

Tax Abatement Board

May 14, 2018

BOARD MEMBERS ATTENDING: Anne Wilson, Maureen Harvey, Erin Lander, Mari Pratt, Jerry McMahon, Max Popowicz, Mo LaVanway, Dan Cardozo, Ken Scott, Jill Smith, Bonnie Morse.

WITNESSES: Betty Sherman, Stephanie Gueldner, Rachel Bolduc

BOARD MEMBERS NOT IN ATTENDANCE: Greg Trulson, Brenda Hartshorn, Tamatha Thomas-Haase, Bob Magee, Nate Isham.

Meeting called to order at 5:15 p.m. to hear applications from Betty Sherman owner of parcel 100-3930 and Stephanie Gueldner owner of parcel 100-3787 to have their taxes abated.

Ken made a motion to nominate Dan Cardozo chairman, which was seconded by Maureen. All in favor.

Stephanie Gueldner spoke to the board and explained the recent circumstances of a divorce and job loss that have put her behind in the payment of her taxes. She relayed to the board the activities of her job search and her current financial responsibilities as well as several other questions posed by the board.

Rachel testified that Ms. Gueldner had not made a payment plan for the delinquent balance due but a payment of \$1,631.49 toward the \$4,131.49 invoiced amount was made on the October due date. That leaves a principal balance of \$2,500.00 along with additional penalties of 200.00 and interest of \$150.00 for a total due of \$2,850.00.

The board went into deliberative session until the arrival of Betty Sherman. The board came out of deliberative session at 5:35 to hear the testimony of Betty Sherman. She owes the principal, interest and penalties for the tax years of 2016-17 (\$776.12) and 2017-18 (\$586.00) for a total due of \$1,362.12.

She stated that she is still in probate from the death of her husband in 2014. Her only income is her disability check. She was asked if she had any assets to sell or the ability to produce any income on the 30 acre property. Her response was to indicate she had no assets or ability to pay.

Rachel testified that Mrs. Sherman owes two years of taxes and the prior year 2015 was abated by the board. A payment plan was made but no payments were received. At 5:42 the board went into a closed deliberative session.

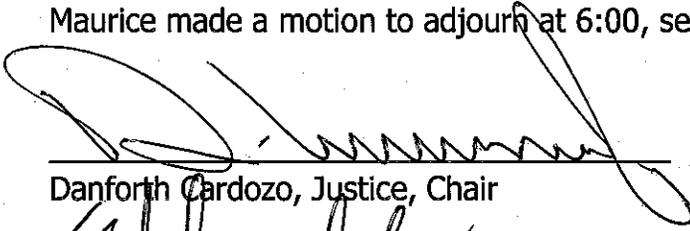
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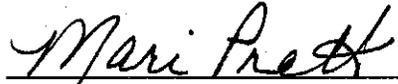
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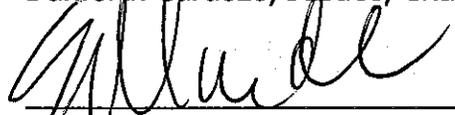
After coming out of the closed session at 5:50, Maurice made a motion to deny the request of Betty Sherman and not approve her request for the abatement of her taxes, which was seconded by Ken. All were in favor.

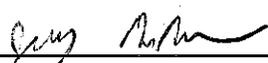
Maureen made a motion to waive the penalty and interest (\$350.00) for Ms. Gueldner with the principal of \$2,500 still being owed to the town, along with a request from the board to request that the delinquent tax collector provide additional time before going to tax sale, provided she make a payment arrangement within 30 days of receipt of the letter from the board. Seconded by Maurice. All in favor.

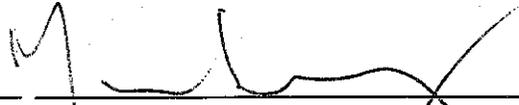
Maurice made a motion to adjourn at 6:00, seconded by Erin, All in favor.

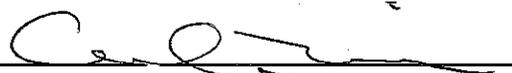

Danforth Cardozo, Justice, Chair

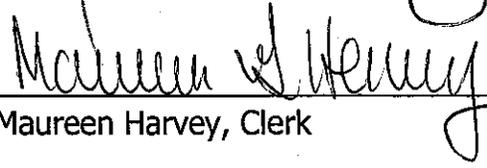

Mari Pratt, Selectboard


Erin Lander, Selectboard


Jerry McMahan, Selectboard


Maurice LaVanway, Lister/Justice

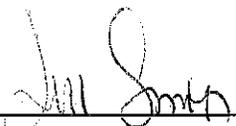

Anne Wilson, Treasurer


Maureen Harvey, Clerk


Max Popowicz, Lister


Bonnie Morse, Justice


Ken Scott, Justice


Jill Smith, Justice