

DECREE

WALDO, SS.

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS COURT
PETITION # 343
January 13, 2009 ADJOURNED SESSION
TO WIT: JANUARY 20, 2009

LEWIS & CATHY BROWN VS. TOWN OF BELMONT:

On January 13, 2009, at 9:55 a.m., Waldo County Commissioners Donald P. Berry, Sr., Chairman; Amy R. Fowler and William D. Shorey, held a tax abatement hearing at the request of Plaintiff Lewis and Cathy Brown regarding their property on Map 1, Lot 4 in Belmont, Maine. Present with the Commissioners was Petitioner Lewis and Cathy Brown of Brooks and Defendants Town of Belmont Selectmen Barbara Bubar, 1st Selectmen and Sharon Reed-Hall, 2nd Selectmen. Recording the minutes was County Clerk Barbara Arseneau, assisted by Deputy County Clerk Veronica Stover.

Commissioner Donald Berry, Sr. opened the hearing by reading the rules of the proceedings and swearing in the Petitioner and Defendants.

Petitioner Cathy Brown claimed that her property was too small, not accessible by vehicles and too close to the water to build on according to State and town laws. C. Brown requested an abatement because she felt this did not constitute a “phantom” house lot.

Defendants Town of Belmont Selectmen explained that the Selectmen had denied the original abatement request because the land valuation had been increased from \$3,000.00 for a “phantom” (base) lot to \$8,500.00. There was explanation on what constitutes a “phantom” or base lot. This increase was done across the board with all land in Belmont without exception.

After hearing the testimonies of the Plaintiffs and Defendants and examining the evidence before them, the Waldo County Commissioners voted as follows:

Commissioner D. Berry, Sr. excused himself from voting, as he is on the Appeals board for the Town of Belmont.

****A. Fowler moved, W. Shorey seconded to deny the Petitioners abatement request. The motion passed with 2 in favor and 1 abstention (D. Berry, Sr.).**

Signed this Twentieth day of January, 2009 by the Waldo County Commissioners:

Donald P. Berry, Sr., Chairman

Amy R. Fowler, Associate

William D. Shorey, Associate

Attest: _____
Barbara L. Arseneau, Waldo County Clerk