



Town of Oak Bluffs Assessing Department
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BOARD OF ASSESSORS MEETING MINUTES

February 6, 2019 5:30 PM

In the Assessors' Office
Oak Bluffs Office Town Hall

Board Members Present:
Jesse B. Law III, Chairman
Marie B. Allen
Melanie M. Bilodeau

Board Members Absent: none

Staff Present:
David Bailey, Principal Assessor
MacGregor Anderson, Assistant Assessor

Minutes Approval –January 9, 2019 open session

The Board voted 3-0 to approve the minutes

Assessors General Update

Mr. Anderson said the abatement application period had drawn to a close on February 1st with 8 real estate abatement applications, but noted others could still arrive in the mail if postmarked Feb 1 or earlier. He said the office was prepared to make recommendations on four of them at this meeting but would need to wait for the next meeting on the rest. Mr. Bailey said that Mr. Anderson's explanation of assessments to tax payers was helping to keep abatement applications low as taxpayers understood valuations. The Board agreed that it was important to maintain these relationships with tax payers.

Motor Vehicle Excise Commitments and Warrants FY18-7 and FY19-1

The Board reviewed and signed the documents

Motor Vehicle and Boat Abatements January 2019

The Board reviewed and signed the documents

Tax Collector's Request to Abate Uncollectible Personal Property

The Board reviewed and signed the documents

Discussion of Assessors Spring 2019 Town Meeting Appropriation Warrant Article

Mr. Bailey advised the Board towards proposing a town meeting warrant article setting aside \$50,000 of overlay surplus to help fund the revaluation cycle, which was now five years vs three but would be more expensive. He said there were big staffing unknowns as the field appraiser might be retiring soon. The hope was to write the article to allow flexibility, so that if the field appraiser left, another might be hired, or consultants might instead be used and an admin hired. The Board queried Mr. Bailey on the most likely outcomes and agreed the flexibility made sense.

**Vote to Declare Overlay Surplus of \$50,000 to be Available for Assessors Spring 2019
Town Meeting Appropriation Warrant Article**

The Board Voted 3-0 to declare the \$50,000 overlay surplus as available to the assessors for town meeting appropriation in the spring of 2019.

Roll Call Vote - Executive Session

The Board will convene in executive session under Purpose 7 of the Open Meeting Law, “to comply with, or act under the authority of, any general law,” in order to meet the confidentiality requirements of M.G.L. c. 59, § 60 to discuss property tax exemptions and deferrals and minutes related to those from December 5, 2018 Executive Session

The board voted 3-0, Law aye, Bilodeau aye, Allen aye, to go into executive session as stated above.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:15 PM without returning to open meeting