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MINUTES: BOARD OF CIVIL AUTHORITY MEETING

The Board of Civil Authority of the Town of Morristown, having been notified and warned, met at the Conference Room at the Municipal Office Building, 43 Portland Street in said town on **Thursday August 6, 2015 at 5:30 P.M.**

BCA Members: D Blake, F Favreau, P Griswold, S Leach, M Mason, S Rooney, R Stancliff, E Wilson, B Kellogg, M Smith and M A Wilson, Clerk

Listers: D Sprague, J Compagna

AGENDA:

1. Meeting called to order @ 5:43 PM by Chairman Favreau.
2. There were no changes and or additions to the posted agenda.
3. The minutes of February 19, 2015 were approved as presented upon motion.

Pursuant to Title 24 V.S.A § 1535, to consider abatement of real estate and personal property taxes assessed.

5:45 PM – Matthew Cochran (12094-04). Letter of request was presented to the board, and Mr. Cochran was present. Cochran's letter and testimony indicated that he had inherited 6 acres of land and had made improvements for a driveway and septic system. The listers testified that the property was assessed by the town at \$77,500, and no grievance had ever been filed. Due to health reasons and other personal and family expenses, Cochran has been unable to pay his property taxes. The property is currently in redemption from the 2014 tax sale. He has requested that \$7,912.45 be abated. The board went into deliberative session. After coming out, a motion was made and seconded to abate \$7,912.45 in delinquent taxes under Title 24, VSA 1535 (3). The motion fail and abatement is denied.

6:00 PM – Lorraine Miller/Two Sisters Invest (23241-0152). Abatement request withdrawn.

6:15 PM – Pamela Sachs (11038). Letter of request was presented to the board. Appellant was not present. The request stated that Geoffrey Sachs who normally looked after the tax payments, passed away in October 2014. Payment of the property tax bill for the second installment due May 2015 was overlooked, resulting in an 8% penalty. The abatement request asked the BCA to waive the penalty of \$499.28. Motion was made and seconded to abate \$499.28. There being no criteria to abate under state statute 24 VSA 1535, the motion failed, and abatement was denied.

6:30 PM - Misc. abatements of \$9.67 (small amounts due). Clerk Wilson presented this for abatement. These tax amounts were due to tax payments crossing in the mail or checks being written for a slightly incorrect amount and thus acquiring penalty and interest. These small amounts need to be written off as abated taxes. Upon motion, the board voted to abate the taxes, interest and penalty of \$9.67. See attached accounts.

5. The BCA reviewed the voter checklist in preparation of the Biennial Purge - 17 VSA 2150(d). The staff in the town clerk's office has methodically assessed each voter. The BCA confirmed the names to be challenged. Upon motion and a second, the BCA voted affirmatively to proceed with the biennial purge process and allow the town clerk to finalize the purge and report the findings to the Secretary of State's Office by September 20, 2015.
6. With no other business to come before the board, the meeting was adjourned upon motion at 7:47 PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Mary Ann Wilson, Clerk
Board of Civil Authority