

Town of Norwich, Vermont

Office of the Listers and Zoom

Draft Minutes – Regular Meeting

Wednesday December 13, 2023 – 5:30 pm

Attending: Listers – Cheryl A. Lindberg, Jonathan Vincent, and Ernie Ciccotelli
Public – Antoinette Jacobson; Linda Cook (6:16 pm)

1. Call to order - The meeting was called to order at 5:30 pm.
2. Review and approval of agenda – Lindberg requested three items be added to the agenda under item #5 that all involve Current Use (CU) matters. Vincent made a motion to approve the agenda with the proposed amendments. Second by Ciccotelli. Approved unanimously.
3. Public Comments/Correspondence – No public comments. Lindberg mentioned the correspondence from Catalis Tax & CAMA, Inc. regarding an upgrade to the AssessPro CAMA software. This is information for a future meeting agenda item.
4. KRT Appraisal update – The Listers reviewed the most recent production status report dated 12/1/2023. About 16.5% of the parcels are completed. 27% needing interior and exterior inspections have been measured, while 10% have had interior inspections. Woodland/miscellaneous land parcels total 122 parcels and 108 have been visited. The Listers will inquire about how the woodland and vacant land parcels are being done. A second data collector will begin the week of 12/18/23.
5. Current Use Withdrawal assessment appeal – Antoinette Jacobson presented an appeal of the assessment by the Listers for the withdrawal of land from the CU program. This is a withdrawal initiated by the Jacobsons on which there is a State calculation of the Land Use Change Tax. The land will not be developed based upon the conservation restrictions and grant of development rights held by the Upper Valley Land Trust (UVLT). However, the Listers explained that the withdrawal of acres from the CU program results in a penalty because of the way the State CU program works. The Listers are required to assess the acres withdrawn by State Statute. The Listers will review their previous assessment and respond to Jacobson’s appeal when they deliberate after the meeting. The Listers have heard back from the Morleys and need to deliberate on the appeal presented by them at the previous meeting.
A withdrawal of acres from the CU program by the Ames has been passed along to the Listers for an assessment. The maps have not arrived yet, so this is on hold until then. Lindberg mentioned that yesterday in speaking with our CU representative, it was realized that the withdrawals of land from the CU program result in changes to the property tax bills issued last July. She will need to prepare a memo of the changes in assessments for each of these property owners and submit an Error and Omissions memo to the Selectboard for approval before December 31, 2023.

7. A motion was made to recess the Board of Listers meeting by Vincent. The motion was seconded by Ciccotelli and voted unanimously. The Listers joined the Selectboard meeting at 6:30 pm.
8. A motion was made to reconvene the Board of Listers meeting by Vincent. It was seconded by Ciccotelli and voted unanimously. The Listers meeting was reconvened at 7:40pm.
6. Budget discussion FY23 continued – Based upon the Selectboard meeting budget discussions, the Listers did not have any firm decision from the Selectboard on the request for the proposed change in Lister pay structure. Town Counsel needs to provide a response to the Selectboard.
9. Approval of draft minutes – Vincent moved, seconded by Ciccotelli to approve the draft minutes of November 29, 2023 as presented. Motion passed unanimously.
10. Review of Town Report document – There were no edits suggested to the draft document prepared by Lindberg. The second page still needs to be finished but can't be done until the final numbers from the 12/31/23 Form 411 are available.
11. Future meeting date – January 10, 2024 will be the next regular meeting date.
12. Adjournment –A motion was made by Vincent, seconded by Ciccotelli to adjourn the meeting of the Listers. The motion passed unanimously and the meeting was adjourned at 8:36 pm.

The Listers entered deliberative session at 8:37 pm.

Respectfully,

Cheryl A. Lindberg, Chair
Board of Listers