

DECREE

WALDO, SS.

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS COURT
PETITION # 361
DECEMBER 11, 2012 ADJOURNED SESSION
TO WIT: DECEMBER 13, 2012

DEBRAJEAN SCHEIBEL VS. TOWN OF BURNHAM

On December 11, 2012, 1:30 p.m., Waldo County Commissioners William D. Shorey (Chairman), Amy R. Fowler and Betty I. Johnson held a tax abatement appeal hearing at the request of Plaintiff Debrajean Scheibel regarding her property at 160 Oakwood Lane in Burnham, Maine. Present with the Commissioners were Petitioner Debrajean Scheibel with her husband, John Wilson, along with Defendant Town of Burnham Selectmen Bruce Cook, Stuart Huff and Town of Burnham Assessor's Agent Matthew Clark. Also present was Deputy County Clerk Linda Kinney. Recording the minutes was County Clerk Barbara Arseneau.

Commissioner William D. Shorey opened the hearing by reading the rules of the proceedings and swearing in the Petitioner and Defendants. He also stated that after the Commissioners have made a decision, which may or may not be the same day as the hearing, either party may appeal this decision to the Superior Court of the State of Maine in accordance with the Maine Revised Statutes Annotated Title 36, §844 and the Maine Rules of Civil Procedure, Rule 80B. Commissioner Shorey asked the Petitioner to speak first.

Petitioner Debrajean Scheibel stated that she feels that there are discrepancies in the way property is assessed in the Town of Burnham. She appreciates that taxes need to be paid and is happy to pay taxes but feels there needs to be equity and a methodology for how things are assessed. This property is under water 10 months out of the year. She and her husband asked for clarification on how the property is assessed in comparison with other properties on this lake.

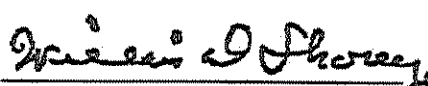
Town of Burnham Assessor's Agent Matt Caldwell provided both the Plaintiffs and Commissioners with folders containing copies of maps and information on home valuations near the Plaintiff's property. He proceeded to explain the valuation process in detail and provided answers to the questions of the Plaintiffs.

After discussion, it was deemed that there was a lack of communication between the parties involved. Commissioner Shorey thought that perhaps the Town could have resolved the matter with the Plaintiff prior to it coming to this meeting. The Commissioners encouraged the Town to work with the Plaintiffs and for all to communicate better in the future.

Following a brief discussion, the Commissioners voted as follows:

****A. Fowler moved, B. Johnson seconded to deny the appeal as requested. Passed with one opposed, W. Shorey.**

Signed this Thirteenth Day of December, 2012 by the Board of Waldo County Commissioners:



William D. Shorey, Chairman



Amy R. Fowler, Associate



Betty L. Johnson, Associate

Attest: _____
Barbara L. Arseneau, Waldo County Clerk