

**Norwich Board of Listers**  
**Regular Meeting – 3:00 pm**  
**Wednesday, February 8, 2023**

**Present:** Cheryl A. Lindberg and Pamela T. Smith, Listers; Contract Assessor Spencer Potter, Frances Mize (Valley News), Omer Trajman (Norwich Farm Foundation); Chris Gray (Lucky Us Ranch, LLC), and Jonathan Vincent

**1. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 3:00 pm

**2. Review and approval of agenda – discussion/action**

Smith noted that the Listers have received correspondence from our District Advisor which should be discussed under Correspondence. Motion by Smith to approve the agenda as presented (2<sup>nd</sup> Lindberg). Unanimous.

**3. Public Comments & Correspondence –**

Lindberg stated that we have received correspondence from our District Advisor that we need to review the alternative solar exemptions as shown on the Form 411. This affects 4 property owners. The Listers will reach out to our District Advisor for further clarification. Specifically, would the Town need to vote to reverse the exemption that was approved by the voters on March 6, 2007. No public comments.

**4. Norwich Farm Foundation Tax Exempt Request – review/discussion/action**

Lindberg gave some background on the application. The Listers tabled the request to the February meeting in order to seek guidance from our District Advisor. The response from District Advisor was that they do not give guidance before a decision is made by the Listers. The Listers decision will be reviewed at the State level to determine if it complies with the statute. Potter, Smith and Lindberg reiterated the same concerns they expressed at the January 11, 2023 meeting regarding the for-profit lessee, which does not seem to comport with the statutory requirement that “the property must be owned and operated on a not for profit basis”. Motion by Lindberg to deny the request for exemption (2<sup>nd</sup> Smith). Discussion: Potter suggested that NFF does have the option to appeal the Listers decision, and they also have the option of withdrawing their request and submitting a new application if they wish to make revisions to the current application. After much discussion from all parties in the meeting, Omer Trajman, Treasurer of the Norwich Farm Foundation, stated that NFF would withdraw their current application and will resubmit a revised application at a future date. Lindberg withdrew her motion to deny the request and Smith withdrew her second.

**5. Assessor monthly report and invoice – discussion/action**

The Listers reviewed Potter’s monthly report and asked for clarification on some of the work conducted during the month of January. Lindberg stated that there has been a problem in the Town Clerk’s office with PTTR processing, which has resulted in several returns building up awaiting a resolution of the issue. Potter will work through those PTTRs next week. Potter will also work on the sales verification if the State has made the FY22 Grand List values the starting point for the FY23 work. Currently, only FY21 values are reflected. There are currently no zoning permits to process as the Town is without a Zoning Administrator. An interim ZA is expected to be appointed and the Listers office will soon receive permits to enter into the assessment software. Potter will not be available on February 22, 2023, therefore, Lindberg and Smith will cover the office hours on that date. Motion by Smith to accept the assessor’s report dated February 1, 2023 and approve Invoice #1382 dated February 1, 2023 in the amount of \$2,696.47 (2<sup>nd</sup> Lindberg). Unanimous.

**6. KRT Invoice – review/discussion/action**

KRT has submitted an invoice for January 2023 expenses. These expenses include insurance, Zoom meetings with the Listers, development of a press release and presentation materials for a townwide public relations meeting as well as posting information on the KRT website regarding the Norwich

reappraisal work. Motion by Smith to approve KRT Invoice #2522 dated January 17, 2023 in the amount of \$13,965.50 (2<sup>nd</sup> Lindberg). Lindberg offered a friendly amendment to require the invoice to be paid from the Reappraisal Reserve Fund. Smith accepted the friendly amendment. Amended motion approved unanimously.

**7. Approval of Draft Minutes of January 11, 2023 – discussion action**

Motion by Lindberg to approve the draft minutes of January 11, 2023 (2<sup>nd</sup> Smith). Unanimous.

**8. Next Meeting Date**

The next regular meeting will be held on March 8, 2023 at 3:00pm.

**9. Adjournment**

Motion by Smith to adjourn at 4:10pm (2<sup>nd</sup> Lindberg). Unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,

Cheryl A. Lindberg, Chair  
Board of Listers