

**BOARD OF ASSESSOR'S MEETING**  
**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2021**  
**6:30PM AT TOWN OFFICE BUILDING**  
**240 SPRINGFIELD STREET, WILBRAHAM, MA**

**MINUTES**

**PRESENT IN PERSON:** Chairman Larry LaBarbera, Assessor John Wesolowski, Assessor <sup>Roger</sup> Robert Roberge, Town Administrator Nick Breault, Human Resources Coordinator Herta Dane.

**PRESENT VIRTUALLY VIA GOTOMEETING:** Assistant Assessor W. David Zagorski, Attorney Corey Higgins, Labor Counsel.

**CHAIRMAN LARRY LABARBERA CALLED THE MEETING TO ORDER AT 6:35 P.M.**

Chairman LaBarbera declared that the Board would hold an executive session for the following purpose: per M.G.L. c. 30A§ 21(a) (1) to discuss the reputation, character, physical condition or mental health, rather than professional competence, of an individual, or to discuss the discipline or dismissal of, or complaints or charges brought against, a public officer, employee, staff member or individual, and declared that an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the negotiating position of the Board of Assessors, and that the Board would reconvene in open session.

**MOTION: Made (Roberge) and seconded (Wesolowski) to enter into executive session per M.G.L. c. 30A§ 21(a) (1) to discuss the reputation, character, physical condition or mental health, rather than professional competence, of an individual, or to discuss the discipline or dismissal of, or complaints or charges brought against, a public officer, employee, staff member or individual, and declare that an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the negotiating position of the Board of Assessors, and that the Board shall reconvene in open session. Approved by each Assessor voting affirmatively in a roll call vote; (LaBarbera, yes, Wesolowski, yes, and Roberge, yes.) Approved 3-0.**

At 7:15 p.m. the Board returned to open session to discuss the performance of Assistant Assessor W. David Zagorski.

Assessor Wesolowski spoke of difficulties in the office created by Mr. Zagorski which led to the resignation of a long time staff member. Mr. Zagorski's performance issues have led to a lack of confidence of the Board in Mr. Zagorski's ability to lead and manage the office and perform his duties as outlined in the job description. Assessor Roberge provided as an example reports from staff where Mr. Zagorski when asked a technical question was "polling" the staff for an answer, because he did not know the answer, which speaks to the fact that he is not qualified to perform his duties. Assessor Roberge spoke of attendance issues which had been repeatedly brought to Mr. Zagorski's attention, a lack of attention to detail, and the lack of a pro-active versus reactive management style. Assessor Wesolowski stated that while Mr. Zagorski has the proper certification as a Massachusetts Assessor, he does not know the answer to questions he should know and instead asks the staff for answers.

Chairman LaBarbera asked Mr. Zagorski if he had any comments or wanted to address the performance issues brought up. Mr. Zagorski replied that he did not.

The Board AT 7:35 P.M. entered into executive session to discuss whether to impose discipline on Mr. Zagorski.

**MOTION:** Made (Roberge) and seconded (Wesolowski) to enter into executive session per M.G.L. c. 30A§ 21(a) (1) to discuss the reputation, character, physical condition or mental health, rather than professional competence, of an individual, or to discuss the discipline or dismissal of, or complaints or charges brought against, a public officer, employee, staff member or individual, and declare that an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the negotiating position of the Board of Assessors, and that the Board shall reconvene in open session only to adjourn. Approved by each Assessor voting affirmatively in a roll call vote; (LaBarbera, yes, Wesolowski, yes, and Roberge, yes.) Approved 3-0.

*Materials referenced: Job Description for the position of Assistant Assessor.*

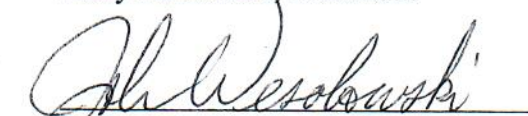
The Board returned to open session only to adjourn.

**MOTION:** Made (Wesolowski) and seconded (Roberge) to adjourn. Approved by each Assessor voting affirmatively in a roll call vote; (LaBarbera, yes, Wesolowski, yes, and Roberge, yes.) Approved 3-0.

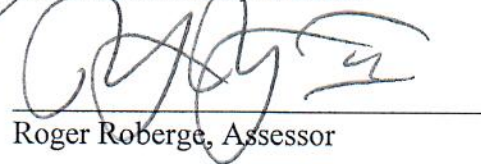
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Herta Dane, Human Resources Coordinator



Larry LaBarbera, Chairman



John Wesolowski, Assessor



Roger Roberge, Assessor

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