



**TOWN OF DIGHTON  
BOARD OF ASSESSORS  
1111 Somerset Avenue · Dighton, MA 02715  
MEETING MINUTES for May 24, 2023, 9:30 a.m.**

The meeting was called to order at 9:38 a.m. by Eric Easterday, Chairman. The meeting was held at 1111 Somerset Avenue in the Old Town Hall. Chairman Easterday announced that the meeting was audio and video recorded.

**ATTENDANCE:**

Present: Eric Easterday, Nancy Goulart, William Moore

Also Present: Stephanie Schecter, Lisa Tetreault, Daniel Higgins, Development and Industrial Committee (DIC); via zoom Nathaniel Hirschy

**Pledge of Allegiance was recited.**

William Moore asked Chairman Easterday to take the Agenda Item 5H out of order to accommodate Nathaniel Hirschy who was zooming into the meeting. It was moved by William Moore, seconded by Nancy Goulart, and VOTED UNANIMOUSLY to take Agenda Item 5H under New Business out of order. Chairman Easterday recused himself because he is cousin to Mr. Hirschy. He sat in the audience until this item was completed.

Nancy Goulart assumed chairmanship for this agenda item.

Mr. Hirschy gave the background on this property and explained the problem he had with how the finished area above the garage and the ½ bath that was removed through an abatement for FY2022 was put back on his property for FY2023. The assessor's office apologized for this clerical error and explained that the problem was fixed now going forward but he would not see the change in taxes until January 2024. The board listened to Mr. Hirschy's frustrations and William Moore did some research during the meeting and found a clause 8 of 58 that might allow there to be an abatement done if approved by the Department of Revenue (DOR). Stephanie Schecter said she would reach out to the DOR and update all parties involved. It was suggested by Nancy Goulart that if Mr. Hirschy has concerns with the happenings in the Assessors' office, then he can suggest that an audit be performed.

It was moved by William Moore, Nancy Goulart stepped down as Chairman and seconded, and VOTED UNANIMOUSLY to have Stephanie Schecter contact the DOR to get their opinion on an abatement for an error made in the assessors' office.

Nathaniel Hirschy left the meeting at approximately 10:08 a.m. Eric Easterday resumed the chairmanship.

**OLD BUSINESS:** None

**NEW BUSINESS:** Sign Invoice – None

**Motor Vehicle Abatements**

It was moved by William Moore, seconded by Nancy Goulart, and VOTED UNANIMOUSLY to sign the following Motor Vehicle Abatements:

2023 in the amount of \$2,863.41

2012 uncollectable MV in the amount of \$3,129.23

Sign Chapter Lien release of Raymond Shaw Map 1 Lot 4-4 & Map 3 Lot 4

It was moved by William Moore, seconded by Nancy Goulart, and VOTED UNANIMOUSLY to sign the lien releases.

Sign Chapter Lien re-record of Raymond Shaw Map 1 Lot 4-4 & Map 3 Lot 4

It was moved by William Moore, seconded by Nancy Goulart, and VOTED UNANIMOUSLY to sign the lien re-recording.

Sign Warrant and Commitment for Rollback Tax on Reed Bros. Map 16 Lot 24

It was moved by William Moore, seconded by Nancy Goulart, and VOTED UNANIMOUSLY to sign the warrant and commitment.

Board Chairman to sign off on a Chapter 61 Forestry Plan renewal for Rosa Map 16 Lot 20-1

It was moved by William Moore, seconded by Nancy Goulart, and VOTED UNANIMOUSLY for Chairman Easterday to sign off on Chapter 61 Forestry Plan for Rosa.

Sign Warrant and Commitment for Motor Vehicle Commitment 2023-3

It was moved by William Moore, seconded by Nancy Goulart, and VOTED UNANIMOUSLY to sign the warrant & commitment for Motor Vehicle Commitment 2023-3 in the amount of \$136,920.37

**Public Input:**

Mr. Higgins from the DIC asked the Board of Assessors to attend one of their meetings to answer questions regarding personal property including what is included in personal property, how the value is calculated, are there penalties for not returning the forms, etc. He supplied the board with a list of questions and once the office slows down over the summer, we will schedule time to attend a DIC meeting.

Nancy Goulart shared information she noted at the DIC meeting that was part of a report from Selectman Leonard Hull regarding Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILOT) Agreements. Mr. Hull mentioned One Connection Cannabis making payment in lieu of taxes in the amount of \$25,000 the first year and \$35,000 the second year. She would like the Assessors' office to research this information to see if these were PILOT Agreements because she was not aware of any PILOT Agreements in town other than those with or proposed for solar farms.

**Correspondence:**

The board discussed the public records request from Dighton Electric Light District. The public request was previously denied by the Assessors' office. The Dighton Electric Light District appealed the decision to the attorney general. Nancy Goulart and Stephanie Schecter are going to talk to Mark Pacheco, Town Clerk, about getting an extension of time to respond. A meeting will be set up with the Dighton Electric Light District to determine what information they seek that would be part of a public record.

**Review and Approval of Minutes:**

It was moved by William Moore, seconded by Nancy Goulart, and VOTED UNANIMOUSLY to approve and sign the minutes of 4/12/23, 5/3/23, and executive session minutes of 4/12/23.

**Unanticipated Items:**

Sign Warrant & Commitment for Pro-Forma Tax

It was moved by William Moore, seconded by Nancy Goulart, and VOTED UNANIMOUSLY to sign the warrant and commitment for Pro-Forma Tax in the amount of \$3,062.13

**Executive Session**

At 11:00 a.m. William Moore read the provisions of the MA General Law Chapter 30A, Section 21(a)(7): to comply with or act under the authority of any special law or federal grant in aid requirements. It was moved by William Moore, seconded by Nancy Goulart, and VOTED UNANIMOUSLY ON A ROLL CALL VOTE to enter into Executive Session: Roll Call Vote of Board Members: Eric Easterday-Aye, Nancy Goulart-Aye, William Moore-Aye.

William Moore announced that the board would not be returning to open session. Daniel Higgins left the meeting at approximately 11:00 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Nancy Goulart, Clerk

**Documents:**

MV warrant and commitment 2023-3; MV abatements 2023 & 2012; Chapter lien release and record of M 1 Lot 44 and M 3 Lot 4; rollback warrant and commitment for M 16 Lot 24; Forestry plan for M 16 Lot 20-1; documentation on 2440 Chestnut Street; questions from DIC; minutes for 4/12/23, 5/3/23, exec session 4/12/23.

