

BOARD OF CIVIL AUTHORITY

June 25, 2019

TAX APPEAL HEARINGS

Board of Civil Authority Chair Del Cook called the meeting to order at 6:15 pm. Members present were Seth Clifford, Sally Cook, Marge Munger, Laura Peterson, John Peterson, Joan Thomas, Kathy Clark, and Clerk Susan Gage.

Others present: Dolores Furnari from the Assessors' office.

Appellant Jonathan Blake was not present for the hearing.

All members were sworn in under the BCA Oath of Office. Mr. Cook ensured that members had no conflicts of interest nor participated in any ex parte communications.

The following tax appeal was heard:

1. Jonathan Blake: Parcel 0081-0803; 803 Wheeler Rd; Tax Map 07-01-57; Dwl & 1.7 Acres

Ms. Gage passed around the letter of appeal from Mr. Blake, and entered same as Exhibit A. Mr. Cook swore in Dolores Furnari, representing the Assessors. Mr. Cook then asked Ms. Furnari to introduce the property. Ms. Furnari offered the board copies of the cost sheet for the property, which the Clerk entered as Exhibit B. Ms. Furnari indicated that Mr. Blake purchased the property after it was foreclosed in March of 2019 for \$61,750. She also furnished photographs which Mr. Blake supplied at the grievance hearing. Ms. Gage entered the photographs as Exhibit C. Ms. Furnari stated that Mr. Blake felt the property was over assessed based on its condition. Ms. Furnari indicated that following grievance, the property condition was changed from Average to Fair/Average resulting in an increase in physical depreciation on the dwelling from 23% to 33% translating to a change in assessment from \$159,400 to \$144,500, a reduction of \$14,900. Mr. Blake in his letter of appeal stated that he believed the property value should not exceed \$120,000. He did not offer additional evidence supporting this claim.

Mr. Cook then formed an inspection committee with members Joan Thomas, Marge Munger and Laura Peterson. In the absence of Mr. Blake, Ms. Gage stated that we should establish a date and time for the inspection, and inform Mr. Blake. The inspection will commence on Monday, July 8, at 10:00 am.

The BCA members present will reconvene on July 23rd at 6:00 pm to hear the inspection report and to deliberate a decision. Additional testimony may be taken at this second meeting. Meeting was recessed at 6:35 pm.

Del Cook, BCA Chairman

Susan Gage, Clerk

Attachment: Exhibit A – Letter of Appeal – Appellant; Exhibit B – Lister Card – Assessor; Exhibit C – Photographs of interior of property – Appellant, presented by Assessor