, 2016. Ms. DeLuca seconded the motion, and the motion carried by a 3-0 vote.

PUBLIC STATEMENTS:
None

Mr. Fahle noted that it is not necessary to go into Executive Session for this meeting.

Begin Executive Session: OPEN MEETING LAW, G.L. c. 30A, §§ 21
MGL c 59, ss60 – Application for Abatement/Exemptions
MGL c 59, ss52B – Valuation Information
MGL c 59, ss8A – Discovery Collected in ATB Cases
MGL c 59, ss38D – Written Return of Information

End Executive Session: OPEN MEETING LAW, G.L. c. 30A, §§ 21

MGL c 59, ss60 – Application for Abatement/Exemptions

MGL c 59, ss52B – Valuation Information

MGL c 59, ss8A – Discovery Collected in ATB Cases

MGL c 59, ss38D – Written Return of Information

MGL c 59, ss61A – Discovery Collected with Abatement Applications

ASSESSORS OFFICE UPDATES:

Mr. Fahle discussed the following items with the board as follows:

1. **FY17 Preliminary Real Estate and Personal Property Tax Bills**

Mr. Fahle discussed that the FY17 preliminary real estate and personal property tax bills were mailed out on October 1, 2016. There have been an extreme number of phone calls and inquiries both at the Assessor's Office and Tax Collector's Office regarding the amount of the taxes on this bill. The main issue is that amount of taxes went up considerably, and questioned whether or not the Residential Exemption was applied to this tax bill.

Mr. Fahle is working with Mr. Panagore (Town Manager) to put something on the Town Website stating that the Residential Exemptions will be applied to the April Tax bill, and if residents qualified last year they would not have to re-apply unless the owner status changed on the property, to help eliminate some of the influx of calls and inquiries in the Town Offices.

2. **DOR Municipal Modernization Act**

Mr. Fahle discussed with the board that he and Mr. Panagore (Town Manager) Attended the "What's New in Municipal Law 2016" sponsored by the Department of Revenue in Randolph, MA last week.

One of the items discussed was the deadline for filing State Exemptions by all Towns will now be April 1, or 90 days from the date of issue.

One of the other items discussed is the Residential Exemption percent threshold. The Selectmen have the power to directly vote on the percent threshold for the residential exemption, and do not have to bring it to town meeting.

3. **Classification Hearing**

Mr. Fahle discusses with the board that the Classification Hearing is scheduled for October 24, 2016. He mentioned that the Commercial / Industrial tax rate has been determined at \$7.45, and that the Residential tax rate will be determined depending on the percent threshold of the Residential Tax Exemption voted on by the Selectman at the meeting.

ADDENDUM TO RESIDENTIAL EXEMPTION VOTE (20% CAP) :

Mr. Fahle provided the board with a draft of a letter to the Board of Selectman explaining the board's recommendation for the classification hearing regarding the residential exemption percent threshold of 20%. Mr. Sanborn recommended some changes, and Mr. Fahle will incorporate these changes before sending letter to Board of Selectman.

**SIGNATURES FOR FY17 REAL ESTATE / PERSONAL PROPERTY
PRELIMINARY TAX :**

Ms. MacKenzie provided the board with a copy of the FY17 Preliminary Real Estate and Personal Property Commitment Reports for signatures by the board.

**APPROVAL AND SIGNATURES FOR MOTOR VEHICLE/BOAT
COMMITMENT AND ABATEMENT REPORTS:**

Ms. MacKenzie provided the Board members with the following documents for signatures as follows: All were approved (5-0).

1. FY16 MV Abatements
2. FY16 MV Excise Tax Commitments
3. FY16 Boat Abatements
4. FY15 MV Abatements

MISCELLANEOUS:

None

NEXT BOA MEETING:

TBD

ADJOURNMENT:

Ms. Deluca motioned to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mr. Fahle. The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 a.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Scott Fahle

Scott Fahle,
Principal Assessor

Scott Fahle

Scott Fahle, Principal Assessor