

City of Greenfield
Assessor's Meeting
December 5, 2023

14 Court Square, 2nd Floor Meeting Room

9:32 AM

CALL TO ORDER: Meeting was called to order at 9:32 AM by Chair Ruggeri.

ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS: Chair Joseph Ruggeri, Clerk Jim Geisman, Chief Assessor Randall Austin, Assessors' Clerk Devon Magoon, Member of public Chuck Green also present

Board read previous meeting minutes.

MOTION: On a motion by Clerk Geisman, second by Chair Ruggeri, it was unanimously;

VOTED: TO ACCEPT AND APPROVE THE DECEMBER 21ST, 2023 MEETING MINUTES AT 9:39 AM.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

MOTION: On a motion by Chair Ruggeri, second by Clerk Geisman, it was unanimously;

VOTED: TO OPEN PUBLIC COMMENT AT 9:39 AM.

Board discussed the recent classification hearing. Chief Assessor Randall Austin reported that City Council may create a subcommittee for a residential exemption for the coming year. President of RRG Harald Scheid was present at the hearing. He has presented his findings on residential exemptions as applied to Greenfield in past years. There was discussion that the public should be well informed of a split tax rate and its effects before it is adopted.

PUBLIC COMMENT 10:27AM: Chuck Greene commented that he has done his own analysis for split tax rate in previous months and will share his findings.

Board reviewed excise weeks.

Chief Assessor Austin explained exempt plates for motor vehicle excise and commitments as shown in the excise weeks report.

MOTION: On a motion by Chair Ruggeri, second by Clerk Jim Geisman it was unanimously;

VOTED: TO ACCEPT AND APPROVE MOTOR VEHICLE EXCISE IN THE AMOUNT OF \$901.12 FOR THE WEEKS OF 11/18/23- 12/04/23 AT 9:46 AM.

The Board reviewed Chapterland applications:

- 5 in 61A

MOTION: On a motion by Chief Assessor Austin, second by Clerk Jim Geisman, it was unanimously;

VOTED: TO ACCEPT AND APPROVE OF CHAPTERLAND APPLICATIONS AT 9:47 AM.

Board discussed Assessors Office Report.

The Assessors Office is preparing to run test files for the actual bills. There have been errors integrating Patriot software with Munis files in the past. The goal is to have the bills entered successfully by December 15th. The office will be entering deeds and exemptions in preparation for mailing out bills.

The tax rate has been set at 20.39.

Chair Ruggeri suggested a PR effort be made before bills go out to explain to the public how to read and interpret your property tax bill.

Clerk Jim Geisman suggested holding an "Ask the Assessor" night to answer popular questions the public may have.

PUBLIC COMMENT 10:11 AM: Chuck Green commented that a tax bill explanation would be helpful. An explanation of how the CAMA system works might also be relevant to those seeking abatements and those with questions about their valuations.

Board discussed RRG report. RRG is assisting as needed in office with commercial values and in office support. RRG president Harald Scheid is coordinating with Economic & Community Development.

Clerk Jim Geisman suggested a checklist or some form of oversight for RRG activity in office.

Chief Assessor Austin Randall discussed the benefits of RRG office activity and valuation upkeep. RRG will stand behind their valuations.

PUBLIC COMMENT 10:25 AM: Chuck Green commented on RRG involvement. They are an asset but also any mistakes could prove to be a financial detriment.

Board reviewed calendar timeline. 3ABC's are upcoming. Tax bills will soon be mailed out.

Board discussed the keeping of executive minutes.

Board discussed hardship policy.

PUBLIC COMMENT 10:35 AM: Chuck Green inquired into the verification process of what is being submitted for exemption applications.

Board discussed the importance of assisting Greenfield's residents in need and how exemptions such as hardship exemptions can serve that need.

Clerk Geisman is working on website content and coordinating with RRG President Harald Scheid on a presentation.

MOTION: On a motion by Chair Ruggeri, second by Chief Assessor Randall Austin, it was unanimously;

VOTED: TO CLOSE PUBLIC COMMENT AT 10:47 AM.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

MOTION: On a motion by Chair Ruggeri, second by Chief Assessor Randall Austin, it was unanimously;

VOTED: TO OPEN EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 10:47 AM.

MOTION: On a motion by Clerk Geisman, second by Chair Ruggeri, it was unanimously;

VOTED: TO CLOSE EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 11:14 AM.

Next meeting is scheduled for Dec. 19th.

MOTION: On a motion by Clerk Jim Geisman, second by Chair Ruggeri it was unanimously;

VOTED: TO ADJOURN AT 11:17 AM.

Respectfully submitted,
Devon Magoon
Assessors Clerk
Greenfield Assessors