



TOWN OF EASTHAM
EASTHAM BOARD OF ASSESSORS
Minutes of August 11, 2022 Meeting
Earle Mountain Room, Eastham Town Hall

Present: Board members W. Davis Hobbs, Joanna Buffington, Wendy Walsh, Denise Kopasz (remote)
Principal Assessor Colleen Mercurio and Field Appraiser Alexandra Peterson

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.

Davis Hobbs called the Session of the Board of Assessors to order at 11:02 a.m.

David Hobbs made a motion to defer the regular and executive minutes from February 3, 2022, until the abatement listed in the minutes was reviewed as the members of the Board had no recollection of approving said abatement. Wendy Walsh seconded. The vote was unanimous. Wendy Walsh made a motion to approve the regular minutes from April 7, 2022. Davis Hobbs seconded. The vote was unanimous. Davis Hobbs made a motion to approve the executive minutes from April 7, 2022. Wendy Walsh seconded. The vote was unanimous. Joanna Buffington made a motion to approve the executive minutes from May 5, 2022. Wendy Walsh seconded. The vote was unanimous. Denise Kopasz made a motion to approve the regular and executive minutes from June 2, 2022. Joanna Buffington seconded. The vote was unanimous. Denise Kopasz made a motion to approve the regular minutes from July 7, 2022. Wendy Walsh seconded. The vote was unanimous.

Ms. Mercurio updated the Board on the new hires in the Finance Department. Megan Mele joined as the Assistant Town Accountant and Rachel Nickelson will be our new Finance & Administrative Coordinator. The director also updated the Board on Alexandra Peterson's training and her field work.

Ms. Mercurio talked about the Assessing Department's collaboration with the Council on Aging and past and future presentations that will help spread the word on exemptions and options for seniors.

CompuLink and GIS (Geographic Information System) were discussed and the roles everyone had in maps in order to comply with Massachusetts requirements.

The director reviewed the forms that have been submitted and approved by the Department of Revenue, and informed the board that the next form to sign will be after the Classification Hearing for the levy limit. The board also clarified how to move forward with signatures, with Ms. Kopasz stating she approves the director to sign in her behalf after Ms. Kopasz has had a chance to review the documents. All were in favor. Ms. Mercurio presented and explained the sales analysis for fiscal year 2023 that shows a median increase between 20-30%.

The Cape Cod Commission Environmental Protection Tax Fund Warrants were discussed and signed by Joanna Buffington and Davis Hobbs.

The Board of Assessors' roles were reviewed. Joanna Buffington made a motion to keep Davis Hobbs as the chair. Denise Kopasz seconded. The vote was unanimous. Joanna Buffington made a motion to keep Denise Kopasz as the vice-chair. Davis Hobbs seconded. The vote was unanimous.

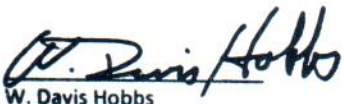
The director presented a draft of the classification hearing presentation and asked the Board to vote on the recommendations for the hearing. Denise Kopasz made a motion to approve to keep a factor of 1, no open

space discount, no residential exemption and no small business exemption. Davis Hobbs seconded. The vote was unanimous.

Joanna Buffington made a motion to convene in Executive Session at 12:04 p.m. to review and vote on real estate exemptions and real estate 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. Denise Kopasz seconded.

Respectfully submitted by Alexandra Peterson, Field Appraiser

Approved on: 10/06/2022
Date

By: 
W. Davis Hobbs
W. Davis Hobbs