

Town of Bedford, Board of Assessors
Date October 28, 2015
Flint Room, Bedford Town Center

Call To Order: 7:00PM

Roll Call: Ron Cordes, Chair; Bruce Murphy, Clerk; Zoe Pierce, Member; Alan Ferguson, Associate Assessor

Guests: Selectmen Mike Rosenberg

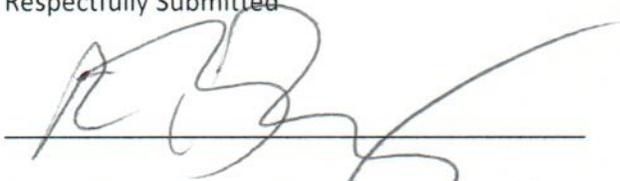
Discussion:

1. Review of the draft minutes of September 30 exposed a number of non-contextual typographical errors. Move to accept the minutes of the meeting of September 30, 2015 as corrected. Moved by Zoe Pierce; seconded by Ron Cordes; vote 3-0-0.
2. Move to accept the minutes of the meeting of October 13, 2015. Moved by Zoe Pierce; seconded by Ron Cordes; vote 3-0-0.
3. The Board re-examined considering reducing the FY16 Overlay from \$950,000. Based on the update provided by Associate Assessor Ferguson regarding the telecommunications personal property cases, consensus of the Board was that it is not prudent to do so at this point and that the Board we be in a much better position to make a determination in January.
4. Allan Ferguson provided the Board with an update on Appellate Tax Board activity.
 - a. ThermoFisher: delisting personal property eliminating about \$160,000 of abatement risk for FY16 in total. ThermoFisher will be filing a tax return as a manufacturer.
 - b. Allan Ferguson provided updates to the board on his finding on reviewing the properties at Oak Park and the RSA property.
 - c. Sprint, telecommunications personal property, for 2012. The issue at hand is depreciation; the property sale price was lower than the value established by the Department of Revenue. The taxpayer has made an initial settlement offer; discussions will continue.
5. Allan Ferguson provided the Board with an update on Certification activity. The Sales Report (LA-3) and the Classification (LA-4) reports are complete and submitted.
6. Move to authorize the abatement of uncollectable Personal Property bills totaling \$3181.36 as submitted by the Collector. Moved: Zoe Pierce; seconded: Bruce Murphy; vote: 3-0-0.

7. Board member Murphy suggested a review the Open Space Discount. Should the Board recommend discontinuation to the Selectmen? After some discussion the Board determined to take the question up at next meeting after the Board members had an opportunity to review the properties still receiving the discount.
8. Meeting schedule: November 4, to review the certification recommendation.
9. Moved to adjourn. Moved by Zoe Pierce, seconded by. Bruce Murphy; Vote: 3-0-0

Adjournment: 8:20 PM

Respectfully Submitted

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'RBM', is written over a horizontal line.

Robert Bruce Murphy, Clerk

Approved by Board: MM/DD/YY

11/12/15