

**Minutes**  
**Town of Montague Assessors' Department**  
1 Avenue A (2<sup>nd</sup> Floor), Turners Falls, MA  
February 4, 2013

Members Present: Paul Emery, Betty Waidlich  
Staff Present: Barbara Miller, Director of Assessing  
Absent: Terry Miner  
Others Present: Ernie Brown, Notary

Meeting convened 3:30 p.m.

- Approved Minutes of January 7, 2013  
Motion to approve made by Ms. Waidlich, Second by Mr. Emery, Vote unanimous

**SIGNATURES REQUIRED**

- Time sheets for Ms. Miller, weeks ending 01/12/2013, 01/19/2013, 01/26/2013 and 02/02/2013 signed by Mr. Emery
- Reviewed contract between MainStream Appraisal Associates, LLC and the towns of Montague and Gill. Ms. Miller emailed the draft of the contract to the board members previous to the meeting for their review. Board determined the contract was acceptable. Ms. Miller explained to the board that the Selectboard will sign the contract but the Accountant must first sign off to the availability of sufficient funds, the funding of this project will need approval at the Special Town Meeting February 28, 2013.
- At 3:35 p.m. the motion was made by Mr. Emery, Chair, to convene in Executive Session under Purpose 7 "to comply with, or act under the authority of, any general law," to comply with Chapter 59 Section 60 to discuss Personal Exemptions. Second by Ms. Waidlich. Vote unanimous. The board will return to open session.
- 3:45 Reconvened in open session
- Chapter 61B Applications FY2013 and FY2014 approved for **Parcels 52-0-151 and 52-0-080**, West Chestnut Hill Road owned by Mr. Andrew Starkweather and Ms. Catherine Wescott, under Chapter 61B Section 5.  
Motion to approve made by Ms. Waidlich, second by Mr. Emery, Vote Unanimous
  - Tax Liens signed and notarized by Mr. Ernest Brown
- Motor Vehicle and Trailer Excise Warrants to the Tax Collector
  - Calendar 2013 Commitment 1 - \$508,481.25
  - Calendar 2012 Commitment 6A - \$596.26
  - Calendar 2012 Commitment 7 - \$5,082.45
  - Calendar 2011 Commitment 9B - \$111.25Motion to approve the above warrants made by Ms. Waidlich, Second by Mr. Emery, Vote unanimous

**UPDATES TO BOARD**

- Ms. Miller updated the board members regarding the status of a complaint expressed by Mr. George Sansoucy against the Valuation of Hydro Electric Generating Property IFB. Mr. Sansoucy's verbal complaint to Mr. Frank Abbondanzio was that the IFB was too onerous as to prevent bidders from meeting the requirements of the IFB. Ms. Miller requested the opinion of town counsel in this regard and was assured by Attorney Thomas W. McEnaney that in his opinion the "requirements are not so narrow as to impermissibly restrict competition". Mr. Emery spoke with Linda Thomas of George E. Sansoucy P.E., LLC and does not anticipate any further action.
- Ms. Miller had previously emailed OML2012-101 and a link to Attorney General's Open Meeting Law (OML) FAQs webpage. Brief discussion regarding the need to go into executive session to

discuss personal exemptions and abatement applications. Discussion also included the necessity for the board not to respond to Ms. Millers emails in anyway that might be interpreted as deliberation. Information can be sent via email to the board for their review prior to meetings but they should not respond.

- Topics not anticipated covered in the 48 hour posting requirements

Meeting Adjourned 4:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Miller  
Director of Assessing

Minutes approved \_\_\_\_\_