

Board of Assessment Appeals

Hearing Minutes

Date: Saturday March 23rd, 2019

AndoverTown Hall – 12:00-3:00PM

Call to Order – 12:03PM

Attending: Elaine Buchardt, Georgette Conrad, Penny Auer(via conference call)

Pledge of Allegiance

Public Speak – None

First Appeal: 93 Lakeside Dr, Andover, CT Charles and Donna Arnold

Georgette and Elaine saw the improvements made to the house at 93 Lakeside Dr. A garage has been added to the front and a second floor has been added to the house effectively more than doubling the size of the house. A lot of finish work is not completed and the kitchen is not in. Since the house size and value has been increased quite a bit since it was assessed last year, the board is in agreement of that the increased assessment is warranted. Assessed for \$221000.

Penny made a motion we don't change the assessment. Georgette seconded. All in favor

Second appeal: Jeff Miner – 1998 Subaru Forester

Jeff Miner brought the car for us to see. He did not have his supplemental tax bill with him so he did not know what the amount was that he was appealing. He said it had 102,000 miles and condition was average for a car it's age. Penny checked tax records and saw the assessment was for \$817. We did not have the NADA books to check on the accuracy of that. We will look at books at our next meeting.

Third appeal: Xerox Financial Services – Carol Catalano

Carol Catalano had emailed us the description of the printer that was leased to an Andover resident. The assessors office put the printer on a depreciation schedule of 7 years grouping it under office furniture and Carol says it should be on a 4 year schedule because it is a printer that goes in that category. Carol believes the assessor made a mistake. The board will discuss at our next meeting since Xerox Financial was not at the hearing and there is a rule we cannot decrease assessments without the appellant present.

Fourth appeal: Irving Surdham Chevy S10

Irv Surdahm is appealing the fact that the board did not adjust his assessment back in September 2018. We cannot look at vehicles in the March hearings unless it is a supplemental vehicle bought after October of the prior year. We will send a letter to the Surdhams informing them of that.

Penny made a motion we don't change assessment. Georgette seconded.

All in favor

Fifth Appeal: 1 Dogwood Dr, Andover Jeff and Kim Sneller

The Snellers are appealing the increased assessment to the house for a finished basement that they had pulled a permit for. The basement is not finished. Georgette and Elaine went out the property and verified that it was not finished. We invited the Snellers to the hearings since we cannot decrease an assessment without them appearing before the board. Jeff Sneller was going to come, but emailed that he was caught up at work. Since someone needs to appear for the adjustment, we invited him to the next BAA meeting.

Sixth Appeal: 99 Townsend Rd, Andover Dennis and Carol Staba

The Stabas are appealing their assessment since their house had a fire back in April 2018. The contract has been slow in fixing the house to be liveable again. Georgette and Elaine went out to see the house and it is currently wall studs and plywood floors. It is quite a ways from done.

Pursuant to section 12-64a of the state statutes, we cannot reduce an assessment due to destruction of a home unless the house property is totally cleared and the foundation filled in. The purpose of the bill is to prevent blight situations where people don't deal with an unlivable structure because they aren't paying full taxes on it.

We will send a letter to the Staba's explaining the law.

Penny made a motion to not change the assessment. Georgette Seconded. All in favor.

Seventh Appeal: Steven Fuss 2015 Ford Explorer

Steven Fuss was scheduled to come in at 12:45PM. He did not show up. We called a few times and left a messages.

Elaine made a motion we doesn't change the assessment. Georgette seconded. All in favor

We set up a meeting to wrap things up and hear from the Snellers(1 Dogwood Lane) and Carol Catalano(Xerox Financial Services).

Adjourned 2:10PM

Minutes submitted by Elaine Buchardt

