

MINUTES
BOARD OF ASSESSORS
DATE: *Thursday, December 6, 2018*
Time: *3:00 PM*
Place: *51 Spring Street*

Meeting started at 3:00 PM with Board members Roy Cutrer, Angela Cywinski, Assistant Assessor Ann Marie Cywinski, and Administrative Secretary Meghan Montesion present. Cynthia Richard arrived at 3:03 pm.

APPOINTMENT:

3:15 PM Matthew Gamache 5B 3 Residential exemption

Mr. Gamache arrived at 3:18 to speak with the Board. Meeting began with Assistant Assessor Ann Marie Cywinski explaining to the Board why Mr. Gamache requested to meet with the Board. He had come into the office a month ago asking why his residential exemption was removed. Which the staff and Assistant Assessor informed him that he had not submitted the statement of residency and tax returns as requested. Members informed Mr. Gamache of the mailing and methods of communication that were used for the compliance project. Mr. Gamache expressed that the burden of proof should be the steamship authority list, his firearms permit and mail goes to Tisbury not Vineyard Haven. He went on to explain he does not receive the MV Times, therefore, did not see the notices. The burden of proof should not be the taxpayers responsibility. Mr. Gamache informed the board that this has put him in a financial bind with the possibility of losing his home. Mrs. Richard asked why he did not see it on his bill last year. Mr. Gamache explained that he did not receive a bill. Angela Cywinski asked if it had been explained that the board does not have jurisdiction after April 1, 2018, if an application has not been received. Mr. Gamache felt he needed to receive notification that he needs to fill out an application in order for that to happen. Ms. Richard and Mr. Cutrer both stated that there is nothing the board can do regarding the exemption for the fiscal year 2018. Mr. Cutrer continues to explain that the majority of Towns tax bills state, Vineyard Haven if they have an address in town. Mr. Gamache continued to get frustrated and explained that we did not live in Vineyard Haven. He expressed again that the burden of proof does not lie with him and the Town did not do its job. Mrs. Richard asks what exactly he means by saying "burden of proof?" Mr. Cutrer asks what the law is in regards to sending tax bills. Ms. Montesion explained that all homeowners, regardless of whether their taxes are escrowed with their mortgage, must receive the tax bill. Assistant Assessor Mrs. Cywinski reviews Chapter 59 Section 5C for the Residential Exemption. Mr. Gamache continues to get upset and explains that he didn't know he needed to follow a deadline. Mr. Cutrer explains that updated address information is the taxpayers responsibility. Mr. Gamache says it does not and that he has contacted counsel for that information. Ms. Montesion was asked to look into the Registry of Deeds as to what has been documented for the address. The Board was presented with the latest copy of his deed, which Mr. Gamache stated was not his latest deed and there was a missing document. The address on that deed was a PO Box in Edgartown. The other document was a mortgage document with the same billing address that the Town had. Mr. Gamache stated the document was also false and an outdated document. Board members elaborated that the board has no statutory authority in which to act on the exemption. Chair Cywinski states that the only other option that Mr. Gamache may

have is to file a Home Rule Petition. She gives an example of this being done in another municipality. Town Administrator John Grande briefly joins the meeting to ask that the Assistant Assessor follow up on the Home Rule Petition and inform Mr. Gamache how he would pursue that option. Board members state that statements keep being repeated and we are not accomplishing anything further today. Mr. Gamache asked when he can follow up with the Board to speak with them about the issue further to present additional information from his attorney. Board informed him that the next meeting will be December 20, 2018. The Assistant Assessor will be in touch with him for a scheduled time to meet. They asked Mr. Gamache to step out of the meeting so they can continue with other items on the agenda. Mr. Gamache leaves the meeting with Mrs. Montesion to discuss how to reapply for the residential exemption for fiscal year 2019. Mr. Gamache leaves the building at 4:45 pm.

BILLS APPROVED BY THE BOARD:

WB Mason 11/16/18 \$10.49
IAAO Membership Dues \$190.00
WB Mason 11/14/18 \$1.98
CAI Technologies 2020 WEBGIS Support \$2,400.00
WB Mason 11/12/18 \$51.76
WB Mason 11/9/18 \$29.86
Amazon.com/Card Members Services 11/16/18 \$27.78

ABUTTERS LISTS CERTIFIED BY THE BOARD:

Town of Tisbury 64A 5 & 65A 1
Figueroa & Sons Inc. 22C 7
Florin Gafencu 12G 8.1

CHARITABLE ORGANIZATION(S):

Island Housing Trust 8O 4- Board acted on a 1B3 application filed for a property Island Housing Trust acquired August 24th, 2018 for tax-exempt status Fiscal Year 2019. Board denied application since they did not own property for qualification date of July 1st, 2018 for the Fiscal Year. Philipe Jordi showed up to meeting at 4:03 and the Board explained to him why the denial was decided. They also asked what the property would be used for and Mr. Jordi explained it would be in conjunction with the Martha's Vineyard Hospital for staff and income based renters. Mr. Jordi stated that the intentions are that there will be a payment in lieu of taxes in place like the other rental properties. Mr. Jordi requested that in the future when IHT is placed on the agenda he would appreciate being notified. Assistant Assessor stated she would be happy to oblige his request.

STATUTORY EXEMPTIONS:

Clause 17D
Judith Araujo 12J 2- Approved
Clause 22
Antony Schepici 25A 19.1- Approved
Douglas Dowling 23A 42- Approved
Shirley Kennedy 8P 5- Approved
Karl Kann 19A 7- Approved
Rebecca Renear 9A 33- Approved
Paul Currier 7A 5.1- Approved
JoAnn Murphy 5D 5- Approved
John T Hughes 12B 11- Approved
Richard & Sylvia Olejarz 8J 3- Approved

Michael Perkalis 25E 4- Approved
Clause 22E
Peter J Nickowal 14A 1- Approved
Henry Gosselin 8N 27- Approved
Woodrow Williams 16C 2.11- Approved
Arline M Harkness 6A 5- Approved
Clause 37A
Selma Frank 25A 8- Approved
Margaret L Sibert 8B 10- Approved
Clause 41C
Rita I Meyer 21B 7- Approved
Doris Cleveland 4F 1- Approved
Carolyn Rogers 5K 21- Approved
Helen D Alwardt 5A3- Approved
Colleen Patrick 25B 15- Approved
Enid McEvoy 16K 4- Approved
Grace Oliver 26A 35- Approved
Sandra Searle 15E 2- Approved
Florence & George Rogers 8E 6- Approved
Leslie Wibel 8M 2- Approved
Elisabeth J Welch 5L 4- Approved
Marianne A Greene 24D 6- Approved

MOTOR VEHICLE COMMITMENTS SIGNED AND SUBMITTED TO TAX COLLECTOR:

Calendar Year 2018 Commitment #6 \$22,071.05

VESSEL EXCISE ABATEMENTS

Fiscal Year 2011

Jennifer Parker aka Jennifer Cutrer, this appeal has been denied as the amount owed on the bill was the waterway fee of \$20.00 and demand fee that was not adjusted by the tax collector after an abatement was applied to outstanding balance.

VESSEL EXCISE ABATEMENTS SIGNED AND SUBMITTED TO TAX COLLECTOR:

Fiscal Year 2012

BE12-11 \$14.58

Fiscal Year 2014

BE14-12 \$53.00

Fiscal Year 2015

BE15-11 \$65.50

Fiscal Year 2016

BE16-11 \$21.00

Fiscal Year 2017

BE19-09 \$140.00

Fiscal Year 2018

BE18-04 \$131.00

VESSEL EXCISE ABATEMENT RECORD SHEETS SIGNED AND SUBMITTED TO TAX COLLECTOR:

Fiscal Year 2012

BE12-11 \$14.58

Fiscal Year 2014

BE14-12 \$53.00
Fiscal Year 2015
BE15-11 \$65.50
Fiscal Year 2016
BE16-11 \$21.00
Fiscal Year 2017
BE19-09 \$140.00
Fiscal Year 2018
BE18-04 \$131.00

CHAPTERLAND APPLICATION(S):

61

Thomas Andrews 37B 3 & 4- Approved
Henry Davis 33A 5 & 5.1 - Approved

61A

Craig Henshaw 50A 2- Approved
Philip Norton 57A 6- Approved
John Packer 58A 1- Approved
Ralph Packer Jr 57A 7- Approved
Pilot Hill Farm Various- Approved
Vineyard Meadow LLC 46A 1- Approved

61B

Erin Gray 59B 3- Approved
Mink Meadows Various- Approved
Walter Morris 60B 1- Approved
Pilot Hill Farm 61A 1 & B1- Approved
Thomas Urmston Tr 1G 1 & 29B 6- Approved

61A APR

Elizabeth Packer- No action taken

FISCAL YEAR 2019 CERTIFICATION:

Assistant Assessor presented the following reports to the board for their review. Board reviewed and no further action was warranted or taken.

Tax Rate Recap

LA 5 Classification

Levy Limit

CORRESPONDENCE:

Assistant Assessor informed the board of a letter in support of Vineyard Playhouse
Written to the Board of Selectmen from Linda Vadaasz, Resident of West Tisbury

Assistant Assessor presented an email from Town Administrator John Grande requested a joint meeting between the Board of Selectmen and the Board of Assessors to discuss policy decisions recently implemented by the Assessors related to tax status reviews and non-profits. To allow the boards to have a general discussion on future goals and objectives of mutual interest. Members Cywinski stated that she had a conflict and would not be able to attend and Cynthia Richard would be away. Assistant Assessor informed the board that she would not be representing the board and the board needs to determine who will be representing the board at the meeting. Assistant Assessor's request was noted and the board requested that the meeting be rescheduled. Chair Cywinski to contact the Board of Selectman Chair Tristan Israel to reschedule the meeting.

DATE OF NEXT BOARD MEETING

Thursday, December 20, 2018 3 PM

Meeting adjourned at 4:57pm

Respectfully submitted: Ann Marie Cywinski, MAA
Assistant Assessor

The Board of Assessors motioned seconded and carried to accept the meeting minutes as presented.

Approval: Cynthia R. Richard
Cynthia R. Richard

Approval: Roy Cutrer
Roy Cutrer, Member

Approval: Angela A. Cywinski
Angela A Cywinski, Clerk

Date: 1/17/2019