

## July 26, 2023 Board of Assessors VIRTUAL Meeting Minutes

**Board Members Present:** Chairman Howard Shpetner and Members: J. April Stein and George Arvanitis.

**Also present:** Administrative Assessor David Burgess, Town Administrator Rebecca (Becky) Torres and Assessors' Clerk Leslie Bracebridge. There were no guests.

Chairman Howard Shpetner opened the meeting at 6:35 PM online using ZOOM Meeting ID: 823 1874 4946, Passcode: 5GWaY1. Phone: 1.646.558.8656, Passcode: 5532233.

### **1. A motion was made and seconded to approve the June 14, 2023 meeting minutes as written:**

Stein – aye, Arvanitis - aye, Shpetner – aye.

### **2. A motion was made to approve for signature stamps the following Accountant report:**

	<b><u>Commitment.</u></b> <b><u>Year</u></b>	<b><u>Month Abated</u></b>	<b><u>Total Amount</u></b> <b><u>Abated</u></b>
<b>Motor Vehicle Abatements:</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>July 2023</b>	<b>\$259.73</b>

Stein – aye, Arvanitis - aye, Shpetner – aye.

### **3. Means-Tested Circuit Breaker Exemption Updates:**

- 3 complete and 2 partial applications have already been received.
- Howard and David have discussed whether the Select Board voted 50 to 200% is applied to the \$1200 maximum state credit for calendar 2022, or to the amount of Circuit Breaker tax actually awarded by the state to the individual applicant.
- Howard stated that various towns have approved similar bills, but with different wording. Shutesbury's is worded exactly like Hopkinton. Howard reported speaking to the Hopkinton Assessors' office where, he said, they apply the percentage to the individual's state income tax circuit breaker award.
- Leslie pointed out on the 3<sup>rd</sup> page of the summary guide provided by the previous Administrative Assessor, the calculation was standardized as a percentage of the state maximum credit, which is \$1200 for calendar year 2022.
- All Assessors want to be sure that they apply the new exemption properly.
- David will communicate with Department of Revenue (DOR) Officials and report back to the Board.

### **Topics Not Reasonably Anticipated 48 Hours in Advance of the Meeting:**

1. Leslie reported that Board Member April Stein has completed and passed DOR Assessors Course 101.
2. Leslie reported a new 4<sup>th</sup> Motor Vehicle Commitment for calendar year 2023 was received on July 25 in the amount of \$11,332.16. A motion was made and seconded to accept and approve the 2023 4<sup>th</sup> Motor Vehicle Commitment for the use of their signature stamps: Stein – aye, Arvanitis - aye, Shpetner – aye.

**Schedule Next Meeting:** The next meeting was scheduled for Wednesday, September 20, 2023 at 6:30 PM.

**At 7:02 PM, a motion was made and seconded to adjourn:** Stein – aye, Arvanitis - aye, Shpetner – aye.

**Respectfully submitted, as approved on October 18, 2023,**

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

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

1. July 26, 2023 meeting agenda.
2. June 14, 2023 draft meeting minutes.
3. July 2023 Motor Vehicle Abatements Accountant Report.
4. July 25, 2023 4<sup>th</sup> Motor Vehicle Excise Commitment.
5. Chapter 259 of the Legislative Acts of 2022, as voted at Shutesbury's 2021 Annual Town meeting, and as signed into law by Governor Baker on November 7, 2022.
6. Massachusetts DOR Technical Information Release TIR 22-12: Annual Update of Real Estate Tax Credit for Certain Persons Age 65 and Older.
7. Written presentation prepared by the previous Administrative Assessor leading up to the 2021 Annual Town Meeting.