

Town of Springfield - Board of Abatement

Selectmen's Hall - 96 Main Street - Third Floor

Thursday, April 11, 2019 at 5:35pm Minutes

Board of Civil Authority Members Present:

Ernest Lamphere

Mark Greenvall

Kathleen Stankevich

Char Osterlund

David Yesman

Scott Farr

Chuck Gregory

Warren Cross

Walter Martone

Stephen Matush

Melissa Mackenzie

Peter MacGillivray

Barbara Courchesne, Town Clerk

Others:

Maxine Aldrich, Assistant Town Clerk

Nichole Knight, Assessor

Terry Perkins, Lister

David Coleman, Lister

After the quorum being met, the meeting of the Board of Abatement was called to order at 5:35pm by Chairperson Ernest Lamphere. The Board was sworn in by Barbara Courchesne.

1. Additions to Agenda

None.

2. Requests for Tax Abatement

Robert S. Greenwood – 501 Randall Hill Road

Appellant, Robert Greenwood, was not present. Copies of Appellant's abatement request under "Reason No. 5" (24 V.S.A. § 1535(a)(5)), Appellant's letter and tax calculation were distributed to all parties. Chairperson Lamphere read Appellant's letter aloud.

Barbara Courchesne confirmed Mr. Greenwood was advised by certified mail and a return receipt was received. Mr. Greenwood knew that the abatement would proceed without him. She then explained the tax calculations and pointed out the need for the motion to include language to include accrued interest.

Nichol Knight confirmed the property was more a camp than a home, uninhabitable. After the fire, it had no value so she dropped it down to the land value. Mark Greenvall asked if the land value included a well or anything else. Nichole Knight confirmed that is everything. She stated it is not a great piece of land either. Peter MacGillivray

confirmed the assessed value of the land. Nichole Knight stated it is .12 acres, it's on the road, on a wedge and it's wet in the back. She only made changes based on the fire and if the owner wants to grieve the value of the land, he will do that separately. Walter Martone confirmed that the new assessed value will apply to the next year.

MOTION: David Yesman moved to abate taxes in the amount of \$235.00 under Reason 5, plus a portion of the accrued interest. Char Osterlund seconded motion. No further discussion. Motion passed.

Robert A. McBride – 47 River Street

Appellant, Robert McBride, was not present. Copies of Appellant's abatement request under "Reason No. 5" (24 V.S.A. § 1535(a)(5)) and tax calculation were distributed to all parties. Chairperson Lamphere read Appellant's abatement request aloud.

Barbara Courchesne swore in Nichole Knight, Terry Perkins and David Coleman for all hearings. Barbara Courchesne then explained the tax calculations and stated taxes are current so if there is an abatement it will be a credit to the taxpayer.

Nichole Knight stated they dropped it down to the land value: it was a total loss. She commended the owner on the quick cleanup.

Warren Cross confirmed the abatement is for the last quarter and the previous quarter. Barbara Courchesne confirmed it is most of the third quarter and all of the fourth quarter. Scott Farr questioned water and sewer. Nichole Knight confirmed the land value on the CAMA card does include water and sewer.

MOTION: David Yesman moved to abate \$1,429.67 under Reason 5. Warren Cross seconded motion. Scott Farr questioned interest. Barbara Courchesne stated no interest on this one per statute. No further discussion. Motion passed.

David Yesman moved to adjourn. Peter MacGillivray seconded motion. Motion passed. Meeting was adjourned at 5:52pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Maxine M. Aldrich
Assistant Town Clerk