

City of Greenfield
Assessor's Meeting
July 25th, 2018

2nd Floor Meeting Room, 14 Court Square

9:00 am

CALL TO ORDER: Meeting was called to order at 9:39 am by Joseph Ruggeri.

ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS: Chairman Joseph Ruggeri and Clerk Deanne Letourneau.

Also present was Administrative Clerk Kim Mew.

Clerk Letourneau read the June 27th, 2018 meeting minutes into the record.

MOTION: On a motion by Ruggeri, second by Letourneau, it was unanimously;

VOTED: TO ACCEPT THE JUNE 27TH, 2018 MEETING MINUTES.

9:41 AM: Mayor Martin joined the meeting to let the Board know the City Accountant position is vacant. Mayor expects to post the position next week.

Mayor also discussed that a three year contract for RRG has been sent to the City lawyer for review. Mayor Martin stated that although the Charter states that the City must have a Chief Assessor the City does not have the funds to fill this position. Mayor also states that the City doesn't have anyone qualified for the position. Details are still being worked out. Mayor Martin departed from the meeting at 9:48 am.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

9:48 am Mr. Jonathan Adam Towne discussed property located at 199 South Shelburne Road. Mr. Towne stated that his family home was foreclosed and taken for taxes however, at a hearing in Land Court the Judge ordered the City to retain the property for one year pending a full payment of taxes on or before June 21, 2019. Mr. Towne stated the family intends to pay back taxes and regain ownership of the property. This property originally belonged to his grandmother who passed away in 2014. Mr. Towne stated that he attempted to pay \$4,000 and was denied because it was already in Land Court and needed to be paid in full.

Mr. Towne stated that his family property shares a well with the abutting neighbors and that the well is located on the neighbor's property. The deed states that the owner of 199 South Shelburne Road has right to use and maintain the water and pipes. Mr. Towne states that the neighbors have installed a pipe split and shut off the water going to 199 South Shelburne Road. Mr. Towne believes that by doing this the neighbors have devalued the property and caused a forced condemn.

At a hearing in District Court Mr. Towne was told by the Judge that they cannot order the neighbors to turn the water back on and that he would need to be seen in Land Court. When in Land Court Mr. Towne filed a motion to vacate however, he did not have full payment of taxes so his request was dismissed.

Mr. Towne stated that his elderly mother who is disabled and living in Michigan was current owner of the home before foreclosure. He feels that she could be receiving an exemption on the taxes if she was able to live there, this would help the family pay the bills. However, because the home is condemned it must be vacant. Mr. Towne believes that this issue has devalued the property and would like the City to reevaluate the property.

At 10:07 am Mr. Towne departed from the meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

MOTION: On a motion by Ruggeri, second by Letourneau, it was unanimously;

VOTED: TO ACCEPT AND APPROVE MOTOR VEHICLE EXCISE ABATEMENTS FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2017 FROM JULY 2ND, 2018 THROUGH JULY 13TH, 2018, AND FOR THE CALENDAR YEAR 2018 FROM JUNE 25TH, 2018 THROUGH JULY 13TH, 2018.

Board discussed RRG and scheduled a preliminary meeting with RRG to discuss and delineate responsibilities between RRG and a proposed temporary Assessor on July 30th.

MOTION: On a motion by Ruggeri, second by Letourneau, it was unanimously;

VOTED: TO CLOSE PUBLIC COMMENT AT 10:19 AM.

MOTION: On a motion by Ruggeri, second by Letourneau, it was unanimously;
VOTED: TO GO INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 10:19 AM.

MOTION: On a motion by Letourneau, second by Ruggeri, it was unanimously;
VOTED: TO END EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 11:26 AM.

MOTION: On a motion by Ruggeri, second by Letourneau, it was unanimously;
VOTED: TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 11:26 AM.

Next Scheduled meeting July 30th, 2018 at 3:30pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Kimberly A. Mew
Greenfield Assessors
Administrative Clerk
BOA/kam