



Cranberry Land USA

TOWN OF CARVER ASSESSOR'S OFFICE

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May 13, 2014

Present were Members Michael L. Paduch, Peter D. Sullivan and newly-elected Member Laura A. Shippee, and Director of Assessing Ellen M. Blanchard. The meeting was held at the Assessors Office Conference Room at 5:30 p.m.

Welcome – Mike and Peter warmly welcomed our newly elected assessor, Laura A. Shippee.

Re-organization – The Board re-organized as follows:

Chair – Michael L. Paduch

Member – Peter D. Sullivan

Member – Laura A. Shippee

The motion to approve was made by Peter, seconded by Laura and the vote was unanimous.

Minutes – There minutes of April 24, 2014 were approved as presented, upon a motion by Peter and seconded by Laura.

Potential Cranberry Crisis – Ellen reported that she has been involved in discussions with Brian Wick, Director of Regulatory Services for the Cape Cod Cranberry Growers' Association (CCCCGA), regarding this topic. Ellen said that she had received many inquiries from "Independent" cranberry growers who have been notified by their cranberry processors that they will not be buying cranberries this year due to the surplus of cranberries currently being kept in freezers in Canada, and that there is currently no market for more berries. Several of these growers have stated that they cannot grow the berries if they have no market. Not producing a crop, under M.G.L. Chapter 61A, Section 2, would remove them from the tax program. Ellen stated that the CCCGA is working on some legislation that might help these growers. Under this legislation the growers will be required to maintain their bogs, using Generally Accepted Farming Practices, and provide documentation to the CCCGA or the assessors that they have done so, in order to receive the benefits of Ch. 61A. This would only be for the growing seasons of 2014, 2015 and 2016, fiscal years 2017, 2018 and 2019. As more information becomes available, Ellen will report back to the board.

Signatures: Two Agricultural Lien Releases were signed for 134-8-0 and 64-9-0 as they were no longer the property owners. Two new Agricultural Liens were placed on 134-8-0 and 64-9-0 for the current property owners.

Monthly motor vehicle abatement lists were signed for 2014 in the amount of \$8,126.91 and for 2013 in the amount of \$45.96.

As there was no other business to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 6:26 p.m. upon a motion by Mike and seconded by Peter, it was unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,

Ellen M. Blanchard, MAA

Ellen M. Blanchard, MAA
Director of Assessing