

Town Of Sandwich

THE OLDEST TOWN ON CAPE COD

OFFICE OF THE BOARD OF ASSESSORS
ASSESSING DEPARTMENT



16 Jan Sebastian Drive
Sandwich, MA 02563-2319
TEL: 508-888-0157
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January 4, 2022

SANDWICH BOARD OF ASSESSORS

The Board of Assessors meeting is called to order at 4:33 p.m.

TOWN CLERK
TOWN OF SANDWICH
JAN 28 2022
10 H 25 M A M SL
RECEIVED & RECORDED

PRESENT: Larry Harrington, Chair, Robert James, Vice-Chair; Nick Fernandes, Member and Laura Watts, Assistant Assessor

ABSENT: NONE

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Mr. James motions to approve the minutes from the meeting held 11/16/2021 as written. Mr. Fernandes seconds. The motion is approved unanimously.

PUBLIC FORUM: NONE

ASSESSING DEPARTMENT UPDATES:

Ms. Watts updates the Board on the activity in the department since the tax bills were issued. As stated at the Board's last meeting the average increase around town was about 10-11% with some areas going up as much as 20-30%. These areas include Salt Marsh Road, the Captain's neighborhood in East Sandwich and Phillips Road. Quite a few calls had already come in from owners on Salt Marsh Road wanting an explanation as to why their bills increased so much. Ms. Watts says each person in the office takes the time to go over the reasons, directing them to the website to look at the 2020 sales to see what the market is showing us. The value increases are not so much in the homes, but in the land. Overall, the first two days into the new year have gone smoothly. Mr. Harrington asks if the position has been filled in the front office. Ms. Watts informs them that someone was offered the job, but in the end declined because the hours and hourly wage were not enough. She is unsure what Mr. Styche, Director of Assessing, would like to do. Most likely the office will get through January and then reevaluate. The position could be readvertised or there was talk about taking another look at the applications that were initially submitted. Overall, the four members of the department work well together and jump in to assist and keep it running as smoothly as possible. The Board asks about when everyone will be moving into the new building. Ms. Watts says they have been told sometime in the Spring. This would work out well for Assessing as it allows the department to get through the abatement and exemption filing season.

SIGN SIGNATURE ITEMS:

- December 2021 – Month End Reports

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Mr. James motions to enter into Executive Session at 4:44 p.m. to comply with M.G.L. Ch. 30A § 21(a)(7) and M.G.L. Ch. 59 § 60 for the purpose of discussing abatements and exemptions and to comply with M.G.L. Ch. 30A § 22(f) for the review, potential approval and potential release of Executive Session



meeting minutes from 11/16/2021. Mr. Fernandes seconds. Mr. Fernandes, Mr. James and Mr. Harrington approve the motion unanimously by roll call vote.

The Board reconvenes in Open Session at 4:58 p.m.

NEW BUSINESS: None

OTHER MATTERS NOT REASONABLY ANTICIPATED:

Mr. Harrington asks Ms. Watts to check on the policy for remote meetings as the Covid cases are increasing. Mr. James will be heading to Florida and will not be back until April. He would like to have the option to meet remotely.

ADJOURNMENT:

Mr. James motions to adjourn. Mr. Fernandes seconds. The motion is approved unanimously.

The meeting adjourns at 5:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Laura C. Watts, Assistant Assessor
Cc: Town Clerk

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January 4, 2022

EXECUTIVE SESSION SANDWICH BOARD OF ASSESSORS

Mr. James motions to enter into Executive Session at 4:44 p.m. to comply with M.G.L. Ch. 30A § 21(a)(7) and M.G.L. Ch. 59 § 60 for the purpose of discussing abatements and exemptions and to comply with M.G.L. Ch. 30A § 22(f) for the review, potential approval and potential release of Executive Session meeting minutes from 11/16/2021. Mr. Fernandes seconds. Mr. Fernandes, Mr. Harrington and Mr. James approve the motion unanimously by roll call vote.

PRESENT: Larry Harrington, Chair, Robert James, Vice-Chair; Nick Fernandes, Member and Laura Watts, Assistant Assessor

ABSENT: NONE

Mr. James motions to approve and release the Executive Session meeting minutes from the meeting held 11/16/2021 as written. Mr. Fernandes seconds. Mr. Fernandes, Mr. James and Mr. Harrington approve the motion unanimously by roll call vote.

The following exemptions were reviewed and recommended for approval as they meet all the criteria for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts on FY'22 real estate tax bills. (See Exemption Log dated 1/4/2022 Bill #136-2961)

Mr. James motions to approve the exemptions. Mr. Fernandes seconds. Mr. Fernandes, Mr. James and Mr. Harrington approve the motion unanimously by roll call vote.

The following exemptions were reviewed and recommended for approval as they meet all the criteria for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts on FY'22 real estate tax bills. (See Exemption Log dated 1/4/2022 Bill #3284-5567)


Mr. James motions to approve the exemptions. Mr. Fernandes seconds. Mr. Fernandes, Mr. James and Mr. Harrington approve the motion unanimously by roll call vote.

Mr. James motions to return to open session at 4:57 p.m. Mr. Fernandes seconds. Mr. Fernandes, Mr. Harrington and Mr. James approve the motion unanimously by roll call vote.

Supporting Documents:

1. Sandwich Assessing Exemption Log, Bill #136-2961, dated January 4, 2022 (1 page)
2. Sandwich Assessing Exemption Log, Bill #3284-5567, dated January 4, 2022 (1 page)

Respectfully Submitted,


Laura C. Watts, Assistant Assessor
Cc: Town Clerk

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