

ROWE BOARD OF ASSESSORS
Saturday, April 6, 2019 – 9:00am - Rowe Town Hall
Meeting Minutes

1. **Call to Order:** Chair Williams called the meeting to order at 9:05am.
2. **Present:** Rick Williams, Ellen Miller, Herb Butzke (Mr. Butzke left the session at 12:30pm)
Also Present: Seth Bean, Chair, Florida Board of Assessors
3. **Executive Sessions:** At 9:05am the Assessors took a roll call vote (Rick—aye, Ellen—aye, Herb—aye) to enter into executive for the following reasons, to invite Seth Bean to attend the session, and to reconvene in Open Session:
 - a) **Under c.30A Sec. 21(a), Item 3:** *To discuss strategies with respect to collective bargaining or litigation if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining or litigating position of the public body and the chair so declares, to discuss hydro facilities' real estate and personal property tax appraisals and abatement applications, including a teleconference call with George E. Sansoucy, LLS (Skip and Matthew Sansoucy), and Russell Oakes (Monroe Assessor), and*
 - b) **Executive Session—Under c.30A, Sec. 21 (a), Item 7:** *To comply with, or act under the authority of, any general or special law or federal grant-in-aid requirements, specifically privacy, to review a taxpayer's Form of List.*
4. **Reconvene in Open Session:** At 10:39am the Board reconvened in Open Session.
5. **Minutes:** March 21 regular and executive session meeting minutes were approved (2/0/1). Ellen abstained as she was absent from both meetings.
6. **Confidentiality/Non-Disclosure Agreements:** The Board reviewed the following agreements, submitted by the respective taxpayers:
 - a) **Brookfield Power—Confidentiality Agreement:** Rowe Assessors are satisfied with document and voted unanimously (3/0/0) to sign the agreement. Skip Sansoucy will sign a copy of the document and email it to the Rowe Assessors for their execution. Seth Bean (Florida Assessor) has the matter on the agenda for their upcoming Wed 4/10 meeting and will advise us of status.
 - b) **Great River Hydro—Confidentiality Agreement:** GRH (Mark Cleverdon) states their attorney has advised them that the agreement requires Rowe Selectboard's signature rather than Assessors' signature. We take exception to that. Ellen will research matter and contact DOR Monday morning for their opinion. Rowe Assessors are otherwise satisfied with the document and voted unanimously (3/0/0) to sign the agreement.
7. **FY19 Tax Abatement Application—Roman, Ford Hill Rd, 403-017:** FY18 value was \$4,500—FY19 value is \$42,400. Change was made due to a successful perc being performed on the property in spring 2018. A review of the other similar LUC 130 (building lot) parcels showed consistent application of methodology for valuation via *AssessPro* system. The Board voted unanimously (2/0/0) to deny the application. The Board will review building lot values during the FY20 update to see if adjustments are warranted for building lots (both 101 and 130) < 4.0 acres.
8. **Chapter 61—Newman c.61A Filing/Renewal:** Received Forest Management Plan (FMP) from Mr. Newman; however, Forms CL1 and CL1(61A) were not provided. Sandy Daviau has contacted Mr. Newman informing him that these forms are required before action on his renewal application can be taken.

9. **Transmission & Distribution Appraisal Contract:** The Board reviewed and approved (2/0/0) a four-year contract with GES for appraisal of T&D facilities in Rowe for the years FY20-FY23. Work will be similar to that completed by GES for FY19. The cost will be \$5000 each year for 4 years (subject to annual appropriation) and has been submitted in our FY20 budget request. Rick will submit the contract to the Board of Selectmen for their review/ approval.

10. **CAI Map Updates:** Assessors have received information from CAI stating that we have four new sliver-sized parcels at the Charlemont/Rowe border in the Legate Hill Rd area (this did not change boundary line). The change was initiated from CAI's review of survey plans submitted by Charlemont Assessors. Rick will CAI and Mass GIS to discuss this change.

11. **Next Meeting:** Wed, April 10 at 9am.

12. **Adjournment:** Meeting adjourned at 2:49pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Ellen B. Miller

Approved:

FN Williams 4-10-19
Frederick N. Williams, Chair Date

EB Miller
Ellen B. Miller

[Signature]
Herbert G. Butzke