

TAX ABATEMENT REVIEW BOARD

Greene County, Pennsylvania

93 East High Street
County Office Building
Waynesburg, PA 15370

(724) 852-5300

MEETING MINUTES

August 14, 2020 at 8:00 AM

County Office Building- 2nd Floor Conference Room

CALL TO ORDER- The meeting was called to order by Mr. Mariner at 8:00 AM.

ROLL CALL- The following were in attendance: John Mariner, Melissa Kalsey, Fred Clark, Corbly Orndorff, Joe Orr (via webex), and staff members Austin F. McDaniel and Jeremy L. Kelly were present.

APPROVAL OF THE JUNE 12, 2020 MEETING MINUTES- Mr. Clark made a motion to approve the meeting minutes as presented and it was seconded by Ms. Kalsey. All were in favor and the motion passed unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS- N/A

NEW BUSINESS/ NEW APPLICATIONS

3 YEAR APPLICATIONS-

Mr. Mariner asked for a motion to approve the following abatement for the years 2020, 2021 and 2022. Ms. Kalsey made the motion and it was seconded by Mr. Orr to consider the one application in the list provided. All were in favor and the motion passed unanimously.

Years 2020, 2021, 2022

#	NAME, Last	NAME, First	Date of Application	Municipality	School District	Applying For	Permit Date
1	Simpson	Donna	7/21/2020	Wayne	Central Greene	new home	4/18/2019

Mr. Mariner asked for a motion to approve the following abatement for the years 2021, 2022, 2023. Mr. Orndorff made the motion and it was seconded by Mr. Orr to consider the twelve applications in the list provided. All were in favor and the motion passed unanimously.

Years 2021, 2022, 2023

#	NAME, Last	NAME, First	Date of Application	Municipality	School District	Applying For	Permit Date
1	Creighton	Barbara	6/12/2020	Jefferson	Jefferson Morgan	shed	6/8/2020
2	Brosovich	William	6/19/2020	Franklin	Central Greene	new home	6/12/2020
3	Eddy	Donald	6/23/2020	Franklin	Central Greene	storage building	6/23/2020
4	Kozel	Kelly	6/25/2020	Cumberland	Carmichaels	garage	6/16/2020
5	Wilson III	Ralph	6/30/2020	Franklin	Central Greene	new home	6/22/2020

6	Bazzoli and White	Lynn and Kelly	7/1/2020	Jefferson	Jefferson Morgan	new home	4/1/2020
7	Gray	Chad E. and Judy L.	7/2/2020	Center	West Greene	addition	5/21/2020
8	Martin	Brenden T.	7/8/2020	Dunkard	South Eastern Greene	new home	6/3/2020
9	Clayton-Gonzalez	Wendy	7/17/2020	Jackson	West Greene	new cabin	3/6/2020
10	Varner	Linda	7/27/2020	Franklin	Central Greene	addition	7/21/2020
11	Barnes	William	7/28/2020	Franklin	Central Greene	addition	7/10/2020
12	Thorne	Margaret	8/4/2020	Franklin	Central Greene	deck	7/31/2020

5 YEAR APPLICATIONS-

Mr. Mariner asked for a motion to approve the following abatement for the years 2021, 2022, 2023. Ms. Kalsey made the motion and it was seconded by Mr. Clark to consider the one application in the list provided. All were in favor and the motion passed unanimously.

Years 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024 and 2025

#	<u>NAME, Last</u>	<u>NAME, First</u>	<u>Date of Application</u>	<u>Municipality</u>	<u>School District</u>	<u>Applying For</u>	<u>Permit Date</u>
1	Hickman Jr.	David	6/12/2020	Franklin	Central Greene	ag building	6/11/2020

ISSUES-

Mr. Kelly mentioned that a citizens group is wanting the County to look into a 10-year Tax Abatement process that would increase taxes in 10% increments annually on structures that approved for abatement. Mr. Kelly raised a concern with the request proposed since labor time in the Assessment Office would increase drastically with the model proposed.

Mr. Orndorff noted that Franklin Township is declining in new home building. Mr. Orndorff stated that the citizens group is trying to figure out how to renew the system for estimated costs by applying the common level ratio to it.

Mr. Orr explained the taxes are not the issue in our county but it's the availability of buildable land in respect to sewage and utilities. Mr. Orr explained that many individuals do not want to put in a septic system or water system and that individuals want to have a move-in ready sites available to them.

Mr. Orndorff explained that he thought the taxes were the issue and explained that there were several "shovel" ready sites in Franklin township that needed pursued. Mr. Orndorff explained that since the "shovel" ready sites have water and septic, roads can be built to accommodate those areas.

Mr. Kelly explained that the Commissioners were pursuing a housing summit and that the County could benefit from knowing where the "shovel" ready sites are located and what type of amenities they have.

Mr. Clark mentioned that he was in favor of the 5-year tax abatement process that gradually increased 20% over the duration of the abatement. Mr. Clark said that the 5-year process would give the school districts a realistic number of tax revenue coming in and that the 5-year process would give equal treatment to all structures in respect to Agriculture, Commercial and Residential.

Mr. Mariner brought up the issue of individuals changing the use of their property from barns to houses.

Mr. Kelly responded by saying that the issue of structure usage will need to be addressed in the ordinance re-write as individuals are finding creative ways to avoid paying taxes on structures.

NEXT MEETING - Mr. Mariner announced that the next meeting of the Tax Abatement Review Board is Friday, October 9, 2020 @ 8:00 AM Second Floor Conference Room.

ADJOURNMENT - Ms. Kalsey made the motion to adjourn and it was seconded by Mr. Orr.