

Board of Assessors

May 23, 2000 - **Minutes**

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PRESENT: Assessor Peter S. Barney, Chairman, Assessor Marty Treadup, Clerk, Assessor Robert Pacheco, Norman A. Bergeron, Administrative Assistant, Marianna M. Penha, Recording Clerk.

Meeting called to order at 9:03 A.M.

Assessor Barney: We have been notified by the City Treasurer and the Assistant Collector that a number of Personal Property accounts for various years are uncollectible. The Assessors are allowed to abate them. The total amount is \$25,078.42, broken down as follows:

1997	\$ 97.03	1993	\$3,725.88
1996	\$ 297.00	1992	\$4,213.73
1995	\$3,043.11	1991	\$2,884.96
1994	\$5,396.82	1990	\$3,118.30
1989	\$2,801.59		

Assessor Treadup: Move to abate as recommended and submitted by the Tax Collector.

Assessor Pacheco: Second.

All in favor? "Aye"

Assessor Barney: I would like to call your attention to two items in the Assessment Journal this week. In the state of Pennsylvania the commonwealth court denied taxpayers appeals based on the fact that an illegal champertous arrangement existed with respect to a contingency fee agreement between the taxpayers and the tax consultant who financed the appeals with his own funds after obtaining power of attorney. This could be going on with a couple of our tax reps who basically finance the appeals without approval of the taxpayer, which means they are a third party with no vested interest.

The other item was a Personal Property article on "Polyethylene greenhouses." It was contested that these were personal property and not real estate and the court of appeals ruled that greenhouses were clearly annexed to the real estate both by gravity and bolts embedded in concrete.

Assessor Barney: Mr. Bergeron, do you have anything to add today?

N. Bergeron: We are still going through the hoops with Civil Service regarding the new employee.

We have met with each of the staff members and gone over what we propose for changes, but that is still up in the air pending a new employee coming on board. We are still at the same number of employees even with the new employee coming in, because of Dolores retiring. The new employee is replacing somebody who we dispensed with at the end of last July.

Assessor Treadup: Move to adjourn.

Assessor Barney: Second.

All in favor? "Aye"

Meeting adjourned at 9:12 A.M.

Marty Treadup, Clerk