

**DUDLEY BOARD OF ASSESSORS
DUDLEY MUNICIPAL COMPLEX
71 WEST MAIN STREET, DUDLEY, MA 01571**

DATE: 10/9/2020

TO: ASSESSORS
CC: TOWN CLERK
FROM: LISA L. BERG, PRINCIPAL ASSESSOR

RE: MINUTES: ASSESSOR'S OCTOBER 9, 2020 BOARD MEETING

Public Meetings:

Pursuant to Governor Baker's March 12, 2020 Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law, G.L. c. 30A, §20, and the Governor's Executive Orders imposing strict limitations on the number of people that may gather in one place, although a quorum of the members of the Dudley Board of Assessors will be physically present for this meeting, no in-person attendance of members of the public will be permitted. The meeting will be live broadcast on Dudley Cable Access Television, Channel 192, and members of the public can also access the rebroadcast of the meeting online via YouTube. In the event of an unanticipated interruption in this broadcast, we will post on the Town's website an audio or video recording, transcript, or other comprehensive record of proceedings as soon as possible after the meeting.

Members of the public who wish to appear before the Board of Assessors must make an appointment to appear on an upcoming agenda, by contacting Lisa Berg @ lisab@dudleyma.gov or by calling Lisa at (508) 949-8006. Placement on the agenda is not guaranteed however, and persons requesting to appear before the Board of Assessors should not attend a meeting in person unless and until the appointment has been confirmed by the Board of Assessors. Persons with matters appearing on a meeting agenda may request that they attend via virtual means, such as via conference call rather than via in person attendance. Such request should be directed to Lisa Berg @ lisab@dudleyma.gov or by calling Lisa at (508) 949-8006 no more than three business days hours in advance, so that appropriate arrangements can be made.

However, persons or representatives with matters appearing on the meeting notice/agenda who wish to be physically present at the meeting must observe the following requirements:

- 1. In accordance with existing requirements imposed by the Governor, meeting rooms will be limited in terms of the total number of persons that may be physically present at the same time, including Board/Committee members and staff. Satellite rooms will be available for overflow, and the meeting will be broadcast in real time in those satellite rooms.*
- 2. Persons who wish to participate in any particular matter on the meeting agenda will be asked to wait in a satellite room until that agenda item is reached, at which point attendees will be rotated between the main meeting room and the satellite room(s), as appropriate.*
- 3. Social distancing must be maintained in both the main meeting room and in satellite rooms. Face masks or coverings will be required in accordance with Governor Baker's May 1, 2020 COVID-19 Order No. 31, "Order Requiring Face Coverings in Public Places Where Social Distancing is Not Possible." A copy of that order can be found at <https://www.mass.gov/doc/may-1-2020-masks-and-face-coverings/download>*
- 4. Failure to comply with these requirements may lead to an attendee's removal from the meeting.*

Assessor Allen called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m.

Assessor Szymczak made a motion to approve the minutes from the August 14, 2020 meeting. Assessor Allen seconded. Passed.

There were no meeting minutes for the September 11, 2020 Board Meeting as there was no quorum and the meeting was cancelled.

The Board signed various vouchers and payroll.

Assessor Szymczak made a motion to approve the motor vehicle abatements for the month of August in the amount of \$11,049.66. Assessor Allen seconded. Passed.

Assessor Szymczak made a motion to approve the motor vehicle abatements for the month of September in the amount of \$3,234.60. Assessor Allen seconded. Passed.

Assessor Szymczak made a motion to approve the levy 2020 boat excise commitment in the amount of \$3,773.00. Assessor Allen seconded. Passed.

Assessor Szymczak made a motion to approve the motor vehicle levy 2020 commitment #5 in the amount of \$58,616.32. Assessor Allen seconded. Passed.

Assessor Szymczak made a motion to approve the motor vehicle re-commitment #17 in the amount of \$447.33. Assessor Allen seconded. Passed.

Assessor Szymczak made a motion to approve the "Average" column for per acre price for the FVAC Chapter Land recommended values for fiscal year 2021. Ms. Berg informed the Board that there were no price changes from the prior year. Assessor Allen seconded. Passed

Assessor Szymczak made a motion to approve Taxpayer A's boat excise abatements for levy 2009 – 2016. This taxpayer did not live in Dudley for those years. The boat was destroyed. Assessor Allen seconded. Passed.

Old Business:

None

New Business:

Assessor Berg presented the narrative from June Perry of Vision Government Solutions Inc. for our Interim Adjustments. Ms. Berg stated single families and condominiums were increased 7%. Two and three families were increased by 11%. 4-8 unit multi families were increased 9% and land was increased 7%. Ms. Berg explained that our assessments ranged from \$60,000 to \$80,000 lower than sale prices. The Massachusetts Department of Revenue approved these adjustments on October 1, 2020. Assessor Allen stated because of the large increase in values, the tax rate should decrease.

Assessor Szymczak made a motion to hold the next Board meeting on November 13, 2020. Assessor Allen seconded. Passed.

Chairman Allen made a motion to enter into executive session under M.G.L. Chapter 30A § 21 (a) (7) to comply with, or act under the authority of, any general or special law or federal grant-in-aid requirement: discussion of applications for tax abatement (s) and/or exemption(s), including any necessary votes pursuant to G.L. c. 59 § 60 and/or G.L. c. 214, § 1B (as applicable).

Chairman Allen stated the purpose of the executive session was to review and vote on several real estate exemptions.

Roll Call:

Conrad Allen: Aye

Jo-Ann Szymczak: Aye

Chairman Allen made a motion to adjourn the public meeting and enter into executive session at 8:13 and not to re-convene. Assessor Szymczak seconded. Passed.

Lisa L. Berg, MAA
Principal Assessor