

Minutes for BOA

June 13th, 2022

Present: Megan LaChance, Town Clerk; Sharon Winnicki, Lister (Chair); John Berryhill, Justice of the Peace (Chair of BOA); Patricia Norton, Justice of the Peace; Susan Kennedy, Lister; Linda McGuire, Treasurer; Lee Wilson, Justice of the Peace; Edmund Hemmer, Delinquent Tax Collector; Barry Griffith, Justice of the Peace; Suzanne Savage, Requestor

Requestor: Suzanne Savage

Call to Order: 6:01 PM

Proceedings:

Chair Berryhill opens meeting for Board of Abatement. Hearing for abatement on property 028-0-0415, 415 Crown Point Rd.

Oath administered to requestor, lister, delinquent tax collector.

Suzanne Savage explains situation. She says she was a day late, came in, Assistant Clerk Betsy Jesser said she couldn't pay it and could not accept it. Told to wait for Delinquent procedure. She called Ed. Nothing applicable on form she was sent for situation.

Explained where she was before it had been prorated and there had been a grace period. Looking for some consideration for having only been one day late. Also wanted to bring it to our attention that the rules might be able to be changed in the future going forward.

Came in on the Monday after taxes were due.

Linda McGuire: State says we have to charge 8% on anything after taxes are due which are not in the hands of the treasurer or postmarked by the due date.

Savage: Paid taxes, but not penalty.

McGuire: Tax payment was apportioned partially to taxes and partially to fee. A change could be made by bringing it to Selectboard and brought to voters.

Sharon Winnicki: Was here. She and Betsy were following procedure in not taking check as they were instructed.

Savage: Just didn't know the system and looking for options.

Lee reads 24 VSA 1435: Board cannot abate only penalty.

Kennedy: Voters vote on date, so it's not arbitrary.

Savage: States other Towns have prorated/buffer, so a suggestion.

Hemmer: States he doesn't make the call, sends out the form, but that it's about as clear as mud. When he receives partial tax payment, it's paid proportionally to fee and taxes. States Selectboard may look further into it down the road.

Motion to enter deliberative session made by Trish Norton. Seconded by Megan LaChance. Motion passes.

Deliberative Session Entered at 6:25 PM.

Barry makes motion to deny request for abatement because she does not meet statutory criteria. Lee seconds. Motion passes.

Lee makes motion to adjourn. Trish Seconds. Motion passes.

Deliberative Session ended and Meeting Adjourned at 6:38 PM

Respectfully Submitted,

Megan A. LaChance, Esq.

Town Clerk