Town of Bedford, Board of Assessors
Date: February 24, 2016
Bedford Town Hall

Call To Order: 7:05PM
Roll Call: Ron Cordes, Chair; Bruce Murphy, Clerk; Zoe Pierce, Member, Alan Ferguson, Associate Assessor,
Guests: Selectman Mike Rosenberg

Discussion:

1. Ron Cordes briefed the Board on a proposed release of overlay funds. Historically, the Board had budgeted and supported the payment of ATB settlement interest out of the Overlay Reserve. The Town has shifted budgeting tactics to have this interest budget in the Finance Department Budget. Funds previously budgeted in the Overlay reserve for interests could be released as surplus. Doing so would provide the Town no secondary reserve in the event of a larger-than-budgeted settlement. Board consensus was to ask for a memo from the Finance Department indicating alignment on this proposal.
2. Alan Ferguson informed the Board that the inspections of the Oak Park Drive properties under abatement appeal will be completed by Friday, February 26.
3. Alan Ferguson briefed the Board that Appellate Tax Board vacated six ATB dockets with Sprint involving telecommunication property. Docket numbers: C269152, C273330, C284286, C280288, C2290968, and C291452.
4. Alan Ferguson briefed the Board on the impact that the Verizon case at the Supreme Judicial Court would have if the Court were to find for Verizon. All personal property would be taxed at a reduced rate generating a significant shift of burden from business property owners to the residential property owners.
5. Alan Ferguson reported that meetings at the Council on Aging and Chamber of Commerce have been scheduled. Bruce Murphy will provide Board support.
6. Next meeting is scheduled for March 16, 2016. The Board will re-organize at this meeting.
7. Move to adjourn to executive session for the purpose of discussing an Appellate Tax Board Case not to return to normal session; Moved by Bruce Murphy, seconded by Zoe Pierce; Vote: Ron Cordes; Aye, Bruce Murphy, Aye; Zoe Pierce, Aye

Adjournment: 7:50 PM

Respectfully Submitted

Robert Bruce Murphy, Clerk
Approved by Board: 3/16/2016