Town of Colchester Board of Assessment Appeals March 10, 2020 – 6:30 p.m. Town Hall, Meeting Room 2

## **MINUTES**

Members in Attendance: Chairman Andrew Cournoyer, Jeffrey Brainard, Christos Stravoraydis

**Members Absent:** None **Others Present:** None

1. Call to order: Chairman Cournoyer called the meeting to order at 6:31 p.m.

**2. Approve minutes from the last meeting:** J. Brainard motioned to approve minutes from December 19, 2019 meeting, seconded by C. Stravoravdis. Vote was unanimous. **MOTION CARRIED** 

3. Citizen's comments: There were no citizens present for comment.

4. Conduct scheduled hearings for taxpayers that filed a written appeal petition with the Board by February 20, 2020, which were approved. Such appeals pertain to the October 1, 2019 Real Estate and Personal Property Grand Lists, and the October 1, 2018 Supplemental Motor Vehicle Grand List only.

The following appeal hearings were held March 10, 2020:

Sean F. Smith 157 West Road 2018 MV 0007693 PP Assessment: 11,710 Authorization letter submitted permitting Laura D. Smith to act as agent for Sean F. Smith. Laura D. Smith sworn in. Ms. Smith arguing that Personal Property assessment of trailer at 11,710 is too high. Appraisal from dealer shows estimated value at 6,500. New 2019 model for this trailer is valued at 10,660. Trailer only bought for 8,100. Board would like to look at book price and average retail before decision.

Michelle Garcia & Nicholas Diodato 19 Oak Leaf Drive Map/Lot: 06-04 14A-002

Michelle Garcia sworn in. Ms. Garcia arguing assessed value of Real Estate account. Distributed property card from 2019 prior to purchasing the home. Brief discussion on how no real change to the home have been made since purchase.

Dorothy Brett Dimberg 6 River Road Map/Lot: 06-12 31A-000 RE: 24,300 Dorothy Brett Dimberg sworn in. Ms. DImberg arguing assessed value of Real Estate account at 124 Westchester Rd. Property appraised in June 2019 at 7,500 however being taxed at 24,300. Approved as buildable lot previously. Easement on property is part of driveway belonging to 126 Westchester Rd. The lot has been recently combined with another lot, but for this tax year it is a separate lot. Would like lot to be assessed at appraised value from June.

Thomas Ritchie 15 North Court Map/Lot: 05-06 201-087 RE Assessment: 264.200 Thomas Ritchie sworn in. Mr. Ritchie arguing the assessed value of Real Estate account. Recently moved to Colchester a year ago and bought home in senior (55 & older) community. Assessment increased 15.5% from 2018 to 2019 when he moved in. Mr. Ritchie questioning why taxes are so high in this community. Believes

assessment should be closer to 2018 Grand List value at 228,234.

Dorothy & Jeffrey Brooks 34 Rudden Lane UID: 20150140 PP: 35,870 Dorothy & Jeffrey Brooks sworn in. Mr. & Mrs. Brooks arguing Personal Property assessed value. First assessment in 2016 was 31,920, however value never changed since and they never received anything notifying them what they are being billed for. Believe assessment includes registered MV from 2008 where MV taxes were already paid but being charged for PP. Since 2016, they removed vehicles off PP however assessment still increased. Last year BAA member came to do audit and saw that the vehicles were junk however appeal application was declined. Would like charges to be based off declaration and not number carried over since 2016.

- 5. Additions: There were no additions to the agenda.
- **6. Motion to adjourn**: J. Brainard motioned to adjourn. A. Cournoyer seconded. Vote was unanimous. Chairman Cournoyer adjourned the meeting at 7:39 p.m.

Submitted by,

Delaney LePage, BAA Secretary