

BOARD OF ASSESSORS

Meeting Minutes
April 22, 2015

Chairman Charles W. Long called the meeting to order at 5:00 PM in the Assessors Office. Present were Board Members Caroline B. Akins and Caroline M. C. White and Town Assessor Karen MacTavish.

1. Regular Business

- The Board reviewed and unanimously approved meeting minutes from March 25, 2015.
- A 2015 Motor Vehicle Excise Tax Warrant for Commitment No. 2 was reviewed and endorsed.

2. Charitable Exemptions

The Board discussed the impact of the SJC decision in *New England Forestry Foundation, Inc. v. Assessors of Hawley*, 468 Mass. 138 (2014) on conservation organizations and other related issues concerning charitable exemptions outlined in the April 2, 2015 installment of *City and Town*.

3. Next Meeting

The next meeting was scheduled for Wednesday, May 27, 2015 at 5:00 PM.

At 5:25 PM, it was moved by Mrs. Akins and seconded by Dr. White to adjourn the meeting to enter executive session to attend a 6:00 PM telephonic abatement hearing, and to review abatement and exemption applications and discuss Appellate Tax Board cases. With three members voting, the motion was approved, 3-0.

The Board returned to public session at 6:15 PM to report on actions taken during their executive session as follows:

FY2015 Personal Exemptions:

5 applications approved (unanimous, 3-0)

FY2015 Real Estate Tax Abatements:

5 applications approved (3-0)

1 application approved (2-0) (*Mr. Long recused himself to avoid a possible conflict of interest.*)

1 application denied (3-0)

At 6:30 PM, it was moved by Dr. White and seconded by Mrs. Akins to adjourn the meeting. With three members voting, the motion was approved 3-0.