

**WALDO COUNTY COMMISSIONERS COURT SESSION
TAX ABATEMENT HEARING PETITION NO. 374
GLENN MARTIN VS. TOWN MONTVILLE
RECONVENED FOR DELIBERATIONS
MAY 22, 2018**

PRESENT: Commissioners William D. Shorey (Chairman), Amy R. Fowler and Betty I. Johnson, County Clerk Barbara Arseneau, and Assistant County Clerk Lynn Patten.

Commissioner Shorey called the meeting to order at 2:20 P.M.

W. Shorey: Petition #374 Glenn Martin. The deal where there is a question between storage trailer and how you define the storage trailer because a trailer could be a storage trailer with wheels, without wheels, anything you want.

B. Johnson: Again, it goes to the same thing; you do for one and you do for all. And I think Montville is having a real problem with this and I take it that they are going to look into some of this stuff that was brought up to them; and that next year the taxation will look different and will be treated more as if you do for one, you do for others. I think it was kind of an eye opener for them a little bit and I think they also pretty much realized that they've goofed. I feel, that the taxation whether it's real or not just make sure that you do it for everybody the same way. To me it is kind of like a building so it could be real because you figure like a mobile home and that type of thing, and it is used for some purpose on that land that is something that you are not going to move all the time. So, I agree with the real estate type one. But I still feel that there is not the fairness throughout the town. And that was one of the major things that was being brought up is that. I know he was saying that he thought it should be personal and all that stuff, but I think the bottom line was that "I'm being treated differently than others". I think, you know, (unintelligible) I would say to give an abatement . . . I don't know what exactly he is asking for in an amount . . .

W. Shorey: No, he says that he wants the amounts that he won't have to pay, they can't take it for unpaid taxes as a personal property, that his statement on his application.

B. Johnson: Right. But he did say (didn't finish that sentence). I wouldn't give the full amount, but I would give some type of an abatement to say, "okay, let's have some fairness in town". Because if there is fairness next year when they tax other people, then yeah okay, "this is what you're being taxed for, because other people are being taxed for it too". But, I wouldn't give him the full amount, you know, he'll have to live with the fact that next year will be however they do the other ones. So if they do the other ones as personal property, then his needs to be; if they do the other ones as real property, then that's what he'll have to do too. That's my thoughts. I just think that it's been very wishy washy in the whole town, and it is obvious when you see trailers that, you know, they showed these trailers that they go by all the time; they obviously knew were there, but did not do anything about them.

W. Shorey: Well they showed a picture of the Rancourt trailer that had a registration that expired in 2016.

B. Johnson: But it's still there.

W. Shorey: It's still there, that's the point I am making. It could easily be two years before a selectman noticed that or three years.

B. Johnson: I mean, if they're going around, you know, doing assessing then they should be assessing. And everybody not a skip here and a skip there, you know, don't just spot check.

W. Shorey: Oh I don't know if they're skipping, Commissioner Johnson, I don't know that they are wishy washy, I think they are doing a job that is difficult to do, and it, like most towns, it has a wide window of variances. Because take any town, go down the street and knock on doors and see how many people are happy with their valuations. So, I'm going to oppose this one also.

A. Fowler: Well, she hasn't made a motion yet, so just hang on. As I say, Betty brings up a good point again, because *again* this was the thing, remember way back when we had a trailer that people were living in that you could throw a cat through the wall, but they were being assessed this ridiculous number . . .

W. Shorey: Yes, Brooks.

A. Fowler: But it turns out everybody was being assessed that same ridiculous number. So even though we were like "you've got to be kidding me" My only problem with what you're saying Betty, is to not assess the value they currently list it at, which is \$1,657.00 is what they say this worth, I would be no better than what they are doing by saying more less, because I don't know what the value is

B. Johnson: Right, well I don't either, I am just saying they did say it was for storage and it was assessed as real. But there is also the discrimination or the unfairness . . .

A. Fowler: Oh and they admitted that there were people that they hadn't got.

B. Johnson: And they were glad to hear about these people, and all that stuff; and it sounds like, okay next year a lot of people are going to be assessed with some property tax. That's fine. Next year if you want to do that, then you do it, but you do it fairly and this year it was not done fairly; and that's my whole point. And it's not going to break their bank. I have no idea how much the assessed

A. Fowler: It figures out to be \$32.34; I am just trying to figure out how to word it.

****A. Fowler moved, B. Johnson seconded that due to the inconsistencies in how the Town of Montville assesses box cargo trailers, the Commissioners find in favor of Glenn W. Martin's request for abatement in the amount of \$32.34. Passed with two in favor, W. Shorey opposed.**

****A. Fowler moved, B. Johnson seconded to close the reconvened hearing at 2:26 p.m. Unanimous.**

Respectfully submitted by



Waldo County Assistant Clerk