

Board of Assessors

July 13, 2000 - **Minutes**

PRESENT: Assessor Peter S. Barney, Chairman, Assessor Marty Treadup, Clerk, Assessor Robert Pacheco, Norman A. Bergeron, Administrative Assistant, Marianna M. Penha, Recording Clerk.

Meeting called to order at 9:05 A.M.

Assessor Barney: The Bristol County Association Summer Fun get together will be held on August 4. Dinner will be at 6:00 P.M. & dancing 7:00 to 11:00 at Pleasure Island, Ocean Grove, Swansea. Anyone wishing to go may sign up.

In "City & Town" this week there is an article on Residential Exemptions and how they work. I think it's worthwhile for everyone to know that.

A Residential Exemption creates another class of property for those who are owner occupied properties, however, it shifts the burden of taxation to the higher median property values, so properties with a higher value would pay more taxes if they are unoccupied.

There is also an item on Foreclosure and the Due Process Clause and how exact listings and exact descriptions must be done, and exact notice must be given for foreclosures.

The Massachusetts Assessing School will be starting from August 6 to 11.

We have a memo from the Clerk of Committees on the Committee on Auditing Meeting on July 18. I have been invited to talk to Councillor Koczera on the Audit Committee on the Tax Relief for Seniors Program, similar to what Freetown has. This is the other chapter of law which creates the tax poverty program. It's to check up on the tax bills that go into a special fund to be administered by the Chairman of the Board of Assessors.

Assessor Barney: In any case, this meeting is to discuss how to implement this type of program should the City wish to adopt it.

Interesting sales for this week listed in Banker's & Trades include:

	Assessed:	Sold:
59 Anthony Terrace	\$113,100	\$135,000
216 North Street	47,100	65,000
190 Plymouth Street	109,600	130,000
24 Windsong Circle	123,300	145,000
889 Ashley Blvd	369,600	400,000

Hathaway Road (land)	310,900	400,000
91 Poplar Road	107,800	133,000
498 Cottage Street	71,000	135,000
102 David Street	83,800	105,000
835 Lucy Street	113,000	125,500

Assessor Barney: The Board will officially vote the resolution on Dolores Botelho and the Board wishes to go on record as wishing Dolores all the best happiness and success in her retirement. The Assessing staff and members of the Board had a going away party for her at The Grist Mill. We did present the resolution to her at that time.

Assessor Treadup: So moved.

Assessor Pacheco: Second.

All in favor: "Aye"

Assessor Barney: 27-1 388-390 Rockdale Avenue Cerebral Palsy Clinic

The Board needs to vote on exempt status for this property.

Assessor Treadup: Vote to exempt.

Assessor Barney: Second.

All in favor? "Aye"

Assessor Barney: 19-32 - 301 Crapo Street - DeValles Family Mem. Fam.

The Board needs to vote on exempt status for this property.

Assessor Treadup: Vote to exempt.

All in favor? "Aye"

Assessor Barney: We have a couple of Appellate Tax Board Settlements.

130-D-38 - 2820 Acushnet Avenue Poyant

Fiscal 1999 We need a motion to approve the offer as presented and to ratify the offer as made of \$15,000 abatement.

Assessor Treadup: Move to grant as negotiated, offered and accepted.

Assessor Pacheco: Second.

All in favor? "Aye"

Assessor Barney: 43/18 12 Pauline Street Jaikes

Fiscal 2000 accepted offer of \$14,900.

Assessor Treadup: Move to abate as accepted.

Assessor Pacheco: Second.

All in favor? "Aye"

Assessor Barney: Mr. Bergeron, would you care to update the Board on progressive things?

N.Bergeron: We selected one person from the short list that we had. We recommended that person, who will be on a 90 day review. We now have to wait 15 days for Civil Service to review why we did not select number 1. Given that everything works, we do not anticipate this person beginning until the first or second week of August. We now have completed the two positions in house, and the movement of current staff for the two positions, which now leaves another clerk typist position available. Carol and I spoke to Personnel yesterday, wanting to know if they were going to certify another list, or hopefully there would be additional people on the list. We would like to hire someone with some kind of experience. If we have to choose from the existing list, there are three people. The indication from Personnel is that they are going to certify.

N. Bergeron: I would like to go back a year ago when Civil Service implemented the "By Pass Rule". They also indicated that there would no longer be any temporary or provisional positions. Anyone who was provisional at that time was made permanent. Civil Service now says, even though someone has taken the test, they cannot be elevated into a permanent position, because they were not provisional at the time. This means that if we hire someone for the second clerk's position, that position is temporary, which means if that person comes in there will be no benefits. I feel this whole system should be abolished.

The new telephones are in. We are just waiting for them to be installed.

M.I.S. has the thirteen PC's that we ordered and they should be installing those within the next couple of weeks. There are still two additional PC's that we are hoping to purchase. The money is not yet available to us. I have requested an additional appropriation to our 800 Account in the amount of \$32,000 for the two additional PC's and also for the acquisition of two new H.P. Laser Jet Printers. They will be the same kind that we have, but they will be beefed up to print at a quicker speed. Some of the other monies will be used to purchase two additional automobiles. The original three that we purchased last month are in. They are now putting on the City Seal and Assessing Department on them. The first three automobiles will be assigned by Seniority, therefore, Judy, Mike & Joe

will get the first three. I also put in for an office automobile, which the office has never had. I requested a six passenger car that will be available for the Board if you have to visit any sites or whatever the case may be. If it does come through, it will be available on a daily basis here at the office.

Regarding the Appellate Tax Board cases, as we're nearing the end of the opportunity for the general public to submit applications, we have about 50 cases. I don't think we anticipate a great deal more.

The problem that we're facing with the Appellate Tax Board cases is that it isn't over yet. When you are in a rising market you can't abate your way out of a rising market.

Assessor Barney: That seems to be our agenda for today.

Assessor Treadup: Move to adjourn.

Assessor Barney: Second.

All in favor? "Aye"

Meeting adjourned at 11:40 A. M.

Marty Treadup, Clerk