

**SOMERSWORTH BOARD OF ASSESSORS
MINUTES OF MEETING
August 19, 2016**

MEMBERS PRESENT: James Cowan, Patricia LeHoulier and Philip Munck

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

OTHERS PRESENT: Marybeth Walker, City Assessor; Darcy Moore, Assessing Clerk; Shanna Saunders, Planning Director; Robert Belmore, City Manager

The meeting was called to order at 8:30 a.m.

1) PUBLIC MEETING

A) The Board voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the BOA meeting of April 1, 2014.

B) The Board voted unanimously to approve all abatements that have been signed to date. Ms. Walker presented a summary of the current year's abatement requests and discussed the status of pending appeals the Board's decisions.

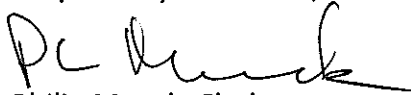
C) Ms. Walker reviewed the preliminary sales ratio. She said that the preliminary equalization ratio for 2016 is 94% which is indicative of increasing property values in the City. She said was a change from the 2015 ratio of 100.6%. State assessing regulations require the ratio to be within the range of 90% to 110%.

D) Ms. Walker review the progress of the cyclic appraisal process. The Board noted that abatement requests have become less contentious with the more frequent adjustment process of the cycle program.

E) The Board discussed how future meetings ought to be scheduled. The consensus was to meet twice a year, in the middle and at the end of the abatement cycle, with meeting dates to be determined by the chairman and the assessor. Additional meetings will be called as events require.

With no further business to come before it, the Board adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,



Philip Munck, Clerk

Member, Somersworth Board of Assessors