

MINUTES OF A MEETING
MONTAGUE BOARD OF ASSESSORS

Montague Town Hall - 1 Avenue A Turners Falls, MA

August 21, 2023

A meeting of the Montague Board of Assessors was held on August 21, 2023. Assessors present: Ann Cenzano, (Chair) Ann Fisk, Rebecca Sabelawski and Karen Tonelli. Chris Pinardi was also present.

The meeting was called to order at 3:30 p.m. The Board reviewed and discussed the Open Meeting Law Complaint dated July 27, 2023 filed by Chris Pinardi. Mr. Pinardi complained that the purpose indicted for entering executive session shown on the agenda for the Board's July 10, 2023 meeting was incorrect (Purpose #3 was listed and it should have been #7). This was an unintentional clerical error. The Board decided to correct this by going into executive session to discuss the Pinardi abatement after having posted an agenda that indicates the proper purpose of the session.

Mr. Pinardi's second complaint was that the Board has not reviewed past executive session minutes regularly to determine if any should be released as public documents. Starting next month, Cenzano and Karen Tonelli will meet regularly to review past executive session minutes to make this determination.

At 3:34 p.m. a Motion was made and seconded to go into Executive Session under purpose 7 to comply with any general or special law regarding Denise Pinardi abatement applications as posted on the agenda. Roll Call vote made as follows: Chairperson Ann Cenzano "aye", Ann Fisk "aye" and Rebecca Sabelawski "aye". A second Motion was made and seconded to go into Executive Session under purpose 3 to discuss strategy with respect to litigation regarding FirstLight Hydro. Roll Call vote made as follows: Chairperson Ann Cenzano "aye", Ann Fisk "aye" and Rebecca Sabelawski "aye". Chairperson Cenzano stated the reasons for entering Executive Session, stated that an open session would have a detrimental effect on the town and indicated that the Board would return to open session.

At approximately 4:44 p.m. the Board of Assessors reconvened in open session in the second floor conference room with the following present: Ann Cenzano (Chair), Ann Fisk, Rebecca Sabelawski and Karen Tonelli.

Upon a motion made and seconded, it was voted to accept the minutes of the previous meeting held on July 10, 2023. Upon a motion made and seconded, it was voted to accept the minutes of the Executive Session meeting of July 10, 2023 as printed.

The Board reviewed and signed monthly summaries of abatements and exemptions issued in June and July 2023.

The Assessors agreed that the next Board meeting will be scheduled for September 18, 2023 at 3:30 p.m.

The regular session meeting adjourned at 4:52 p.m.

Submitted by,

Karen M. Tonelli, M.A.A.

List of Documents

OML Complaint #2 and #3 Pinardi

Agenda and Minutes from July 10, 2023 meeting

Monthly Summaries