



THE TOWN OF  
HUBBARDSTON, MASSACHUSETTS  
**Office of the Board of Assessors**  
7 Main Street Unit 1  
Hubbardston, MA 01452  
(978) 928-1400 EXT. 203 FAX (978) 928-1402

Minutes of the Board of Assessors' Meeting held on **March 14, 2016** in the Assessors' Office located in the Library Basement

Meeting brought to order at **7:05 PM**

**Attending:** John Prentiss (Chair), Al Afonso (member), Bill Homans (member), Harald Scheid (RRG Assessor), Margaret Greenlee (Assessors Clerk), and Anita Scheipers (Town Administrator).

**Discussions:**

Budget Issues – Anita Scheipers met with the board to discuss budget issues for FY2017.

Detailed information was presented regarding current growth in town, debt that needed to be added to the operating budget and increasing fees from school districts. All of these items have led to a bare bones budget requiring cuts in all departments. As a result, all stipends have been removed from all town committees and workforce reductions will be needed. RRG proposed that they take a cut in their contract to allow administrative hours to remain at 24. The board and the town administrator greatly appreciated RRG's offer.

The capital committee has new protocols in place to try to prevent a recurrence of the above scenario. The town is also looking at a statewide abandoned housing initiative to try to renovate and regain lost revenue from abandoned property. Harald provided a detailed explanation of Solar tax agreements (formerly known as pilot agreements.) Typically they are for fixed amounts that increase slightly every year so there is no depreciation involved.

The board appreciated all the information and requested that their finance committee liaison meet with them. Anita will find out who that is.

The Board voted to begin the RFP process for Assessment Services with no changes needed to the existing contract.

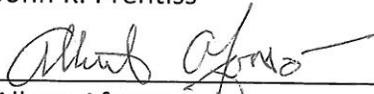
**Documents Signed:**

- MV Abatements
- Minutes from the last BOA meeting

Next meeting is scheduled for March 28, 2016 at 7:00 PM.

**Meeting Adjourned: 8:20 PM**

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John K. Prentiss

  
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Albert Afonso

  
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William Homans

**Approved**