

**MINUTES
BOARD OF CIVIL AUTHORITY (BCA)**

**TAX APPEAL HEARINGS
MONDAY, AUGUST 25, 2014**

Meeting convened at 6:00 p.m. in the conference room of the Barnet Town Clerk's Office.

Board members present: Steven Adler, Gary Bunnell, Susan Copenrath, Carrie Dunbar, Dylan Ford, Gordon Goss, William Graves, Benjamin Heisholt, and Dennis McLam.

Others present: None.

1. Discussion regarding statewide primary election to be held Tuesday, August 26, 2014

- a. Checklist changes.** The Board reviewed the list of changes to the voter checklist since the last election (2014 Town Meeting), as mailed to Board members by the Town Clerk.
- b. Ballot clerks.** The Board discussed scheduling of ballot clerks at the primary election.
- c. Voting booths.** Mr. Heisholt indicated that Town Hall Caretaker David Stevenson, who sets up the voting booths for the elections, asked the Board to consider obtaining four-sided curtainless voting booths to replace all of the curtained voting booths the Town currently uses for elections. Mr. Stevenson reported that the curtained voting booths are in poor repair and are difficult to set up. Mr. Heisholt indicated that he had spoken to the Elections Division of the Secretary of State's Office regarding the four-sided booths; the Elections Division does not object to their use, and may have one or more of them available for the Town to pick up at no charge. Four of these four-sided booths would be required to replace the Town's current curtained booths; the cost to purchase one of these booths from a vendor is \$829.00. Discussion ensued.
 - The Board agreed to obtain one free booth from the Elections Division, but to continue to also use curtained booths. The Board also agreed to attempt to replace the current curtained booths with new curtained booths that are easier to set up.

2. Discussion and decision regarding 2014 tax appeal

- a. TransCanada Hydro Northeast, Inc. – Parcel ID #s 0023-01-32 (McIndoe's Dam) & 0006-01-10 (Comerford Dam)**

Mr. Graves reviewed the names of those present for the tax appeal hearing held July 29, 2014, and therefore eligible to participate in this discussion and decision. These were Mr. Adler, Mr. Bunnell, Ms. Ford, Mr. Goss, Mr. Graves, Mr. Heisholt, and Mr. McLam. Ms. Dunbar, who was not present at the hearing, left the meeting at this time. Ms. Copenrath, who was also not present at the hearing, remained at the meeting but did not participate in the discussion or decision.

Ms. Ford presented the Inspection Committee's report. Ms. Ford and Mr. Heisholt visited the two properties on August 15, 2014, and Mr. Goss visited the two properties on August 22, 2014. The report briefly reviewed the visits to both sites, and concluded that "the Committee found the facilities in good repair and physically located in the Town of Barnet according to the valuation of the Board of Listers." Discussion ensued.

Mr. McLam moved to deny the appeal on Parcel ID #0023-01-32 (McIndoe's Dam) and assign it the valuation as determined by the Board of Listers (\$3,916,500), finding that the Appellant did not present any specific evidence of valuation or provide any details behind the Appellant's argument that the Town of Barnet assessment is incorrect. Seconded by Mr. Adler and unanimously approved by voice vote.

Mr. McLam moved to deny the appeal on Parcel ID #0006-01-10 (Comerford Dam) and assign it the valuation as determined by the Board of Listers (\$42,439,700), finding that the Appellant did not present any specific evidence of valuation or provide any details behind the Appellant's argument that the Town of Barnet assessment is incorrect. Seconded by Mr. Adler and unanimously approved by voice vote.

3. Other business

No other business was discussed.

4. Adjournment

Mr. Goss moved to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Mr. McLam and approved by voice vote.

Meeting adjourned at 6:43 p.m.

A true record.

Attest: _____
Town Clerk