Town of Dedham

Board of Assessors Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, April 25, 2018, 5:30PM

Present: Richard Schoenfeld, Chairman, Chris Polito, Vice Chairman, Cheryl Sullivan, Newly Elected Assessor, Richard Henderson, Director of Assessments, Kevin Doyle, Assistant Director of Assessments, Paul Munchbach, Town Clerk

Meeting called to order at 5:45PM in the Assessor’s Office by the Chairman, Mr. Schoenfeld.

First order of business was the swearing in Ceremony of the newly elected member of the Board of Assessor’s, Cheryl Sullivan. Mr. Munchbach stated that he has received the Code of Ethics from Ms. Sullivan and will begin the swearing in process. Mr. Munchbach began reading the Oath to Ms. Sullivan along with the Board of Assessor’s Oath. Scott Heald of the Dedham Times was present to take pictures of Ms. Sullivan getting sworn in. Mr. Henderson welcomed Ms. Sullivan to the Board and stated that he is looking forward to her serving on the Board. Mr. Henderson stated that the Assessing Department will send Ms. Sullivan the Meeting Minutes for the last 6 months or so to get her up to speed and notified her that she will need to take Course 101 as well as Course 200 within the first 2 years of serving on the Board. Ms. Sullivan stated that she was excited to be on the Board and looking forward to working with everyone.

No members of the public attended the meeting (Mr. Heald left after the swearing in Ceremony); therefore no public comment.

The Board reviewed, approved and signed Meeting Minutes from March 28, 2018.

The Board then reviewed and signed excise abatements and tax deferrals.

With the review and action on tax abatements and exemptions next on the Agenda, Mr. Polito made a motion to enter into Executive Session. The motion was second by Mr. Schoenfeld.

At 6:05pm, the Board entered into Executive Session under the Mass General Laws. The regular meeting will reconvene at the end of the Executive Session.

At 6:20pm, the Board reconvened to the regular meeting. The Announcement of Action Taken for the Abatements is attached.

Under the topic of Old/New Business, Mr. Henderson updated the Board to let them know that there are no Open ATB Cases and that they have acted on all 61 Abatements for FY2018 and estimating the potential of 2 possible ATB Cases.

Mr. Henderson then stated that the Overlay Balance is estimated at $2.1 million with a projected funding of $800,000 which will bring it to $2.9 million. Mr. Henderson reminded the Board that Atrius Health (also known as Dedham Medical) is now exempt and still working with them to create a PILOT Agreement. The scheduled meeting had been postponed at the last minute by Atrius and looking to reschedule.

Mr. Henderson informed the Board that Selectman, Michael Butler and the Town Moderator, Dan Driscoll, have created a pamphlet to describe the process of how the Town Budget gets approved. Mr. Henderson informed the Board that there is an Open Public Meeting at the Endicott Estate next Monday night where they will hand out the pamphlets and go through the process and answer any and all questions. Mr. Butler had requested the Chair, Mr. Schoenfeld, and Mr. Henderson attend the meeting to help answer any questions and explain their involvement in the process.

At this time, Mr. Polito made a motion to nominate Ms. Sullivan as the new Clerk. This motion was second by Mr. Schoenfeld. Ms. Sullivan will now take on the role of Clerk on the Board of Assessors.

At 6:35PM, having no other business, Mr. Schoenfeld recommended for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Polito made a motion to adjourn the meeting, which was second by Mr. Polito.