



**TOWN OF EASTHAM
EASTHAM BOARD OF ASSESSORS
Minutes of March 9, 2023 Meeting
Earle Mountain Meeting Room, Eastham Town Hall**

Present: Davis Hobbs, Joanna Buffington, Wendy Walsh, Principal Assessor Colleen Mercurio, Field Appraiser Alexandra Peterson (remote)

This meeting was held in-person at the location provided on this notice. Members of the public are welcome to attend this in-person meeting.

Joanna Buffington called the Session of the Board of Assessors to order at 11:16 a.m.

Joanna Buffington made motion to approve regular minutes of February 9, 2023. Wendy Walsh seconded. Vote was unanimous. Joanna Buffington made a motion to approve the executive minutes of February 9, 2023. Wendy Walsh seconded. Vote was unanimous.

The director updated the Board on the issuance of the second half of the real estate and personal property bill, which will be mailed on March 15, 2023.

Ms. Mercurio mentioned the updates to the Assessing website that now offers an online motor vehicle form, as well as a mailing address change form. A calendar for upcoming deadlines and events is in the works for the website.

The senior exemption workshop at the Library was discussed, as well as the senior tax work-off program. Ms. Mercurio said that she has not received a large response from the department heads, so she was looking for input from the Board. Davis Hobbs suggested trash pick-up on trails, and Joanna Buffington mentioned an upcoming march clean-up, as well as a beach clean-up.

The director brought up the work being town at Town Center Plaza, as a taxpayer from Dory Ln felt that the value of his property should be decreased due to the removal of the tree buffer that was done for the septic placement. The Board unanimously decided that with development there will always be temporary and out of control disruptions, but that they would not warrant an adjustment in value.

Joanna Buffington wanted to mention the residential exemption (RTE) again, to re-state that she does not believe that the RTE should be implemented with the idea that it will help to solve the housing issue. On the contrary, she felt that it may exacerbate the problem in part by increasing rents. She also mentioned that a potential deed restriction for year-round use of properties and a one-time incentive for property owners who choose that, is possibly an option in the future for towns on the Cape (based on a Vail, CO presentation to Provincetown). She also mentioned the "expanded RTE" which Provincetown implemented.

David Hobbs made a motion to convene in Executive Session at 11:41 a.m. to review and vote on statutory real estate exemptions per M.G.L. c.30A, § 21(a) (7), to comply with the applicable General laws, including G.L. c. 59, § 60 and G.L. c.214, § 1B and not to reconvene in open session. Joanna Buffington seconded. Vote was unanimous.

Respectfully submitted by Alexandra Peterson, Field Appraiser

Approved on:

Date

6/22/23

By:

W. Davis Hobbs