

**Town of Ferrisburgh
Listers Minutes**

Date/Time: Tuesday, December 18, 2018 at 4:00 p.m.

Present: Carl Cole, Ferrisburgh Lister (Chairperson)
Joseph Blasius, Ferrisburgh Lister
Brian Goodyear, Ferrisburgh Lister
Justus J. DeVries, Appraiser for Town of Ferrisburgh
Jean Richardson, Chairman of the Board of Civil Authority
Diane Lanphear, Legislature Representative
Matthew Birong, Legislature Representative

- Listers meeting called to order by Carl Cole at 4:00 p.m.
- Diane and Mark discussed introducing legislation to repeal or amend the current statute on taxation of travel trailers (see attached draft Bill). The listers were supportive of the change due to the difficulty in enforcing the current statute and limited revenue the tax generates to both the town and state. It was agreed that the legislation should be “replacing” the existing statutes with newer language and perhaps incorporate the “time share” taxation laws and have it apply to the campgrounds (tiny houses were discussed as well as travel trailers not in campgrounds). Diane and Matt agreed to meet on January 14, 2019 at 4:00 p.m. to update the listers on the progress of the draft Bill. In the meantime, Justus will follow-up and forward travel trailer documentation collected during 2017 to Diane’s committee. Additional research on travel trailers will be made with Vermont League of Cities and Towns (VLCT), Vermont Association of Listers and Assessors (VALA) and the tax commissioner’s office. Jean explained the details on the travel trailers taxation within the Donovan Lane BCA decision from October 2017. Diane, Matthew and Jean left the meeting at 4:45 p.m.
- Review of the listers minutes from the November 15, 2018 meeting. Joe made a motion to accept the minutes as written, seconded by Brian. All were in favor and so moved. The draft September 10, 2018 minutes were mostly done and will incorporate all three Grievance meeting decisions. The minutes were tabled until the next meeting.
- Justus advised the Houston and Dingman State Board of Appraiser appeals will most likely be scheduled in the next 6 to 12 months.
- The following listers corrections were reviewed:
 - Arthur Cohn property (parcel ID #05/01/86): Dwelling burned down on December 7, 2018. Only the foundation is salvageable. The assessment was lowered from \$262,700 to \$129,300. The correction will apply only through April 1, 2019.
 - Estate of Joel Kilbourn property (parcel ID #08/01/07): This year-round mobile home is barely habitable. It was in the process of renovation when Joel died. The lot is extremely small (5,000sf) and is adjacent to wetlands. The condition and quality of the water and septic systems are unknown. If the septic system needs replacing, it will be very expensive to design and install. The assessment of the land was lowered from \$44,200 to \$32,500.

Joe made a motion to approve the listers corrections, seconded by Brian. All were in favor and so moved.

- Justus advised that the town was still waiting for the Common Level of Appraisal (CLA) numbers from the State of Vermont Tax Department. The preliminary CLA numbers are 102%±, but the official numbers will be sent to the towns within the next two weeks.
- Carl will follow-up to see if the Selectboard needs anything additional from the listers on the 2019-2020 budget.
- Brian and Justus will follow-up on improving the posting of the listers meetings on the town website.
- Justus reviewed the VLCT model policy for public records and the listers will follow-up.
- Reviewed first batch of 2019 building permits. Justus will revise the site grading on the Vanderweert house site. Only the first page was reviewed and the balance tabled to the January 14, 2019 listers meeting.
- Brian made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Joe. All were in favor and so moved.

Meeting Adjourned: 5:38 p.m.
Respectfully Submitted: Justus J. DeVries, Jr.
Dated: December 20, 2018

Attachment
cc: Gerrie Heuts

1 H.835

2 Introduced by Representative Lanpher of Vergennes

3 Referred to Committee on

4 Date:

5 Subject: Taxation; property taxation; trailer coaches

6 Statement of purpose of bill as introduced: This bill proposes to repeal the real
7 property taxation of trailer coaches parked for 180 days.

8 An act relating to property taxation of trailer coaches

9 It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:

10 Sec. 1. 32 V.S.A. § 3692 is amended to read:

11 § 3692. TAXATION OF BOATS, OUTBOARD MOTORS, AND TRAILER
12 COACHES

13 ~~(a)~~ Except as otherwise provided, snowmobiles, trailer coaches as defined
14 by 23 V.S.A. § 4 registered yearly for use on the highways and designed and
15 used for recreational purposes ~~except as provided by subsection (b) of this~~
16 ~~section~~, canoes, skiffs, sailboats, motor or power boats, boats, outboard motors,
17 or any combination of boat and outboard motor, shall be taxed as personal
18 property only when held as stock in trade, manufacturer's inventory, or when
19 used for income producing purposes, and in such cases shall be set in the list in
20 accordance with section 3691 of this title.

1 ~~(b) A trailer coach shall be taxed as real property by the town in which it is~~
2 ~~located notwithstanding subsection (a) of this section if it is situated in the~~
3 ~~town on the same trailer site or camp site for more than 180 days during the~~
4 ~~365 days prior to April 1. A trailer coach shall not be taxed as real property if~~
5 ~~it is stored on property on which the owner resides in another dwelling as a~~
6 ~~permanent residence.~~

7 Sec. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE

8 This act shall take effect on July 1, 2018 and apply to grand lists lodged
9 after that date.