

**BOARD OF ASSESSORS' MINUTES
COMMUNITY ROOM – POLICE STATION**

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 3, 2008

Assessors Present: Chairman Jonathan L. Fein, Dennis Kennedy, Kevin Lonergan
Also Present: Assistant Assessor Robert P. Leclair
Absent:

The meeting was called to order at about 4:30 p.m.

- **Distribution of mail, notices, correspondence etc.**
 - Birthday notice for Longmeadow's 225 celebration,
 - July, August and September 2008 editions of *Governing* for Chairman Fein,
 - July and September *MAAO Newsletter*,
 - July edition of *City & Town* from DOR Division of Local Services,

Public Comment

Scott M. Stearns Jr., president of the "Villas of Glenmeadow" along with Mr. John O'Donnell and one other resident met with the Board to discuss changes in assessments and taxes as a result of abatement applications. The Board explained the process of arriving at assessed values. A packet of information was left for the Assessors to review.

Acceptance of Minutes

Minutes of the July 11, 2008 meeting were accepted as written by the two members present at that meeting.

Old Business

- Copies of a PowerPoint presentation from Verizon Wireless that was emailed to the Assessors on 9/8/2008 was distributed. Verizon is proposing that the so-called Michigan tables be used to depreciate equipment. Since the email was sent out Bob was informed by attorney Rose Crowley in Dave Martel's office that Marilyn Brown of the DOR is advising assessors not to accept the proposal for settlement from Verizon.

New Business & Misc

- Certification documentation for the Department of Revenue was discussed.
 - Assessors signed the SALES REPORT COVER LETTER
 - This letter states that the sales Board has accepted the proposed values submitted on the LA-3 report. This is the detail of sales and ratios that are used in adjusting the CAMA model (Computer Assisted Mass Appraisal) to arrive at assessed values for fiscal 2009.
 - Assessors signed the letter accepting public utility values for fiscal 2009 (Bay State Gas Company and Western Massachusetts Electric Company).
- Diane Kapinos was hired on September 15, 2008 to work about 5 hours, Monday-Thursday.

- A full-time position was vacated in January of 2008, however, funding was only approved for a non-benefited position (must be less than 20 hours per week).
- Community Preservation Surcharge Report (Form CP-1) for fiscal 2008 was discussed with the Assessors. Total surcharge committed for fiscal 2008 was \$260,222.77. This was reduced by \$1,164.13 for abatements and exemptions for a net surcharge of \$259,058.64.
- Bob informed the Board that Carolyn Reed in the office took a 1 week Assessors' Course at U/Mass this summer and passed with 92%. Last year's class was the DOR sponsored "open book" class while this one was not open book.
- DLS Gateway was mentioned to the Assessors as a new tool for submitting tax rate data to the DOR.
- The Assessors voted unanimously to accept the RL-1 forms (Application for Classification as Recreational Land) for fiscal 2010 for Longmeadow Country Club and Twin Hills Country Club.

Adjournment

- The meeting was adjourned at approximately 5:35 p.m.

Next Meeting

Bob will email members with suggestions for a November meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,



Robert P. Leclair, CMA, RMA, MAA
Assistant Assessor