

**Minutes of the Board of Assessors
Meeting of June 22, 2006**

A meeting of the Board of Assessors was held on Thursday, June 22, 2006 in Financial Services Conference Room at City Hall. The meeting was called to order at 8:00 AM by Chair, Marylou Blaisdell.

Members Present

Marylou Blaisdell	Kevin Moriarty	Dominic D'Antoni
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Assessing Staff Present

Angelo Marino	Robert Lakeman	Douglas Dame
Cheryl Walley		

Minutes of the Meeting:

Minutes of the last meeting which was held on June 15, 2006 as well as this meeting will be presented for the Board's approval at the next scheduled meeting on June 29, 2006.

Abatement Requests Presented:

Approvals/denials are available in the Assessor's Office. Regarding the abatements presented for the Board's review Dominic D'Antoni noted that most had minor changes resulting in a small decrease in the assessment, but there was one abatement for which the proposed assessment increased \$200. He asked if this is a typographical error. Chief Assessor Angelo Marino told the Board that what we are seeing now are the properties on which we are doing inspections with our additional field personnel from Patriot. If there is data that is incorrect we are making the data correct and as a result the assessment is adjusted. This of course may decrease or increase at times. It is most important to have correct data. Most of our old CAMA system was just descriptive but, in the new system when the information is converted, it is in a different format which is based on tables. It reflects a combination of both exterior (such as vinyl siding) and interior wall types and for example can account for the portion of the flooring which is wood as opposed to carpeting. These details may also create a difference in the finished portion of the basement or those kinds of things. We are trying to make the file as complete as possible.

Staff Items:

Mr. Marino advised the Board that the City has appealed a Board of Tax and Land Appeals (BTLA) decision granting the Roman Catholic Church a 2004 religious exemption on properties which are listed as "closed" on their A-9 form. The BTLA said these properties are still being used for religious purposes even though the properties are closed and only used for storage. The primary use is listed as "closed" on their A-9 form. He advised that before the exemptions were removed he had met with officials from the Roman Catholic Church and discussed what the assessment would be and what they would be paying in taxes. This was no surprise to them.

Commercial Appraiser Robert Lakeman advised the Board that the BTLA has been doing interesting things. In this Roman Catholic Church appeal, as well as three other cases, the only attorney on the four-member Board, Attorney Shamash, had the only dissenting opinion. The other three members seem to want to do anything to avoid a taxpayer appealing their decision to the Supreme Court, which is evident with this decision. Chair Marylou Blaisdell asked which attorney is handling this case. Mr. Marino advised Attorney David Connell, City Counsel, will be handling it.

The Board was reminded that the next scheduled meeting is next Thursday, June 29, 2006 at 8:00 AM in the Financial Services Conference Room. The meetings thru July 20 will be held in the Financial Services Conference Room and from July 20 through the end of September will be held in the Auditorium on the 3rd floor of City Hall. Chair Marylou Blaisdell advised they will discuss at the next meeting if an additional meeting will need to be scheduled for the week of July 4th.

MOTION BY Marylou Blaisdell to adjourn at 8:45 AM.

SECONDED BY Kevin Moriarty.

MOTION CARRIED unanimously.

Transcribed by
Cheryl Walley
Department Coordinator