

**CHARLEMONT BOARD OF ASSESSORS
JUNE 5, 2023 MEETING MINUTES
CHARLEMONT ASSESSOR'S OFFICE**

Members Present/ Participating:

Anthony Ostroski; Chair, Jacqueline Cashin, Karen Rau

Call to Order

Rau called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

#1: Board Reorganization

The Board discussed the rotation of the Chairperson and on a motion by Cashin and seconded by Rau, the Board voted unanimously to elect Tony Ostroski as Chair. Ostroski accepted the position.

#2: Approval of Minutes

The Board reviewed the minutes from their 5/8/2023 meeting. Cashin requested an amendment to the statement "Cashin stated that she believes she read somewhere..." and requested it be amended to she read it in the ethics laws. On a motion by Ostroski and seconded by Cashin, the Board voted unanimously to approve the minutes as amended.

#3: Board Action/Signatures

1. Destruction of records not listed in Municipal Retention Schedule. Hayden explained that their request to destroy records had been approved by the State archives unit, except for the list of records with no series number in the Records Retention Manual, which they could not approve. Most were very old and no longer relevant so she asked the Assessors to review the documents to approve them for destruction. After reviewing and confirming that none of the documents held any useful purpose, on a motion by Ostroski and seconded by Cashin, the Board voted unanimously to approve their destruction.
2. The Board reviewed/signed the following (Ostroski motioned, Cashin seconded):
 - a. Motor vehicle excise Warrants to Collector 2023 Commitment #3
 - b. Fiscal Year 2023 Chapter 61 applications:
 1. Monte Chandler, Avery Brook Road
 2. John Sargent, Warner Hill Road.

#4: Board Discussion

1. Hayden reported that all their local option warrant articles passed as presented at Annual Town Meeting and provided a notification she had included in the town newsletter summarizing the various changes to the exemptions.
2. Request for letter in support of H.2697; An Act to Reform Payments in Lieu of Taxes for State-Owned Land. Jackie reported that she had received an opinion from the Ethics Commission regarding the request to draft a letter in support of H.2697, a bill which will require the use of a more equitable method of calculating in lieu of tax payments to communities for state-owned land. Cashin relayed that if they were on a board that makes policies, they were allowed to sign the letter as a Board, but if not on a board that makes policies, they were allowed only to sign individually and not as a board. It is somewhat of a gray area, but it was suggested not to sign the letter as a Board. On a motion by Ostroski and seconded by Cashin, it was voted unanimously to refrain from drafting or signing a letter.

Adjournment

At 7:02 p.m. on a motion by Ostroski and seconded by Cashin, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn their meeting and enter into Executive Session pursuant to General Laws Chapter 59, Section 60, in order to deliberate on pending abatement and/or exemption applications and to not reconvene in open session afterwards. Roll Call vote: Ostroski-Yes, Cashin-Yes, Rau-Yes.

The next meeting will be Monday July 10, 2023, in case anyone will be away for the holiday.

Respectfully Submitted,

Carlene Hayden,
Assessor's Clerk

Documents Viewed in Meeting of 6/5/2023*

1. Agenda for meeting of 6/5/2023
2. Minutes for meeting of 5/8/2023
3. List of records with no series number in Records Retention Manual
4. Motor vehicle excise Warrant to Collector 2023 Commitment #3
3. Notice from Assessor's Office regarding changes to tax exemptions for Town newsletter
4. Fiscal Year 2023 Chapter 61 applications:
 - a. Monte Chandler, 9/28/2021
 - b. John Sargent Trust, 7/28/2021

***Documents are stored in their respective files in the Assessor's office.**