

2023 Hopewell VA Board of Equalization

Board Members:

Billie Glass (Chairperson)

Misty Pippin (Secretary)

Rosalyn Wiggins

Kathy Heimbuch

Assessor's Office

Jason Cowan, Interim Assessor

Terry Born, Assessor

Vickie Akremi, Appraiser

Diana Samsal, Contract Appraiser

Minutes of Meeting

Monday July 25, 2023

6:00-8:30 pm

Hopewell Fire Station One

200 Hopewell ST, Hopewell, VA 23860

Call to order: Billie Glass called the meeting to order at 6:03 PM

Roll Call: All members were in attendance.

Old Business: None at this time, Staff will be making a site visit to Burton property.

New Business:

First case: 020-0055 309 Sunset Circle Timothy & Pauline Mulaniff

Reason for appeal is the assessment was too high.

Owners stated that all of the window need replacing. Stating weights are missing, some are broken and others are fogged up. The garage is rotted and needs to repaired or torn down. The neighborhood has turned into a rental properties and there are hoarders on both sides. They don't cut the grass or maintain the properties.

Jason commented on garage condition and stated it was reduced during informal hearings. Recommended no other changes than the heat & ac.

The board had no additional questions for the owners. It was determined that the value after correcting the heat/ac the value is \$120,300

Billie Glass made a motion to uphold the assessor's new value of \$120,300. Misty Pippins seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Their concern is that the value was lowered from \$40,000.

Jason explained that is zoned R-3 and not B-2 which caused the change in value. And that when the property changed hands it was noticed that the zoning was not reflected in the value. Since the building was demoed and it is no longer used by the drycleaners the value needed to reflect the actual zoning.

Jason stated if they wanted a refund on the taxes that they paid at the commercial value that is possible and explained the process to do so.

Billie Glass made a motion to uphold the assessor's value of \$19,500. Kathy Heimbuch seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Fifth case: 014-0900 **207 S Mesa Dr.** Michael & Bonnie Griffith

Mr. Griffith stated that he has done no work to his house but the neighbors have done significant improvements. His value has increased by \$84,000. He ask Jason what he made and if he got a bonus if he came up with additional value. Jason informed him that it would be illegal for him to do so. He did have an informal hearing. He feels that the increase is excessive and he does not qualify for any benefits. He thinks it should be \$175,000-180,000.

Jason stated that we value the property based on qualified sales. Neighborhood 6 had 135 sales. The assessment level was 65% initially. His is assessed at \$100/SF newer window, roof is good on house. Real estate taxes are voluntary because you don't have to own property. City council voted to not lower the tax rate.

Billie Glass made a motion to uphold the assessor's value of \$207,300. Rosalyn Wiggins seconded the motion. Motion carried

Sixth case: 073-0710 **1510 Delaware** Lawana Peterson

Mrs. Peterson did not appear for her hearing.

Billie Glass made a motion to uphold the assessor's value of \$173,600. Rosalyn Wiggins seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Meeting was adjourned by Billie Glass at 7:51

Minutes approved by:

Billie Glass, Chairperson Billie S Glass Date 8/30/2023

Misty Pippin, Secretary Misty Pippin Date 8/30/2023