

Board of Assessors

John R. Fisher, Chair Robert L. Bushway, Clerk Richard J. Zaccaro, Member

TOWN OF WALPOLE Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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Minutes of Meeting September 9, 2021

The Board of Assessors met on Thursday, September 9, 2021, at 4:00 pm, via zoom. The following Board members were present: John Fisher, Chair, Robert Bushway, Clerk, and Richard Zaccaro, Member. Also participating, Dennis Flis, Director of Assessing.

Executive Order on Remote Participation Thursday, March 12, 2020, Governor Baker issued an "Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law G.L.c 30A Section 20. That order was effective immediately and until it is rescinded or the State of Emergency is terminated. Chair to announce that all members will be participating remotely during the meeting due to unprecedented time in history of the Commonwealth. The Governor has authorized remote Participation for all public boards due to the Emergency declaration order that was issued on March 12, 2020. Every vote taken will be taken by roll call vote.

The Board reviewed preliminary results concerning the Commercial and Industrial properties for the 5-Year FY 22 Revaluation Program. Don Thornley outlined the process and steps involved in the assessment of the Commercial and Industrial properties. The difficulties in determing the values was the effect of Covid-19 had upon each type of property. For some properties, Covid-19 had little or no effect while properties that were service oriented in nature saw a decrease in their assessments.

A tentative date for the FY 2022 Classification Public Hearing (tax rates) with the Select Board will be November 9th. This date will be finalized once the Department of Revenue and the Town completes the State Mandated 5-year Revaluation Program.