



TOWN OF OLD LYME

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Board of Assessment Appeals for 2024 Motor Vehicles Grand list

September 16, 2025, at 4:30 pm

Old Lyme Memorial Town Hall, Assessor's Office
52 Lyme Street, Old Lyme, CT 06371

Present: Regular Members: George Finley, Peter Hunt, David Evers

Alternate Member: Devin Berke

Clerk for the BAA: Anita Lettieri

Guests: No guests

Mr. Finley called the meeting to order at 4:36 pm

Review of the Motor Vehicle Assessment changes effective October 1, 2024 pursuant to Public Act 22-118, June Special Session Public Act 24-1 and Public Act 25-2.

Mr. Griswold read the attached memo to the board members and asked for it to be added to the minutes.

Mr. Berke provided explanation for his attendance record.

Mr. Hunt and Mr. Finley agreed and supported his explanation, further indicating that he had taken all the required classes and is a valuable member.

Motion to adjourn at 5:37 pm, by Peter Hunt and Tim Griswold.

Respectfully submitted,
Anita A Lettieri, Clerk for the BAA

Memorandum

Date: 16 September 2025

To: George Finley
Peter Hunt
David Evers
Devin Berke

From: Timothy Griswold

TGS

Subject: Devin Berke – Candidate for Regular Member of the Board of Assessment Appeals

Due to the fact that George Finley is not seeking reelection to the Old Lyme Board of Assessment Appeals, the Old Lyme Democratic Town Committee ("DTC") decided to endorse Devin Berke, who is presently an Alternate on the Board, to fill Mr. Finley's seat.

Due to a Connecticut state statute, the two candidates endorsed for regular membership on the Board (Tim Griswold, Republican and Devin Berke, Democrat) will both be elected, regardless of their vote counts.

I am extremely concerned that Mr. Berke will become a regular member of the Board in light of his very poor attendance during the Board's 2025 revaluation appeals process that was conducted last March and April. Of the nine meetings of the Board, Mr. Berke was present for only three. Moreover, of the three meetings he attended, Mr. Berke either arrived late or departed early.

The 2025 Revaluation process involved a physical revaluation of all properties and the Board heard 176 individual appeals. With only three regular members and two alternate members, the Board was indeed handicapped by Mr. Berke's substandard performance. I realize the state statute guarantees Mr. Berke will become a regular member and it is regrettable the DTC endorsed him, knowing about his poor performance.

Personally, I ask Mr. Berke to comment on his performance during the March – April timeframe and to tell the Board members how he will fulfill his duties as the Board prepares for the next appeal process starting in March 2026. If he cannot assure us that he will be an effective member, I suggest that, after the election, he considers resigning his seat.