

Minutes of Board of Abatement Meeting
Thursday, December 15, 2011

Board Present: Robert Vasseur (Robert), Ann Day (Ann), Patti Lewis (Patti), Rick Rayfield (Rick), Lisa Koitzsch (Lisa), Tom Bisbee (Tom), Tony Egan (Tony), Fred Spencer (Fred), Jared Cadwell (Jared), Gussie Graves (Gussie).

Guests: None

Meeting called to order 10:00 a.m.

Mark Grosby is asking that the Board of Abatement (Board) abate the 2011 delinquent tax penalty for Read Devereux. See attached email dated December 5, 2011.

Board asked if it had any evidence from Mr. Grosby that the check was postmarked prior to the delinquent tax date of 11/1/2011. Answer no.

Jared understood that the US Post Office guaranteed that they had secured any mail that was within the system when Irene hit.

Robert concurred that Moretown has claimed no loss of mail.

Board discussed the date of the flood (August 28, 2011) and the fact that less than two weeks later the post office was up and running upstairs of that building. If Mr. Grosby sent the check on September 15, 2011 as claimed, there still would be no reason for the misplacement of the check.

Board felt that if Mr. Grosby had been able to substantiate that other mail was missing his argument might be more substantial.

Board felt there was ample time to remedy the situation between August 22, 2011 when taxes were due and November 1, 2011 when they became delinquent by simply observing if the check had been processed through his account. Also taken into account was the fact that even after delinquent tax notices went out on November 7, 2011, taxes were paid on December 5, 2011, taking another month to remedy.

Lisa Koitzsch made a motion to deny Mr. Grosby's request for abatement of \$774.48 in penalties. Tom Bisbee seconded, no further discussion, all in favor, motion carried.

Patti Lewis recused herself from the vote due to possible conflict of interest as Delinquent Tax Collector.

10:30 a.m. – Ann Day made a motion to adjourn. Lisa Koitzsch seconded, no further discussion, motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted:

Patti Lewis
Town Clerk

Approved: _____ Date: _____