



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

Meeting Minutes **March 24, 2004**

Board Attendees:

Edward J. Kopec, Chairman
Hugh McLaughlin
Sylvia Sangiolo, Clerk

Other Attendees:

Rena E. Swezey, Assistant Assessor
Rebecca Scribner, Assessors Clerk

Mr. Kopec opened the meeting at 3:00pm.

The meeting minutes from the March 10th meeting were approved as read.

The Board approved and signed the following documents:

1. MVE Abatement Log 2004 for \$1,597.31
2. MVE Abatement Log 2004 for \$1,227.19
3. Real Estate Abatement Log 2004-9 for \$8,230.56
4. CTC Phone Bill for \$85.44
5. Farm Animal Excise Tax–Gibbet Hill for \$559.50
6. Omitted/Revised Assessment–Patel for \$1,029.85
7. Release of the Overlay Surplus for \$37,503.38
8. Clause 41C exemptions for Gingras, Sorrentino, and Roche
9. Real Estate abatements – 9 were approved, 1 denied

Ms. Scribner informed everyone that Aleta Manugian called to say that the Tengs did not wish to pursue their abatement application for 33 Orion Way. Therefore, she would not be at the meeting as planned.

There was a request from Evan Katz of 44 Willowdale Road for an additional adjustment on his land assessment. After review, the Board granted the request.

There are only two more abatement applications to be processed.

The property at 347 West Main Street is under a Purchase and Sales agreement. Since it is under Chapter 61A, the town has the right of first refusal. After discussion, Mr. McLaughlin made a motion to recommend to the Selectmen that the town not buy it. Ms. Sangiolo seconded it and the motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Swezey handed out to all a Citizen's Guide to Town Meeting. It's an excellent, comprehensive question and answer booklet on procedure and protocol at Town Meetings. She downloaded it off of the Massachusetts website at www.state.ma.us.

Ms. Swezey also informed the Board of an Information and Education Seminar to be held on April 13th at 6:30pm in the Town Hall. The speakers will be Harry Petrucci of the Election Division Office and Denis Kennedy of the Office of Campaign and Political Finance. Attendance is strongly recommended, especially for the candidates running for office, boards, and committees.

Ms. Swezey requested from the BOA the time to attend an Assessor's Conference in Atlantic City. She is paying for the conference and travel herself. The BOA granted her request.

Mr. McLaughlin asked about what courses Ms. Miller and Ms. Scribner will be taking during the coming year. Ms. Miller will attend the 200 Course at UMASS in August. If it is within the budget, Ms. Scribner will attend Course 1 at UMASS.

Mr. McLaughlin said that he would like to pursue discussions with the Personnel Board regarding setting up career paths for employees of the Assessors Office. He was informed that he would need to put himself on the Personnel Board meeting agenda. They meet monthly on the first Tuesday.

The date of the next BOA meeting is Wednesday, April 14, 2004 at 3:00pm. There will also be a short meeting at 6:30pm on Monday, April 26th before the Town Meeting.

Mr. McLaughlin made a motion to adjourn at 4:28pm. Ms. Sangiolo seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous. The meeting was adjourned at 4:28pm by Mr. Kopec.