

TOWN OF LANCASTER BOARD OF ASSESSORS 695 MAIN STREET, Suite 3 LANCASTER MA 01523 TEL# (978) 365-9562 FAX# (978) 368-9083

Joan Navarro, Chairperson Michael Burke Sr., Vice-Chairman Debra Sanders, Member Debra A. Sanders, Principal Assessor, ext 1301 Bobbi-Jo Williams, Finance Technician, ext 1312

REGULAR MEETING January 20, 2017

Members attended: Joan Navarro

Debra Sanders

Michael Burke Sr. unable to attend

Meeting came to order at 9:15 AM. No public attendance J Navarro made a motion to move the meeting to the Assessor's office D Sanders second the motion and it was unanimous.

Chris Pryor, Director of Forest Stewardship of the New England Forestry Foundation and Attorney Ray Lyons meet with the Board to discuss the Fiscal Year 2017 tax bills.

The Board of Assessors denied the 3ABC application for Fiscal Year 2017 on Map 29 Parcel 2 – 0 Langen Rd, Map 33 Parcel 18 – 0 Bull Hill Rd, Map 33 Parcel 20 – 0 Bull Hill Rd, Map 33 Parcel 80 – 0 Old County Rd Rear, Map 37 Parcel 61 – 0 Goss Ln & Map 41 Parcel 8A – 0 Goss Ln. Note New England Forestry Foundation filed with the Appellate Tax Board on September 15, 2016. The Board explained why they denied the 3 ABC application stating that after a sight visit by the Principal Assessor and no other documentation from the NEFF they determined that the 6 lots were not being use as stated as their primary mission, function or purpose. Mr. Pryor stated that they do have a forest management plan for the properties and they have been following the plan he stated that the Bull Hill property last cutting was 1990 +-. He also stated that the NEFF has had pre-harvest walks in Nov & Dec. J Navarro suggested that in the future when filling the 3ABC application it would be beneficial to supply a copy of the forest management plan and brochure to help us to determine whether we approve the application or not.

Mr. Pryor will send information for the Board to review. J Navarro also suggest more publication whether posting it on the town's web site thru the Town Clerks office or posting it in the Town Hall.

At the last meeting January 6, 2015 the Principal Assessor was asked to talk to the Finance Director pertaining to the mailing of the Personal Property tax bills whether we should keep the 2 qtr. mailing ( $3^{rd}$  &  $4^{th}$ ) or mail 4 qtr. ( $1^{st}$ ,  $2^{nd}$ ,  $3^{rd}$  &  $4^{th}$ ). The Finance Director has responded to the inquiry to the personal property question see attached.

Minutes for 9/23/2016 regular & Executive, 10/28/2016, 12/30/2016 & 1/6/2017 tabled till next meeting

Next meetings will be Feb 3, 2017 & Feb 17, 2017.

Meeting adjourned at 10:33 am.