

In Re: Barnstead Petition for Reassessment

Docket No.: 18263-00RA

ORDER

On October 16, 2000, the board held a preliminary show-cause hearing to receive testimony and evidence as to the “Town’s” immediate and long-term plans for reassessment. Present were several Town officials and contracted assessor, the lead petitioners’ attorney and other “Taxpayers”. The Town stated it had immediate plans to increase the assessments on waterfront-property by 15% for tax year 2000. Further, the Town stated it had decided to speed up its plans for a total reassessment to be completed for tax year 2002. Most Taxpayers urged that the total reassessment be completed by 2001 to ensure that an equitable baseline exists prior to any further stratified increases in assessments.

As stated from the bench, the board will proceed under TAX 208.05 and have its review appraiser perform an assessment-to-sales ratio study and submit a report. After considering the testimony received at the October 16, 2000 preliminary hearing and after receipt of the report, the board will schedule a show-cause hearing to determine whether it should order a reassessment under its RSA 71-B:16, IV authority. The board anticipates the report, hearing and subsequent order will be completed prior to the Town’s 2001 town meeting. While the board chooses not to assert its RSA 71-B authority for tax year 2000, the board points out that

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individual taxpayers have a remedy, either under RSA 76:16, 16-a or 17 to appeal their own assessment, or under RSA 71-B:16, I to appeal the assessment of another taxpayer.

SO ORDERED.

BOARD OF TAX AND LAND APPEALS

Paul B. Franklin, Chairman

Douglas S. Ricard, Member

Albert F. Shamash, Esq., Member

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that copies of the foregoing order have this date been mailed, postage prepaid, to the Chairman, Selectmen of Barnstead; Roy W. Tilsley, Jr., Esq., Counsel for George Fitzpatrick, Lead Petitioner; Taxpayer, 82 Winwood Drive, Center Barnstead; Joanne Heger and Karl E. Bahr, Interested Parties.

Dated: October 30, 2000

Lynn M. Wheeler, Clerk