

Sturbridge Board of Assessors

Meeting Minutes Monday, May 9, 2022

Present: Ann Murphy (AM), Paul Murphy (PM) and Moira McGrath (MM), Lorraine Herbert (LH)

Meeting called to order:

PM called meeting to order at 4:07 P.M.

Reorganization of the Board: Voted PM as Chair, LH as Vice Chair, and MM as Secretary - all in favor.

Minutes:

Reviewed and approved meeting minutes from 4/11/2022 and executive minutes 4/11/2022.

Sign All Necessary Documents:

Monthly Reports:

April MV Abatements

April Boat Abatements

April Real Estate exemptions

Uncollectible 2017 Boat and 2016, 2017, 2018 Motor vehicle

Chapter land Lien release: - Ken Koslowski - Podunk Rd.

Chapter land lien - 45 and 49 South Rd. - new lien replacing existing lien due to name change.

Old Business:

None

Any other business before the Board:

None

Principal Assessor Update & New Business:

- Ken Benson of 102 Cedar St. attended the meeting to seek some assistance from the Board regarding two items: 1. Ownership of a strip of land adjacent to his that has some dead trees, 2. Clarification as to whether a drainage culvert on his property would decrease the assessed value of his land. In response, AM will look further into the ownership of the land next to his. The Board explained that the first acre of land is always assessed the same as long as it is a buildable lot, which his is (house already present). Additionally, the DPW has plans to repair the culvert so that it is functioning properly.
- Charles Morse of 28 River Road has petitioned for a review of his property assessment due to the lights and noise from the campground next to his property. AM will inquire with the planning board as to whether or not any studies were completed prior to renovations at the campground.
- Review Chapter 58 § 8 - 18 and 20 Mashapaug Rd. - In 1998, there was a zoning change that made these two lots no longer meet the criteria for a buildable lot. Property owner was given a 5 year window to build after which time, the lots were considered non-buildable. AM submitted a request to D.L.S. to allow her to abate the taxes for the previous three years but the request was denied because it was not due to a clerical error.

Schedule Next Meeting:

Next meeting was scheduled for Monday, June 13, 2022 at 4:00pm.

Closed: MM made a motion to adjourn at 5:16 pm not to return.