

Town of Isle La Motte  
Board of Abatement  
December 20, 2016  
Town Hall/5:00 PM

Members present: Betty Lockerby/Justice of the Peace, Chair, Cathy Tudhope/Justice of the Peace, Sylvia Jensen/Justice of the Peace, Steve Stata/Selectman, Rustam Spaulding/Selectman, Selby Turner/Selectman, Michele Murray/Clerk-Treasurer, Debbie Spaulding/Lister, Louise Koss/Lister, Mary LaBrecque/Lister & Delinquent Tax Collector

Others present: Martin Jensen

The meeting was called to order on December 20, 2016 at 5:00 PM, by Betty Lockerby, Chair.

1. Request for abatement of Taxes-Martin Jensen
  - a. Review documentation requested from Martin Jensen

Martin Jensen provided the board with wages and expenses for which the board reviewed.

Rusty Spaulding had discussion; the purpose of this abatement meeting is to determine inability to pay property taxes.

Sylvia Jensen had discussion; Martin has provided the board with financial information as per the Board of Abatement request of November 9, 2016.

Debbie Spaulding had discussion; asked Martin Jensen if he had made any attempt to pay anything on his taxes?

Martin Jensen answer; no, have been waiting for this meeting. Mr. Jensen does not agree with the appraisal amount of his property.

Debbie Spaulding had discussion; this is not a meeting for which a reappraisal for Mr. Martin's property would be addressed. This is done at a grievance meeting in the spring/early summer.

Steve Stata had discussion; asked Mr. Jensen if he was requesting abatement of his taxes under the "inability to pay" now, how can the taxes be afforded next year?

Martin Jensen answer; will have a whole year to pay the taxes and is asking only for a reduction in the amount.

Louise Koss had discussion; was a title search done?

Sylvia Jensen; answer, yes

\$100 was paid by the bank for a portion of the property taxes.

Louise Koss had discussion; the education portion is from July 1<sup>st</sup> thru July 31<sup>st</sup> and the municipal portion would be from January 1<sup>st</sup> through July 1<sup>st</sup>. The \$100 the bank paid for taxes was most likely prorated with these dates in mind.

Selby Turner had discussion; asked Mr. Jensen if he would be able to pay \$166 per month for his back taxes.

Martin Jensen; answer, yes

Steve Stata had discussion; question to Mr. Jensen; many people that live here live paycheck to paycheck and their taxes still get paid. Why is your situation different?  
Martin Jensen; answer, I have only had a few weeks to pay the taxes.

Debbie Spaulding had discussion; the listers will be visiting Mr. Martin's property in the spring.

The board had no more questions for Mr. Jensen.

2. Request of abatements from the Isle La Motte Listers

Debbie Spaulding and Mary LaBrecque had discussion;

Property taxes to be abated are as follows:

\$70.10 for Longpre, left early summer of 2016 forgot to remove from Grand List

\$278.48 for Nancy Jauvin, property is gone from Lakehurst

\$77.80 for Sam Higgins, property is gone from Lakehurst

\$262.90 for John Mcgarghan, removed the trailer

\$65.00 for small claims fees, Dennis Morgan, could not find this person

\$42.84 Penny Knapp this is a duplicate, abate one parcel

\$177.22 Stephen Fougere from Sunset Rock, can't find this person

\$165.52 Ron Murray, gone and can't find

\$1,488.72 Masonic Temple, this should of not been billed at all.

**Spaulding made a motion to abate the fore-mentioned taxes, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Turner, all in favor.**

Sylvia Jensen requested that the documents that Martin Jensen provided be shredded or returned. The documents were returned to Mr. Jensen.

Sylvia Jensen recused herself from the Board of Abatement decision of Mr. Jensen.

Sylvia and Martin Jensen left the meeting.

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Board had discussion on abatement of Martin Jensen's property taxes.

**Betty Lockerby made the motion that, the board agreed this situation does not meet the criteria and the board is not willing to set this precedent, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Rustam Spaulding, all in favor.**

**Spaulding made a motion to adjourn at 5:45 PM, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Lousie Koss, all in favor.**

Respectfully submitted: Michele Murray-Isle La Motte Town Clerk