

BOARD OF ASSESSORS

The Board of Assessors is pleased to submit the following activity report for the calendar year ending December 31, 1999. As of this writing, the Town's fourth triennial Real and Personal Property Revaluation was completed. This involved on-site inspection of all buildings to make sure all data was correct, and a door-to-door survey of all businesses to list and revalue all taxable personal property. The directive from the State Department of Revenue to complete this work was reviewed and certified by the State for Fiscal Year 2000.

The assessed value tax roll for the Town of Burlington contains 7,724 real property and 981 personal property accounts with an annual total assessed value of \$2,728,381,875 for the tax year Fiscal Year 2000.

The Assessor's staff processed 680 deed transfers and mailed sales verification forms reflecting the sales. All building, plumbing and electrical permits will continue to be monitored for possible adjustments in value. A large portion of the 864 building permits taken out in 1999 will need field inspection. Similarly, at the beginning of 1999, the 1998 permits had field checks. Also, every year there are follow-ups on permits that reflect work not completed. The staff assists various builders, contractors and property owners by signing off occupancy permits, ensuring that the correct property had been signed off and so noted on the permit. There were 191 occupancy permits signed off in 1999. Additionally, 95 abutter's lists were certified and 461 exemption and 77 abatement applications were processed. The exemption applications were reviewed making sure that all information was complete. Likewise, the abatement applications received were reviewed, and if necessary, field checks were made. A total of 268 water and 247 sewer liens were individually processed in the computer so that they appeared on the real estate tax bill for that particular property. Approximately 1000+ Personal Property Forms of List that reflect businesses were processed as well as 480 Income and Expense forms which reflect income and expense to Commercial or Industrial buildings.

Motor vehicle excise (MVE) is second only to property taxes as a source of locally generated revenue. The Massachusetts's improved economy has increased a number of new and used cars on the road. MVE creates a tremendous amount of questions regarding abatements.

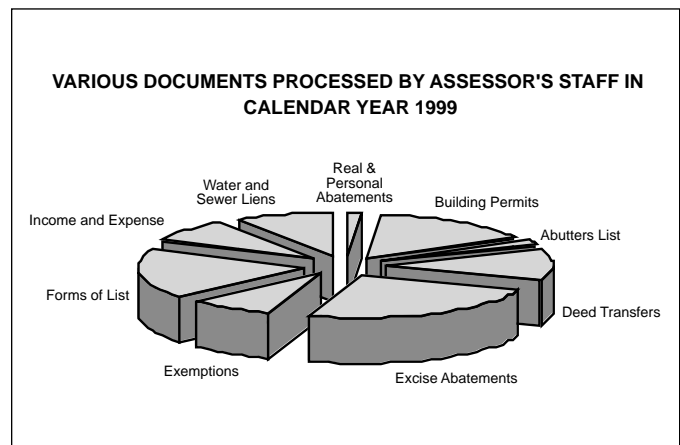
Once the motor vehicle owner receives his/her excise tax bill, it creates many inquiries. There are many telephone calls, correspondence and much counter assistance. The Assessors Office handles approximately 25,000+ motor vehicle excise bills each year. There were 1,327 motor vehicle excise abatements processed in 1999.

As of this writing, we have processed motor vehicle excise abatements, water and sewer liens and exemptions in the new Munis system that the staff has been trained on.

We wish to acknowledge our new Assessor Lisa Annunziata. Lisa joins her two associates, Paul R. Sheehan and Michael Crocker. The former Assessor John W. Dillon has changed hats. He is the new data collector/assistant assessor. John has had twenty-four years service on the Board of Assessors. His experience will give the department additional help which is greatly needed.

The Assessor's thank their staff, Russell Washburn, John Dillon, Patricia Golden and Marcia Nonni for their dedication in an ever-expanding workload. It is difficult to express our sincere appreciation to these people without whose efforts this office could not function.

The overall activities of the Assessors are summarized in the following chart.



Respectively submitted,
 Paul R. Sheehan, Chairman
 Michael Crocker, Vice Chairman
 Lisa M. Annunziata, Secretary