

Minutes of the Board of Assessors
Meeting of September 22, 2005

A meeting of the Board of Assessors was held on Thursday, September 22, 2005 in Room 208 at City Hall. Chair, Marylou Blaisdell, called the meeting to order at 4:30 PM.

Members Present

Marylou Blaisdell Kevin Moriarty

Assessing Staff Present

Angelo Marino Greg Turgiss Gary Turgiss Jeanne Dunfey
Cheryl Walley

Also Present:

Mr. Dan Richardson of 70 Berkeley Street

Minutes of the Meeting:

MOTION BY Marylou Blaisdell to accept the minutes of the meeting held September 8, 2005.
SECONDED BY Kevin Moriarty.
MOTION CARRIED unanimously.

Abatement Requests Presented:

See attached printout for approvals/denials.

Appointments:

None.

Old Business

Chief Assessor Angelo Marino asked the Board to reconsider their denial of the 2005 religious exemption filed by the Heritage Baptist Church for the property at 105 Lock Street. The building permit was not issued for renovations to the building until after 4/1/05, but they were holding prayer meetings, performing marriage counseling and performing religious services prior to 4/1/05. Pastor Hileman of the Heritage Baptist Church would like an opportunity to present it to the Board again and he was advised if the Board again stands by the denial, he would have to appeal to the State of NH. Chair Marylou Blaisdell clarified that the application for the exemption was filed timely but the Church was issued no Certificate of Occupancy or Permit to Assemble until 7/05. Chief Assessor Angelo Marino noted that the exemption was approved for a partially constructed church on West Hollis St. and in light of this, the Board may want to reconsider this exemption. Chairwoman Marylou Blaisdell pointed out that she did not attend the meeting at which this was discussed and asked that a synopsis of the situation be typed so she can be better familiar with the circumstances. The Board agreed to review the application again but if the denial stands, the applicant will have to appeal to the State.

Concerning the 2005 assessment update, Chief Assessor Angelo Marino advised the Board that the biggest increase is in the multi-family properties and the class with the smallest increase is mobile homes. The assessments are within the ranges we expected. He advised he would like to have a public meeting. The MS-1 needs to be submitted to the State and we need to let taxpayers know what is happening. At this meeting we will have a projected tax rate and then

we will be sending notices to taxpayers advising of their updated 2005 assessment. This will not be the same as last year's meeting as there will be no guest speakers. We will focus more on results than on the process. Mr. Dan Richardson advised the Board that they should check on the notice required for public meetings. Chief Assessor Angelo Marino continued regarding the updated assessments, and noted the assessing staff has been working real hard and as Alderman Deane has stated in the past, the public may not like it, but it is reality. Mr. Marino advised that we have filed for an extension for getting the MS-1 into the State. We need to get all the forms into the State before the tax rate can be set. He estimated that we expect the due date for the payment of the December bills to be 12/15/2005. Chair Blaisdell reminded Mr. Marino that the Board of Assessors must sign the warrant before the bills are mailed. She then asked Mr. Marino if he is happy with the software. Mr. Marino said he is satisfied but they have had a little trouble getting totals needed for MS-1 because their software is guarded towards Massachusetts use codes, but our IT Department has been working very hard and has developed a procedure so we can do it ourselves.

MOTION BY Marylou Blaisdell to adjourn at 5:03 PM.
SECONDED BY Kevin Moriarty
MOTION CARRIED unanimously.

Transcribed by
Cheryl Walley
Department Coordinator