

Board of Assessors Meeting  
Thursday, May 4, 2017 @ 6:00 pm  
Meier Room, Abington Town Hall

Present: Kate Marini, member  
Ann Welch, member  
Lawrence Keough, member  
Jack Pistorino, Deputy Assessor  
Jodie Hurst, Recorder

The meeting was called to order at 6:00pm.

The Board and Deputy Assessor congratulated Lawrence Keough on a successful re-election.

**VOTE: Motion by Ann Welch, seconded by Lawrence Keough to nominate Kate Marini as chairperson. Unanimous vote in favor.**

Kate Marini graciously accepted the nomination.

**VOTE: Motion by Lawrence Keough, seconded by Ann Welch to approve the open session minutes from February 2, 2017. 2-0 vote in favor, Kate Marini abstained- as she was absent for that meeting.**

**VOTE: Motion by Lawrence Keough, seconded by Ann Welch to approve the executive session minutes from February 2, 2017. 2-0 vote in favor, Kate Marini abstained- as she was absent for that meeting.**

**VOTE: Motion by Kate Marini, seconded by Ann Welch to approve the open session minutes from March 2, 2017. 2-0 vote in favor, Lawrence Keough abstained- as he was absent for that meeting.**

**VOTE: Motion by Kate Marini, seconded by Ann Welch to approve the executive session minutes from March 2, 2017. 2-0 vote in favor, Lawrence Keough abstained- as he was absent for that meeting.**

**VOTE: Motion by Lawrence Keough, seconded by Kate Marini to approve the open session minutes from April 6, 2017. 2-0 vote in favor, Ann Welch abstained- as she was absent for that meeting.**

**VOTE: Motion by Lawrence Keough, seconded by Kate Marini to approve the executive session minutes from April 6, 2017. 2-0 vote in favor, Ann Welch abstained- as she was absent for that meeting.**

The following documents were signed: Exemption month-end, excise month-end, Real Estate Abatement month-end, CPA Adjustment month-end, CPA exemption month-end, and monthly excise. One excise application was denied.

Two excise abatements were put before the Board for a decision. Two different applicants had moved out of Massachusetts in 2016. They did not cancel their Massachusetts registration, which prompted a 2017 bill. Both applicants felt it wasn't right to get penalized, when they didn't live in Abington. It was explained that in some cases, if the Board decides, the date of registration from the new state may qualify as the cancellation date.

Discussion ensued. The Board was curious why the plates weren't returned in the first place. It was also indicated that it would set a bad precedent to abate these bills in full, when the rules were not followed to the letter. It is not a given that all state RMV's communicate, so it should not be assumed that the state you moved to has notified Massachusetts the change in your status.

**VOTE: Motion by Ann Welch, seconded by Kate Marini to not abate the bills in full and to abate them based on the date the plates were returned. 2-1 vote: Ann Welch and Kate Marini voted in favor and Lawrence Keough voted against the motion.**

Old/New Business:

- The overlay was distributed and discussed.

The Deputy Assessor informed the Board of the findings of the Treasurer/Collector with regards to the amount of 'uncollectable' personal property taxes she determined could be written off. She requested that the Board abate the outstanding Personal Property receivables from 1998 thru (and including) 2015 as uncollectable.

**VOTE: Motion by Lawrence Keough, seconded by Ann Welch to abate the 1998-2015 uncollectable personal property tax receivables. 3-0 vote in favor.**

Based on the uncollectable figures being removed, the Deputy Assessor deemed that there was \$16,500 in the overlay that could be released to the town as Overlay Surplus.

**VOTE: Motion by Ann Welch, seconded by Lawrence Keough to release \$16,500 from the Overlay as surplus. 3-0 vote in favor.**

The Deputy Assessor had the Board sign forms for the above actions.

- Zoning ads, zoning agenda, and planning decisions were distributed
- Kate Marini asked, briefly, if we knew anything about the proposed increase in the excise demand fees. The Deputy Assessor indicated it was proposed that the fee increase to \$30.00.

**VOTE: Motion by Kate Marini, seconded by Lawrence Keough to enter into executive session to comply with MGL Ch 59, Sec. 60 and MGL Ch 66, Sec. 10, for the purpose of discussing and acting on exemption applications and/or abatement applications and settlements and not to return in open session. All approved abatements and exemptions will be on record in the Assessors Office; denials will be noted in open session minutes. A roll call vote was taken.**

The meeting entered executive session at 6:40pm

Exhibit list:

Item #	Description	Availability/Location
1	Agenda	Assessors Office / Clerk's Office
2	March overlay	Assessors Office
3	Zoning packet	Zoning Admin Assistant
4	Planning decisions	Planning Admin Assisstant
5	February 2, 2017 open minutes	Assessors Office, Library
6	February 2, 2017 executive minutes	
7	March 2, 2017 open minutes	Assessors Office, Library
8	Mach 2, 2017 executive minutes	
9	April 6, 2017 open minutes	Assessors Office, Library
10	April 6, 2016 executive minutes	
11	Overlay worksheet	Assessors Office