



Town of West Tisbury
BOARD OF ASSESSORS
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Open Session Meeting Minutes

Board of Assessors, April 15, 2022

Present: Michael Colaneri, Maria McFarland

Also Present: MacGregor Anderson, Principal Assessor

The meeting convened at 3:00 P.M.

All votes were roll call votes due to the remote nature of the meeting.

1) Review and possible decision on request for quotes for possible CAMA software conversion

Mr. Anderson began by explaining that the software company they used for assessing, Patriot Properties, had not been able to provide the level of support he needed, and that the system lacked many features he wanted, so he requested quotes from three vendors for a possible conversion.

Mr. Anderson said that he heard back from Paul Kapinos who had a new cloud-based system. Mr. Anderson said he'd worked with PK in Oak Bluffs and their service was excellent. This was the only quote he received.

Mr. Anderson said he was evaluating the quote based on cost, functionality and quality of the software, service and support, timeliness for a conversion, and the ability to also cover both personal property and real estate.

Mr. Anderson said the quote was in line with what he'd expected after talking to other assessors who had done conversions. He noted that Patriot was less expensive in 2018 for the conversion. He said the PK quote was for \$10,000 for conversion and \$10,000 for a one time license fee that provided the minimum of five licenses. He added that ongoing costs were \$9800 annually including \$1800 for record card hosting.

Mr. Colaneri said the board traditionally relied on the principal assessor's input in these cases. He noted that they spoke before about it and he was in support. Ms. McFarland said she read the quote, also spoke with Mr. Anderson, and supported the conversion.

The Board gave Mr. Kapinos an opportunity to speak. He said the system they would be installing was the only true cloud-based assessment system on the market. It would allow the Town to work from any system with a web browser and would eliminate the need to install on local computers or interact with Town IT.

Mr. Colaneri said they had always maintained their own data on local systems. Mr. Anderson said they would be able to get that data and pointed out the new accounting software Vadar they were adopting was also cloud based. He said he couldn't work in Patriot for his first week because of a problem with the local server that required paid work by Educomp to resolve. Mr. Anderson said this was the trend in other industries and he thought it was the right move for the Town.

Ms. McFarland asked Mr. Kapinos about the five license minimum since there were only two staff. Mr. Kapinos said in his experience other departments would want read only access to the information and gave the example of trustee data used by another client's beach pass division. He said building and conservation frequently used the information as well.

Mr. Anderson asked about ownership and access to data on the cloud. Mr. Kapinos said the data belonged to the Town and the Town had full access to it.

Mr. Kapinos said they just finished a conversion in Rochester and the audit reports showed that the average change in value was less than 2% with some exceptions where there was bad data before, far less than traditional conversions.

The Board voted 2-0 to approve the CAMA conversion to PK for a total of \$29,800: Colaneri-yes, McFarland-yes.

The meeting adjourned at 3:22 pm



MacGregor Anderson, MAA

Principal Assessor

Approved: 4/26/22