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MINUTES: BOARD OF ABATEMENT MEETING OF OCTOBER 15, 2018

The Board of Abatement of the Town of Morristown, notified and warned, met in the Conference Room at the Municipal Office Building, 43 Portland Street in said town on Monday, October 15, 2018 at 6:30 P.M.

BOA Members present: Rhoda Bedell, Judy Bickford, Donald Blake, Charles Burnham, Julia Compagna, Eric Dodge, Claire Hindes, Brian Kellogg (Selectboard), Steve Leach, Monte Mason, Charles McArthur (Lister), Shelley Nolan, Brent Paine, Siri Rooney, Duane Sprague (Lister), Ronald Stancliff, Richard Tomlinson (Lister), Ed Wilson and Sara Haskins (Clerk)

Appellants present: Jane & Charles Peden

- The meeting was called to order at 6:30 PM.
- There were no changes or additions to the posted agenda.
- Upon motion by Richard Tomlinson and seconded by Brian Kellogg the minutes of the July 31, 2018 meeting were approved.
- Pursuant to Title 24 V.S.A § 1535, to consider abatement of real estate and personal property taxes assessed.
 - Santos & Cristina Tricomi (#09031): The appellants were not present. An abatement request form was presented asking for abatement due to property lost or destroyed during the tax year but there was no specific dollar amount requested nor was there a written narrative. The Listers stated the building was destroyed by a fire on July 28, 2018 and suggested the amount of \$1,534.42 be abated which represents the property tax amount due for eleven months of the building only. Edward Wilson made a motion to abate \$1,534.42 of the FY18-19 property taxes under abatement criteria #5-taxes upon real or personal property lost or destroyed during the tax year for Santos & Cristina Tricomi parcel ID#09031 located at 2461 VT Rte 15E. Monte Mason seconded the motion. After clarification that the amount does not include any possible homestead exemption the Board voted affirmatively to abate \$1,534.42 for parcel ID#09031.

- Jane & Charles Peden (#70114): The appellants were present and explained why they are requesting abatement along with submitting the written abatement request form and narrative. The Pedens purchased land located at 4146 Mud City Loop at tax sale in December 2015 and were awarded it in December 2016. Located on the property is a mobile home owned by Graig Smith. After months of not receiving rent from the Smiths the Court awarded the mobile home to the Pedens on June 30, 2018. The Pedens testified that the mobile home has black mold and is not habitable. In order for them to remove it from the land all property taxes must be paid in full. The Pedens requested \$1,825.56 be abated for years FY13-14, 14-15, 15-16, 16-17, 17-18 & 18-19 under criteria #2 persons who removed from the state. Brian Kellogg made a motion to go into executive session. Richard Tomlinson seconded the motion. Motion passed. Steve Leach made a motion to come out of executive session. Brian Kellogg seconded the motion. Motion passed. Julia Compagna made a motion to approve the abatement of Parcel ID#70114 as requested by Jane & Charles Peden. Eric Dodge seconded the motion. Discussion followed that although the Board was sympathetic to the situation that the abatement request doesn't not meet any of the criteria laid out for abatement. Duane Sprague called the question. Upon vote, the motion failed.

With no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:17 PM upon motion by Rhonda Bedell and seconded by Shelley Nolan.

Respectfully submitted,
Sara Haskins, Clerk- Board of Abatement