

## **January 20, 2022 Board of Assessors VIRTUAL Meeting Minutes**

**Board Members Present:** Chairman Jeffrey Quackenbush and member Howard Shpetner.

**Also present:** Administrative Assessor Kevin Rudden and Assessors' Clerk Leslie Bracebridge.

**Absent:** Susan Reyes

Chairman Jeffrey Quackenbush opened the meeting at 5:33 PM using online ZOOM Meeting ID: 894 9472 9594, Passcode: vw5syj and Phone: 1.929.205.6099, Passcode: 494776.

**The December 30, 2021 meeting minutes were approved as written.**

**Monthly Accountant reports:** All December monthly reports were reviewed for approval at the December 30 2021 meeting. The January reports will be approved at the February meeting.

The 2022 First Motor Vehicle Commitment will be issued on Monday January 24, 2022, in the total amount of \$167,527.25. The 2021 Sixth Motor Vehicle Commitment was issued on January 19, 2022, totaling \$1061.79, with Assessors' signature stamps applied to both.

### **Administrative Assessor's Report:**

1. With 11 calendar days left, we have not received any abatement applications.
2. The Consultant, who Kevin was speaking with ended up valuing Shutesbury's coming cell tower free of charge using the information, which Kevin had previously sent to him, at \$200,000. Kevin will value the land used by the base of the tower and the driveway, and the remaining approximately 20 acres, which has been taken out of Chapter 61, following no submission of a renewal application.
3. Kevin will present the annual budget to the Finance Committee on Tuesday January 25; Assessors are invited to join the Zoom meeting.
4. Kevin has been reviewing personal exemptions statutes and there are a few updates that Assessors could bring to the next annual town meeting. Kevin will provide more information.

### **Board Member Questions or Issues:**

1. Assessors are statutorily required to post Form 1 annually (MGL Ch 59 § 29).
2. All present congratulated Howard on successful completion of Course 101!
3. Kevin will prepare an Assessors' summary for the next issue of *Our Town*, the municipal newsletter with town-wide distribution.
4. Kevin reported that an obscure Massachusetts Department of Revenue (DOR) legal opinion states if towns lease town-owned property to solar companies, the companies can still be taxed on their equipment.

**Next Meeting:** Thursday, February 17, 2022 at 5:30 PM.

**Assessors adjourned at 5:55 PM.**

**Respectfully submitted, as approved on February 17, 2022,**

**Leslie Bracebridge**  
**Assessors' Clerk**

### **List of Documents used at the meeting:**

1. January 20, 2022 meeting agenda.
2. December 30, 2021 draft meeting minutes.
3. 2022 Form 1 and MGL Ch 59 § 29 statute requiring such.
4. The Sixth 2021, and the First 2022 Motor Vehicle Commitments.