

***Town of Montgomery***  
***Board of Abatement Hearing***  
***Monday, March 15th 2021 @ 5:30 PM***  
***Via Zoom Conference call***  
***Unapproved Meeting Minutes***

Abatement members present: Charlie Hancock, Mark Brouillette, Suzanne Dollois, Lynda Cluba, Liz Reighley, Erin Kopacz, Wendy Howard, Genevieve Lodal-Guild, Patty Hathaway, Christina Suarez, Leanne Barnard, Sue Wilson

Appellant(s): Edward Haddad    Visitor(s): Anita Woodward, DTC

Charlie called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

1. **Review / make changes to the agenda.** No changes or additions.
2. **Consider / act on abating the balance of the taxes, penalties, and/or interest (or a portion thereof) on the request of the Taxpayer, Town Treasurer, or Delinquent Tax Collector, on the following parcels:**
  - a. **Parcel ID 00019.068X Nina Haddad 2869 Amidon Road-**

Charlie began the hearing by giving a brief description of the role of the board and the capacity in which members may consider abatement requests under statutory reasons. Prior to discussion Christina Suarez stated for the record, as disclosure for all present, that a member of her family had Nina as a client in the past while operating their property management company. Hearing no other disclosures or any member indicating recusal from the case Charlie opened the floor to Mr. Haddad, presenting this request on behalf of Nina, to give his testimony before the board members. Mr. Haddad gave a brief description of the basis for which this request was made. This request for abatement falls under the third category under statutory criteria: “Taxes of persons who are unable to pay their taxes, interest, and collection fees. 24 V.S.A. §1535(a)(3)”.

Documents presented to the board members included the tax bill, lister card, and abatement application for review. After the period of appellant testimony Charlie opened up the floor to board members. Members were given the chance to ask questions about the total amount due/or paid in taxes for the 2020 billing cycle, Anita Woodward clarified that the first two tax installments, including penalty and interest, were paid prior to the year end by Mr. Haddad. The final May installment is still currently due. Sue Wilson indicated the tax bill is currently billed to Nina under the non-residential education tax rate, it was clarified that this property is indeed Nina’s primary residence, information regarding filing tax documents was discussed. Members asked what measures were currently being taken for now and in the future for Ms. Haddad to pay her tax liabilities. Discussion ensued, after which Charlie thanked Mr. Haddad for his time, he was then asked to exit the zoom call in order for the board to deliberate.

Wendy motioned, and was seconded, to enter into a deliberative session at 5:59pm. Mark motioned, and was seconded, to come out of session at 6:10pm. Mark motioned to deny the request for abatement for Nina Haddad, parcel ID 00019.068X, he was seconded by Patty. Motion passed in favor of the denial 11 aye-1 nay-0 abstentions. Hearing no other comment or questions the board will issue the written decision within fifteen (15) days. A motion to end the meeting was given by Patty, seconded by Christina, and the board adjourned at 6:15pm

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth Reighley, Clerk of the Board of Abatement