

Board of Abatement

12/1/20

Board Present: Jared Cadwell, (Jared), Chuck Martel (Chuck), Sarah Stavraky (Sarah), Doug Mosle (Doug), Rick Rayfield (Rick), Patti Lewis (Patti), Lisa Koitzsch (Lisa), and Mike Jordan (Mike)

Jared called the hearing to order at 9:00 a.m.

Appellant: Sandy Kenny - Parcel ID# 03-011

Jared introduced the Board of Abatement (BOA) Members and asked if any Board Member had a conflict of interest in hearing this case. Patti recused herself as she is also delinquent tax collector.

Jared administered the oath to Sandy Kenny. Rick asked under which allowable criteria (Title 24, V.S.A. 1535), did her request for abatement fall. Ms. Kenny replied that she did not believe, but asked for guidance, that her specific matter would be covered under those criteria. She stated that she never received the original tax bill and only became aware of taxes due when she received the delinquent tax notice. She confirmed that the address the Town has on file, and to which she received the delinquent bill, is correct. She noted that she has been a longtime tax payer and had never had an issue or been late prior to this year.

BOA thanked her for her testimony and noted the BOA would deliberate and make a decision within thirty days.

Appellant: Brian Bowen - Parcel ID# 09-009

Jared introduced the Board of Abatement (BOA) Members and asked if any Board Member had a conflict of interest in hearing this case. Patti recused herself as she is also delinquent tax collector.

Jared administered the oath to Brian Bowen. Mr. Bowen was asked under which allowable criteria (Title 24, V.S.A. 1535), did his request for abatement fall. Mr. Bowen did not believe any of them apply to his request. He explained that he had tried to pay his taxes on time, online, but that his bank had sent a notice back to him saying they would not process his payment right away as 11/1/2020 fell on a Sunday. He said the Town had cashed his check on the 6th. Patti confirmed the check had been received on the 4th. He noted that he has been a longtime property owner with no issues or late payments prior to this year.

BOA thanked him for his testimony and noted the BOA would deliberate and make a decision within thirty days.

9:29 a.m.

Rick made a motion to move into deliberative session while waiting for the third scheduled appellant to log onto the hearing. Lisa seconded. No further discussion, all in favor, motion carried.

9:58 a.m.

Jared made a motion to recess deliberative session. Sarah seconded. No further discussion, all in favor, motion carried.

At this point the BOA opened the hearing for Gael Jacobson even though she was not in attendance.

Jared asked if any Board Member had a conflict of interest in hearing this case. Patti recused herself as she is also delinquent tax collector.

The Board was unable to ask what criteria Gael Jacobson was appealing under or determine, from her email, what case she was presenting for consideration. Town office staff recalled that when Ms. Jacobson called the office inquiring about the interest and penalty that she mentioned not receiving the bill from her daughter who lives at Ms. Jacobson's mailing address.

10:10 a.m.

Jared made a motion to go back in to deliberative session. Rick seconded. No further discussion, all in favor, motion carried.

11:10 a.m.


Jared made a motion to come out of deliberative session, to recess deliberation, and continue the hearing for Gael Jacobson, until December 9, 2020 at 10:00 a.m. No further discussion, all in favor, motion carried.

11:16 a.m. – Lisa made a motion to adjourn. Sarah seconded. No further discussion, motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted:

Patti Lewis

Approved:


Jared Cadwell, Chair

Date: 12.15, 20