

**TOWN OF DIGHTON  
BOARD OF ASSESSORS  
1111 Somerset Avenue · Dighton, MA 02715  
MEETING MINUTES for March 22, 2023**

The meeting was called to order at 10:15 a.m. by Eric Easterday Chairman. The meeting was held at 1111 Somerset Ave. in the Old Town Hall. Chairman Easterday announced that the meeting was audio and video recorded at the end of the meeting.

**ATTENDENCE:**

Present: Eric Easterday, Nancy Goulart, William Moore

Also Present: Stephanie Schecter, Lisa Tetreault

**Pledge of Allegiance was recited.**

It was moved by Nancy Goulart, seconded by William Moore, and VOTED UNANIMOUSLY to take Agenda Item 7. Correspondence out of order. Nancy Goulart read a letter she wrote to the Board of Assessors as Chairman of the Stormwater Committee that related thanks and appreciation from James and Lynn Cabral to Stephanie Schecter, Lisa Tetreault, and the late Carol Beaugard who have always been helpful and courteous to them when they have called or stopped by the office for help. She gave Stephanie Schecter and Lisa Tetreault a copy for their records/personnel files and said a copy would be given to the Board of Selectmen.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**Meeting dates for the remainder of FY2023**

After reviewing the list of meetings for the remainder of FY2023, it was moved by Nancy Goulart, seconded by William Moore and VOTED UNANIMOUSLY to accept the meeting dates as proposed.

**Senior Tax Exemption recommendation**

After discussion, it was moved by William Moore, seconded by Nancy Goulart, and VOTED UNANIMOUSLY for Stephanie Schecter to undertake the effort to correct the asset limits for Senior Tax Exemption (41C) and properly apply the Cost-of-Living (COLA) adjustments from 2001-2023 which will be a factor of 1.5 or 150%. It was moved by William Moore, seconded by Nancy Goulart, and VOTED UNANIMOUSLY to accept this COLA adjustment that has not been updated for years. It will be applied retroactively and the numbers will take effect for FY2024.

**Background of 41C and 17D Exemptions:**

- On a motion, the town voted to adopt, Chapter 59 Section 5 MGL new clause 17D widow exemption and 41C senior exemption at a town meeting back in 1987.
- On a motion, the town voted in 1999 to adopt the provision of Chapter 181. Sect 1 of the Acts of 1995 (Amending GL Chap 59, Sec). This provided the annual increase of 100% of the CPI cumulatively; effective date would be FY2001 tax bills.
- On a motion, the town voted to adopt a new local provisions GL Chap 59, Sec 5 (17E and 41D) which allows cities and town to increase the income and assets limits that apply to surviving spouses, minors or elderly persons seeking a real estate exemption at a town meeting in 2001.
- On a motion, the town voted to adopt Chap 184, Sec 51 of the acts of 2002. This would allow 41C exemption to increase from \$500 to \$690 and their assets to increase from \$13,000 single to \$16,510 and \$15,000 married to \$22,500 at a town meeting in 2005 (to take place FY2006).

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**Sign Invoice**

It was moved by William Moore, seconded by Nancy Goulart, and VOTED UNANIMOUSLY to sign the invoice to reimburse Lisa Tetreault for Course 5 in the amount of \$200 and pay a WB Mason bill for toner in the amount of \$103.59.

**Payroll**

It was moved by William Moore, seconded by Nancy Goulart, and VOTED UNANIMOUSLY to sign the payroll in the amount of \$1,213.86

**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 \$7,690.90
- 2023 in the amount of \$4,363.09
- 2023 in the amount of \$2,763.89
- 2022 in the amount of \$578.68
- 2021 in the amount of \$56.45

**Sign Release and Re-recording Chapter Lien for Map 13 Lot 58**

It was moved by William Moore, seconded by Nancy Goulart, and VOTED UNANIMOUSLY to sign the release and re-record Chapter Lien Map 13 Lot 58.

**Sign Release and Re-recording Chapter Lien for Map 14 Lot 1 & Lot 3**

It was moved by William Moore, seconded by Nancy Goulart, and VOTED UNANIMOUSLY to sign the release and re-record Chapter Lien Map 14 Lot 1 and lot 3.

**Sign FY2023 Sewer Abatements**

It was moved by William Moore, seconded by Nancy Goulart, and VOTED UNANIMOUSLY to sign the sewer abatements in the amount of \$135.00

**Warrant/Commitment for Dighton Sewer 2<sup>nd</sup> Half FY2023 Aquaria**

It was moved by William Moore, seconded by Nancy Goulart, and VOTED UNANIMOUSLY to sign the Warrant and Commitment for Dighton Sewer 2<sup>nd</sup> Half FY2023 Aquaria in the amount of \$5,844.85

**Sign FY2023 Real Estate Abatement**

It was moved by William Moore, seconded by Nancy Goulart, and VOTED UNANIMOUSLY to sign the FY2023 Real Estate Abatement in the amount of \$320.05

**Sign FY2023 CPA Abatement**

It was moved by William Moore, seconded by Nancy Goulart, and VOTED UNANIMOUSLY to sign the FY2023 CPA Abatement in the amount of \$3.20

**Sign FY2023 Dighton Electric District Abatement**

It was moved by William Moore, seconded by Nancy Goulart, and VOTED UNANIMOUSLY to sign the FY2023 Dighton Electric District Abatement in the amount of \$2.29

Sign FY2023 Dighton Water District Abatement

It was moved by William Moore, seconded by Nancy Goulart, and VOTED UNANIMOUSLY to sign the FY2023 Dighton Water District Abatement in the amount of \$34.21

**Public Input:** - None

**Correspondence:** -

William Moore read a letter into record from the Board to Derek Cost and Stephen Clairmont advising them that on March 1, 2023 the board voted to unanimously acknowledge that the Solect Solar Energy System being installed on two buildings on the North Campus of Bristol County Agricultural High School are exempt from personal property tax.

**Review and Approval of Minutes:**

It was moved by William Moore, seconded by Nancy Goulart, and VOTED UNANIMOUSLY to table the minutes until next meeting on 3/22/23

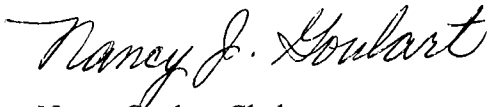
**Unanticipated Items:** None

**Executive Session**

At 11:15 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

Respectfully submitted,



Nancy Goulart, Clerk

**Documents:**

Letter created by Nancy Goulart as Chairman of Stormwater Comm., Letter to Bristol Aggie, Motor Vehicle Abatements 2023, 2022, 2021, Minutes from 2/1/23, 2/8/23, 2/22, 3/1, Exec Session Minutes 2/8, 2/22, 3/1, Warr/Comm Sewer 2<sup>nd</sup> half of year Aquaria, schedule of meetings for remainder of FY2023, Senior Exemption documentation, invoices, payroll, Sewer Abatement, FY2023 RE, CPA, Districts Abatements, Sign Release and Re-recording Chapter Lien for Map 13 Lot 58, Sign Release and Re-recording Chapter Lien for Map 14 Lot 1 & Lot 3