

PRESENT: Donna L. Goodale, Chairman of the Board; Alan Gowell & Christopher Scott, members of the Board; Jo-Ann Resendes, Principal Assessor; C. Bonnell, Administrative Assistant, Heather Cohan, taxpayer, and Kim Lucas, Human Resource Director

The Chairman brought the meeting to order at 3:00PM.

After motion made and seconded, the minutes of the May 22, 2018 meeting were unanimously approved.

Heather Cohan was present to discuss concerns about her property at 141 So Water St. She had previously received an abatement on her 2018 taxes. She wanted to understand how we get to the values. She wanted an explanation as to how the abatement was arrived at being only a reduction of value of 49,000. She also wanted to know how to find out where her neighborhood is. She feels that the neighbors can do a lot more with their properties such as pools, etc. She noted the sales prices of her neighbors but yet their values stayed the same. Alan replied that sometimes the locals get hurt with all these big sales. She said she did not know she could have requested an abatement hearing. After asking why her value went up so much from 2017-2018 Jo-Ann replied that there was a change in house code- making hers a custom. Alan explained that after visiting her house, there were factors we did not have that increased her value, such as air conditioning and a finished basement. There was a water view factor that was removed which lowered the value. Jo-Ann gave her the new field card with the changes. She also wanted to know the accurate age of her house. Jo-Ann told her to talk to the Bricque at the Historic District. Jo-Ann also noted that if the actual age changes it will not affect her value. Donna mentioned that it is not an easy process to follow (the valuing of property) and she appreciated her coming in to understand it. Heather left the meeting at 3:18 PM.

Kim Lucas director of Human Resources, provided the Board with a guideline as to how to conduct interviews for the administrative assistant job. There have been 11 applicants. She went over the questions with the Board, and reminded them that they had to stay away from personal questions. There are examples on her guidelines. She suggested that there be no less than 4 interviewed and no more than 5 interviewed. Her suggestion to the Board was to "spark a conversation" with the applicants. She suggested about a twenty minute interview with a ten minute break between each applicant. Jo-Ann will set up the appointments with the four applicants that were chosen by the Board. They will start on Tuesday, July 10 to start at a time to be determined. Kim left the meeting at 3:45 PM.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Barbara Linton contacted the office and asked that the Board look at the letter that she attached to her exemption application in March. She wants a written response. Donna had a phone conversation with her. She is looking for relief on her taxes. She asked Donna if there was any "slush" fund that they could use to help her. Jo-Ann stated that if there isn't a timely filing, there is no recourse, and that the DOR is very strict about the deadline dates. At this time there is no remedy. Jo-Ann and Donna will compose a response to Mrs. Linton's letter. The Board also moved and seconded to deny an abatement on her 2018 motor vehicle excise bill. Mrs. Linton felt that her vehicle is overvalued. She provided a document from the RMV that shows the MSRP value (at 10%) as the same as on the bill. She highlighted the resale value. Ms. Bonnell also called the RMV to check on the value and was told that the value on the bill is correct. Ms. Bonnell will draft a letter to inform her.

Jo-Ann told the Board that there she is working on a hand out to have on the counter, which explains the tax exemptions that are available. She told the Board that it is very important that the Board have a policy for Clause 18 in the future. She noted that the DOR requires consistency when the Boards grant Clause 18 exemptions.

Chris Scott left the meeting at 4:07 PM.

The Board voted to abate the following uncollectible taxes submitted by the collector:

Motor Vehicle 2014 \$56.25, 2015 \$56.25 and 2018 \$96.25

Personal Property 2017 \$ 5.00 and 2018 \$193.73

The sales for March, April and May will be reviewed at the next meeting.

Jo-Ann had a brief discussion about the equalized valuations- she noted that Edgartown is #1 and is 37% of the County's value.

Jo-Ann told the Board she is considering getting new computers with the leftover money in the budget. Adam is looking in to that. There is not enough money to do the Vision upgrade. Jo-Ann suggested in the fall a warrant article be drafted to pay for the upgrade and a back up program. It may be \$20,000 or more. She told the Board that Vision will stop supporting the version that we are using at a certain time. There may have to be an RFP. She said there could be a webinar or you tube videos which the board can view at in order to see the changes and improvements of the new version.

There are two ATB cases being heard on Thursday, 6/28/2018, which Ellen Hutchinson will handle. Jo-Ann will not have to attend. Jo-Ann is hoping that Ellen has enough information that the Commissioner will deny the applications.

Donna asked Jo-Ann if she has gotten a response from Roundabout Holdings. Jo-Ann said she had not.

The next meeting will be tentatively scheduled for Monday, July 23, 2018 (after the interviews on July 10, 2018)

After motion made and seconded, the meeting was adjourned at 4:25 PM.

Respectfully submitted: