



Town of Groton
Board of Assessors
173 Main Street
Groton, MA 01450
978-448-1127

Meeting Minutes January 13, 2004

Board Attendees:

Edward J. Kopec, Chairman
Hugh McLaughlin

Others Attendees:

Rena E. Swezey, Assistant Assessor
Rebecca Scribner, Assessors Clerk
Mr. Robert Stephens, Taxpayer

Mr. Kopec opened the meeting at 3:08pm.

Mr. Stephens' case:

Mr. Stephens came in to discuss his settlement. He felt that since the ATB granted him the \$160,000 assessment for FY2002 that the assessment would never go up again. Mr. McLaughlin painstakingly tried many ways to inform him that the settlement was for FY2002 only. Mr. Stephens finally understood that the court cases are for the current year only and that he needs to file for an abatement every year if he wishes to dispute his assessment.

Mr. Stephens was also concerned that in next year's revaluation that we would determine an additional amount on top of the current \$176,000 assessment. Mr. McLaughlin explained to him that the revaluation is done from scratch and is not an additional assessment.

The Board approved and signed the following documents:

1. All Clause 17D's for the Blind abatements except for one - Mr. Visconti's was denied.
2. All Clause 41C's for the Senior abatements except for:
 - a. Olsson application needs more research because daughter is half owner of the property.

- b. Tedesco abatement put aside since Mr. Kopec cannot sign his sister's application. It must wait until both Mr. McLaughlin and Ms. Sangiolo can sign it.
 - c. Bickford application was denied.
- 3. William Boyd's Veteran abatement.
- 4. Chapter 61A form for Ralph Smith.

Miscellaneous

- ✓ Minutes from last meeting were reviewed.
 - Opening time needs to be changed from 4:13pm to 3:13pm.
 - In the paragraph for Ms. Sangiolo's request for another meeting before her surgery, make the following change – instead of “so that more exemptions could be taken care of quickly”, rephrase it so that the intent of the meeting will be so that “outstanding exemptions could be processed in a timely manner”.
- ✓ Ms. Swezey gave everyone two handouts.
 - Budget Variance report
 - Patriot Properties letter notifying the BOA of their fees for our July 1, 2004 billing.
- ✓ Update on revaluation process –
 - Ms. Swezey notified the Board that we've been informed by Patriot Properties that we cannot make any changes to our database until they have installed the latest upgrade for the AssessPro application.
 - Mr. Harrell printed out 78 I and E forms to be mailed out to all of the businesses in town.
 - Ms. Swezey will forward a copy of the I and E cover letter to Mr. McLaughlin. He would like to add a statement emphasizing the fact that if they do not fill out and return the I and E forms, then we will be assessing them based on estimations.

The date of the next BOA meeting is Wednesday, February 11, 2004.

Mr. McLaughlin made a motion to adjourn at 4:16pm. Discussion regarding the next meeting date followed. It was determined Mr. Kopec and Mr. McLaughlin would come in next week to sign the approved abatements and would forego a meeting until Ms. Sangiolo returned. The meeting was adjourned at 4:20pm by Mr. Kopec.