

Town of Fairhaven
Massachusetts
BOARD OF ASSESSORS
Meeting Minutes
September 24, 2020

RECEIVED
TOWN CLERK

2020 OCT 23 A 10:17

FAIRHAVEN,
MASS.

PRESENT: Chair Ronnie Manzone, Board of Assessor; Pamela Davis, MAA, Board of Assessor; Ellis Withington, Board of Assessor - Excused; and Secretary & Principal Assessor, Delfino Garcia

Present via Zoom: Chair Ronnie Manzone; Board of Assessor Pamela Davis; and Secretary & Principal Assessor Delfino Garcia

This meeting was videotaped on Cable Access and Zoom meeting applications.

MEETING TO COME TO ORDER:

RONNIE: Chair Ronnie Manzone read the following statement:

"This Open Meeting of the Fairhaven Board of Assessors is being conducted remotely consistent with Governor Baker's Executive Order of March 12, 2020, due to the current State of Emergency in the Commonwealth due to the outbreak of the "COVID-19 Virus."

In order to mitigate the transmission of the COVID-19 Virus, we have been advised and directed by the Commonwealth to suspend public gatherings, and as such, the Governor's Order suspends the requirement of the Open Meeting Law to have all meetings in a publicly accessible physical location. Further, all members of public bodies are allowed and encouraged to participate remotely.

The Order, which you can find posted with agenda materials for this meeting allows public bodies to meet entirely remotely so long as reasonable public access is afforded so that the public can follow along with the deliberations of the meeting.

Ensuring public access does not ensure public participation unless such participation is required by law. This meeting will allow public comment related to the posted agenda items only. For this meeting, Fairhaven Board of Assessors is convening by telephone conference/video conference via Zoom App as posted on the Town's Website identifying how the public may join."

Call to order and reading of Open Meeting Law, M.G.L. Chapter 30A, Section 10(F).

Pursuant to the Open Meeting Law, any person may make an audio or video recording of this public meeting or may transmit the meeting through any medium. Attendees are therefore advised that such recordings or transmissions are being made whether perceived or unperceived by those present and are deemed acknowledged and permissible.

CALLED THE MEETING TO ORDER:

RONNIE: Can I have a motion from the board to open the session and call the meeting to order.

Motion made by: Pamela Davis

Any second? Ronnie Manzone

Any discussions

Hearing none we will now have a ROLL CALL.

RONNIE: *When I state your name please respond with an I that you are present and in favor to the motion:*

RONNIE: I, Pamela Davis

And seconded: I, Ronnie Manzone

All in favor of the motion 2 to 0

RONNIE: Announcing minutes will be taken by Delfino Garcia, Secretary & Principal Assessor is present. Please confirm as an "I" and state your name.

Delfino Garcia responded with "I" and stated his name.

RONNIE: The Chair will call the meeting to order of the Board of Assessors and the time right now is 5:24 p.m.

MINUTES:

RONNIE: Can I have motion from the board to table the reading of the minutes of the August 20th, 2020 meeting.

Motion made by: Pamela Davis

Any seconded: Ronnie Manzone

Any discussions:

Hearing none we will now have a ROLL CALL.

RONNIE: *When I state your name please respond with an I in favor to the motion:*

RONNIE: I, Pamela Davis

And I Ronnie Manzone

All in favor of the motion 2 to 0

So moved to table the meeting minutes of August 20, 2020

EXECUTIVE SESSION MINUTES:

RONNIE: Can I have motion from the board to table the Executive Minutes of August 20, 2020.

Motion made by: Pamela Davis

Any second: Ronnie Manzone

Any discussions:

Hearing none we will now have a **ROLL CALL**.

RONNIE: *When I state your name please respond with an I in favor to the motion:*

RONNIE: I, Pamela Davis

And I Ronnie Manzone

All in favor of the motion 2 to 0

So move to table the executive meeting minutes of August 20, 2020

BILLS PAYABLE:

RONNIE: The following invoices are to be reviewed and to be accepted by the board.

- a. Bristol County Print Shop in the amount of \$137.00
- b. Patriot Properties in the amount of \$5,118.75
- c. Staples in the amount of \$74.56
- d. Staples in the amount of \$71.90
- e. Monaghan Printing in the amount of \$51.00

RONNIE: Can I have motion from the board to accept the incurred expenses:

Motion made by: Pamela Davis

Any second: Ronnie Manzone

Any discussions:

Hearing none we will now have a **ROLL CALL**.

RONNIE: *When I state your name please respond with an I in favor to the motion:*

RONNIE: I, Pamela Davis

And I Ronnie Manzone

All in favor of the motion 2 to 0

So moved to accept the incurred expenses to date.

WARRANTS:

RONNIE: The following Warrant to be read:

State Tax Form 59B - Assessors Warrant to Collector Apportioned Betterment and Special Assessments Payment in Full on Map 43A Lot 86 in the amount of \$1,147.35

State Tax Form 56 - FY2021 Assessors Warrant to Collector Commitment #1 to collect Boat Excess Tax in the amount of \$41,925.00 - 623 Bills were mailed out.

RONNIE: Can I have motion from the board to accept the Warrant:

Motion made by: Pamela Davis

Any second: Ronnie Manzone

Any discussions:

Hearing none we will now have a **ROLL CALL**.

RONNIE: *When I state your name please respond with an I in favor to the motion:*

RONNIE: I, Pamela Davis

And I Ronnie Manzone

All in favor of the motion 2 to 0

So moved to accept the Warrant to date.

MONTH END REPORTS:

RONNIE: The following Month End Reports of abatements and exemption to be read:

- a. MVX Abatements - Batch #2, dated 8/24/20 with a Grand Total of \$2,126.62
- b. MVX Abatements - Batch September #1, dated 9/15/20 with a Grand Total of \$3,035.85
- c. Boat Abatement - Batch: Boats Sept 1 with a Grand Total of \$860.67

RONNIE: Can I have motion from the board to accept the Month End Report:

Motion made by: Pamela Davis

Any second: Ronnie Manzone

Any discussions:

Hearing none we will now have a **ROLL CALL.**

RONNIE: *When I state your name please respond with an I in favor to the motion:*

RONNIE: I, Pamela Davis

And I Ronnie Manzone

All in favor of the motion 2 to 0

So moved to accept the Month End Report to date.

CORRESPONDENCE:

RONNIE: We received correspondence from the Appellate Tax Board (ATB) pertaining to new cases assigned for hearings and upcoming hearings to be discussed in Executive Session

NEW BUSINESS:

RONNIE: None

OLD BUSINESS:

RONNIE: None

CHAPTER LAND:

RONNIE: Any Chapter Land renewals or new applications to be reviewed by the Board of Assessors will be in Executive Session.

EXEMPTIONS:

RONNIE: Any exemptions to be reviewed by the Board of Assessors will be in Executive Session.

APPELLATE TAX BOARD CASES:

RONNIE: Any ATB cases to be reviewed by the Board of Assessors will be in Executive Session.

There will be 4 hearings scheduled on 9/22/20 which may be continued

There will be 1 hearing scheduled in November.

There will be 1 hearing scheduled in December.

There are 20 open Appellate Tax Board cases to date.

Pamela Davis addressed the Chair of the new procedures pertaining to hearings at the ATB as follows:

"The clerks will be contacting the assessors and pro se clients to have a status conference as to where we are at in negotiations. If the pro se client continues to want their case to be heard, then the ATB will send a notice to the pro se and the assessor to write up a position paper by a certain deadline. Then the ATB will set up a telephone conference hearing."

Mr. Garica mentioned we only have 2 pro se cases for FY20. As for cases represented by attorneys, they will be pushed to next year. New FY21 cases have not been assigned yet for FY21. The ATB is not expected to be back in their office until sometime next year in the spring."

NOTES and ANNOUNCEMENTS:

RONNIE: The next Board of Assessors will be: October 15, 2020 @ 5:00 PM.

PRIOR TO THE EXECUTIVE SESSION:

RONNIE: Prior to the Board of Assessors entering into Executive session, we will be discussing the following items:

1. Discuss 4 Plaza Way
2. Discuss - 110 Middle Street
3. Review and Discuss Release of Lien and Lien for 279 Mill Road
4. Discuss 239 Sconticut Neck Road
5. Review ATB cases on the docket for hearings in the next 3 months

Other subjects of discussion or correspondence unable to be put on the agenda within the 48 hour rule will be discussed in the Executive session.

EXECUTIVE SESSION Pursuant to MGL Ch. 30A ss 21(A): ADJOURNMENT

RONNIE: Can I have a motion to adjourn the open session and enter in Executive Session and not return to Open Session pursuant to MGL c30A section 21(A)(7) and to review ATB matters pursuant to G.L. 30A section 21(a)(3) since discussion in public would be detrimental to the Town of Fairhaven Board of Assessors legal position.

RONNIE: Do I hear a motion:

Motion made by: Pamela Davis

Any second: Ronnie Manzone

Any discussions:

Hearing none we will now have a **ROLL CALL**.

RONNIE: *When I state your name please respond with an I in favor to the motion:*

RONNIE: I, Pamela Davis

And I Ronnie Manzone

All in favor of the motion 2 to 0

RONNIE: We will now go into the Executive Session and the time right now is 5:37 p.m.

(Attend to Executive Business)

RONNIE: Can I have a motion to adjourn from the Executive Session:

Motion made by: Pamela Davis

Any second: Ronnie Manzone

Any discussions:

Hearing none we will now have a **ROLL CALL**.

RONNIE: *When I state your name please respond with an I in favor to the motion:*

RONNIE: I, Pamela Davis

And I Ronnie Manzone

All in favor of the motion 2 to 0

So moved to adjourn from the Executive Session.

RONNIE: Executive meeting adjourned at: 5:49 p. m.

Respectfully submitted:

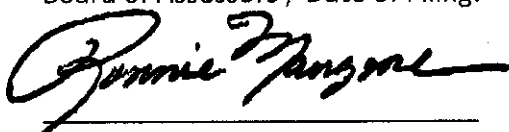
Delfino R. Garcia

Principal Assessor

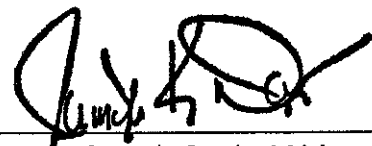
Secretary

Notary Public

Board of Assessors / Date of Filing: October 22, 2020



Ronnie Manzone, Chair
Board of Assessors



Pamela Davis, MAA
Board of Assessors