Minutes of meeting of January 14, 2019. Meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. Present at meeting were Mr. Kevin Taugher, Ms. Lynn Masson, Mr. Thomas Reidy and Mrs. Melissa Couture Rimbold.

Ms. Masson made a motion to accept the minutes from the meeting of December 10, 2018 as written. Mr. Reidy seconded the motion. Motion passes 3-0.

Mrs. Couture Rimbold presented an invoice for CAI for quarterly maintenance in the amount of $531.25; an invoice for mileage reimbursement in the amount of $158.22; and an invoice for New England Archives in the amount of $105.00. Ms. Masson made a motion to approve the bills payable as presented. Motion seconded by Mr. Reidy. Motion passes 3-0.

Mrs. Couture Rimbold presented the board with warrants for excise to be signed. All members signed.

Old Business:
Mrs. Couture Rimbold presented the board with a listing of four (4) additional fiscal 2019 exemption applications that have been received. She reviewed the list with the board. Ms. Masson made a motion to approve four (4) exemptions totaling $1,975.00 for fiscal 2019 as presented. Motion seconded by Mr. Reidy. Motion passes 3-0.

New Business:
Mrs. Couture Rimbold provided the board with the monthly abatement reports for December. She stated there are two (2) reports as follows:
- 2019 boat excise, 11 transactions totaling the amount of $298.00
- 2018 motor vehicle excise, 9 transactions totaling the amount of $503.69

Ms. Masson made a motion to approve the monthly abatement reports for December as presented. Motion seconded by Mr. Reidy. Motion passes 3-0.

Mrs. Couture Rimbold reminded the board that she was charged with researching the open space discount at the last classification hearing. She informed the board and provided copies of correspondence with the one (1) community in the state that offers this discount; she shared a parcel map as well as an aerial image map of the affected parcels; a tax analysis of these parcels and an excerpt from Assessment Administration: Law, Procedures and Valuation from Department of Revenue. She stated that there is difficulty in finding information including a lack of procedure and support for this discount. She explained that she weighed the open space discount tax savings against savings for the property owners as if they were in Chapter 61B. She stated the tax analysis speaks for itself. The property owners would save more tax dollars and the town would have protection on recapturing tax dollars and have opportunities for retention of the open space. The board members concurred. The board asked Mrs. Couture Rimbold to draft a letter to the town administrator regarding her examination and findings for their review.

Mrs. Couture Rimbold stated that the next item is in regards to correspondence received from the law offices of Bacon & Wilson. Mr. Reidy disclosed that he works for this firm. Mr. Reidy was excused for this portion of the meeting at 9:29 a.m.
Mrs. Couture Rimbold informed the board that she is in receipt of a notice for first right of refusal under Chapter 61A for a property known as Lot 4 Lithia Springs Road which is a portion of map 58 parcel 23 owned by Mary Elizabeth O’Meara et al. Mrs. Couture Rimbold informed the board that the Conservation Commission and Selectboard have already voted negatively. She stated the Planning Board is slated for a vote this evening. She then explained the ensuing processes and provided draft copies of the forms and correspondence. Ms. Masson made a motion to not exercise the first right of refusal for Lot 4 Lithia Springs Road. Motion seconded by Mr. Taughher. Motion carries 2-0.

Mr. Reidy returned to the meeting at 9:40 a.m.

Mrs. Couture Rimbold informed the board that she has received the fiscal 2020 proposed state owned land valuation and provided correspondence from Department of Revenue regarding the changes to the program.

Associate Assessor report:
Mrs. Couture Rimbold informed the board that she would like to attend PowerPoint for Government officials on February 11 in Westborough. Members concurred with her attendance.

Mrs. Couture Rimbold reminded the board that the Vision software upgrade is scheduled for March 13 to March 27. No changes to the database will be made during this timeframe.

Meeting Schedule:
Mrs. Couture Rimbold stated the next regular meeting should be on Monday, January 28, 2019 at 9:00 a.m. however, she will not be in. She stated she will contact members with the next meeting date.

Other Business:
Mrs. Couture Rimbold stated she has emailed members the conflict of interest training. All board members have completed it and provided their certificate to Mrs. Couture Rimbold.

Mr. Taughher asked about the status of the analysis of personal exemptions. Mrs. Couture Rimbold stated she is hopeful it will be done by the end of the month or early next month.

Ms. Masson thanked Mrs. Couture Rimbold for providing the board with an example of the impact of the small commercial exemption if ever adopted. Mrs. Couture Rimbold stated she has also provided the requested information as to the percentage of single family homes vs. all other classes. She provided this for the town, both districts and the districts vs. the town. Mr. Taughher asked if she could provide one additional with the Granby valuations included. She stated she would.

Mr. Reidy stated he would like to notify the board members that he has requested for the board to be designated as special municipal employees. It is his understanding this will be on the next Selectboard agenda.

Adjournment:
Mr. Reidy made a motion to adjourn. Motion seconded by Ms. Masson. Motion passes 3-0.

Meeting adjourned at 10:13 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Melissa L. Couture Rimbold

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List of documents reviewed during meeting

Minutes
Bills payable
Warrants
Exemption listing
December monthly reports
Open Space Discount: email, maps, tax analysis, 101 excerpt
61A right of first refusal: correspondence, rollback taxes, warrants, assessors certificate, lien releases.