

Board of Abatement Hearing  
October 16, 2019

Board of Abatement (BOA) Members Present: Doug Mosle (Doug), Sarah Stavraky (Sarah), Rick Rayfield (Rick), Lisa Koitzsch (Lisa), Chuck Martel (Chuck), Patti Lewis (Patti), and Jared Cadwell (Jared)

Appellant Present: Sandy Macys (Sandy)

10:00 a.m. – Jared called the meeting to order for Sandy Macys, 1464 Tucker Hill Road, Parcel ID #07-040.

Jared administered the oath to Sandy and asked if there were any Board Member conflicts of interest, to which there were none. Jared asked Sandy if he had received the rules of procedure and Sandy responded that he had. With Lisa's help, Sandy identified 24 V.S.A. § 1535 (3) as the section allowing him to come before the BOA: When a taxpayer is unable to pay their taxes, interest, and collection fees.

Rick brought up Section C. 2. of the Fayston Rules of Procedure for the Board of Abatement and asked if there was an abatement hearing request form available for appellants. Jared asked Patti to follow-up with finding such a form after this hearing.

Sandy, who makes his living as a professional photographer, told the BOA that he has had a rough year with a major surgery in March that sidelined him for over a month, the Times Argus not hiring back freelance photographers, and not being paid for work completed in October last year. He has been working three days a week for the Vermont State Parks at \$11.50/hr. When he is in Florida, he gets approximately two to three assignments per week at \$60/assignment. He also receives approximately \$1,200/month from Social Security. He asked the BOA to abate as much of his taxes as possible. He currently owes \$1,697.49, after a state tax payment.

Rick asked Sandy if he could provide the BOA with proof of his income such as tax returns or bank statements. Lisa asked Sandy if he had considered asking the Town to develop a payment plan for him and Sandy replied that he just wanted his taxes reduced. Doug pointed out that Sandy's accountant could be liable for the 8% penalty for the late filing of his Homestead Declaration form. Chuck reiterated the need for proof of income and asked Sandy to provide some way of substantiating his reduced income for 2019. Sarah suggested that he contact his accountant and see if there was any additional information he could provide.

Sandy told the BOA he would provide them with the financial information they requested within the next few days. All agreed to reconvene at 10:00 a.m. on October 23<sup>rd</sup> to review Sandy's information and to deliberate his request.

At 10:30 a.m. Patti made a motion to move into deliberative session, Lisa seconded. All in favor. Motion carried.

At 10:45 a.m. the BOA moved out of deliberative session. Lisa made the motion to continue the deliberative session at 10:00 a.m. on October 23, 2019. Sarah seconded. All in favor. Motion carried.

In other business, Patti told the BOA she had received a verbal request from Keith Kuegel (Keith) to have penalty and interest waived on his 2019 property taxes, which will become delinquent on November 1, 2019. Keith expects to close on the sale of his property in mid-November and the property taxes will be paid at that time.

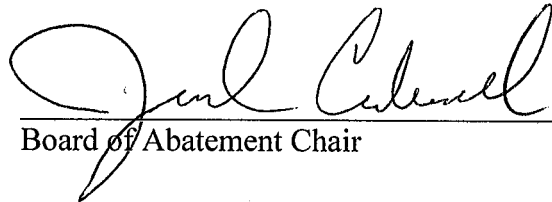
The BOA told Patti to ask Keith to put his request in writing. A discussion ensued regarding Keith's history with the BOA, evidence of foreclosure, tax sale, and liens against the property. All decided to review Keith's request on October 23<sup>rd</sup>

11:01 a.m. - Lisa made a motion to continue the hearing on October 23, 2019 at 10:00 a.m. hearing. Rick seconded. All in favor. Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted:

Patti Lewis

Lisa Koitzsch

  
Board of Abatement Chair

10.23.19  
Date