

MINUTES
Town of Hubbardston Board of Appeals
Meeting Held January 20, 2016
Library Basement Meeting Room, 7 Main Street

Members Present: Chairman Scott Janssens, William Homans, Andrew Baum, Gail Orciuch, and Secretary Joyce Green.

Absent: None.

Others Present: Albert Afonso

7:07pm Called to order by Chairman Scott Janssens

Chairman Janssens welcomed new member Gail Orciuch and potential member Al Afonso. He described what the Board of Appeals does and how the Board is able to help residents through the granting of a variance.

General Business

- **Annual Report:** Secretary Joyce Green distributed draft copies of the 2015 Annual Report of the Zoning Board of Appeals for review. One correction and one addition were made and the amended report will be submitted to the Town Secretary for publication.
- **FY17 Budget:** Members were given copies of the FY17 budget for the department. Dollar amounts were kept the same as last fiscal year since there has been little action required by the Board lately.
- **Application Fee:** Secretary Green stated the cost of advertising as required by law exceeds the current cost of applying for a variance and asked whether the board wants to raise the application fee. Current application fee is \$150 and the legal ads for the last variance were \$174. Green mentioned there is a pending bill in the legislature that changes the publication requirement to allow posting on a town website instead of publishing in a newspaper, however the bill has not been passed yet. **Motion:** Bill Homans; to raise application fee to \$200. **Second:** Andy Baum. **Vote:** 4-0 in favor.
- Minutes of August 11, 2015 were approved on a motion by Bill Homans, seconded by Andy Baum and so voted 3-0 in favor with 1 abstention.
- Voucher signed for clerk wages for July – December 2015.
- Idea for Senior Work-Off project: index/list of variances granted/denied by board.

7:47p.m. Motion to Adjourn made by Bill Homans, and so voted.

Respectfully Submitted,

Joyce Green, Secretary

Approved by _____



Date: _____

4/6/16