

**NEWTOWN BOARD OF ASSESSMENT APPEALS REGULAR MEETING
MEETING ROOM 3 – REMOTE PARTICIPATION
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 2020**

MINUTES

PRESENT: Alex Villamil, Brynn Cullen and Charles Gardner

CALL TO ORDER: Mr. Villamil called the meeting to order at 6:25 pm.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: None

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Mr. Villamil announced that the Board of Assessment Appeals will hold a special meeting on Tuesday, September 15, 2020.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

Discussion and Possible Action:

Conduct Hearings for Scheduled Applicants Regarding Appeals of Motor Vehicle Assessments:

- **Madeline Bunt** – 2009 Toyota Matrix

Ms. Bunt reviewed her vehicle and shared photos. She stated that she has been negligent in taking care of the vehicle, seats scratched up, etc. It has low mileage and she believes it is not worth more than \$2,000. She has owned Toyotas for many years and this is the only model that has had several recalls. The Board will deliberate and make a final decision in the coming week.

- **Mergim Bajraliu** – 2018 Nissan Versa

Mr. Bajraliu confirmed that this vehicle is the basic model with automatic transmission. It has high mileage, with extensive external and internal damage. He believes it should be assessed at closer to \$4,500. He provided photos and maintenance paperwork. The Board will deliberate and make a final decision in the coming week.

- **Alberta Bajraliu** – 2018 Honda HR-V

Mr. Mergim Bajraliu spoke on behalf of Ms. Bajraliu. He provided photos and a Kelley Blue Book comparison. He noted that Ms. Bajraliu has not maintained the vehicle well. It requires a lot of maintenance and has extensive exterior damage. The Board will deliberate and make a final decision in the coming week.

- **Pirone Construction LLC / Jeff Pirone** – 2017 Haulmark Trailer

Mr. Pirone stated that he purchased this trailer for \$3,116.70 brand new out of state. He provided his bill of sale from 2016. He believes the assessed value of \$7,670 is 120% more than the original new purchase price. The Board will further review, compare to other trailers and make a final decision in the coming week.

• **Brenda Cameron** – 2004 Toyota Sienna

Ms. Cameron feels the assessment given of \$3,340 is too high and it is actually worth \$2,300 based on Kelley Blue Book online. Mr. Villamil reminded her that we use NADA values to base our assessments. The vehicle has 163,000 miles and requires maintenance. Ms. Cameron shared a recent maintenance order showing the work that needs to be done. The Board will deliberate and make a final decision in the coming week.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

The Good Earth Tree Care Company – Mr. Villamil reported on his findings from researching further. He noted that with trailers, there is not a tractor trailer NADA book. The assessment is taken from the NADA truck book, or from researching comparables found online. In regards from the April 2020 BAA ruling on the two Kenworth vehicles, the change is not reflected on this current Grand List. That previous approved change was made to a partial year supplemental bill and should not be referenced for this ruling.

Mariann Adams – Mr. Villamil learned from the Assessor's office that all personal property that is not declared by the taxpayer is automatically assessed at \$10,000.

Douglas Fuchs – A vehicle can retain its value and because this vehicle is newer and hybrid, it is possible to hold the value year after year. The NADA numbers are derived from sales.

Shawn Kasak – The same argument as above can be applied unless high mileage reports can be provided.

Regarding mileage, the Assessor cannot deduct based on mileage unless the taxpayer can provide documentation as close to October 1st as possible.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business, Mr. Villamil moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 p.m. Seconded by Ms. Cullen. All in favor.

*Respectfully submitted,
Rina Quijano, Clerk*

**THESE MINUTES ARE SUBJECT TO APPROVAL BY THE BOARD OF ASSESSMENT APPEALS
AT THE NEXT MEETING.**