

Board of Assessment Appeals  
September 17, 2016  
Motor Vehicle BAA Session  
Minutes

Attendance: BAA members David Sinish, Margo Espinosa and Joe Pelehach  
Petition property owners: Michael Espinosa, Katherine Black and James Fuller, Valentine Stachowski  
Petition no-show property owners: Steve Bagnaschi, Lisa Scribner, Mark Ottmann

The BAA session began at 9:00 a.m.

**Michael Espinosa**

Mr. Espinosa took the oath to tell the truth as given by David Sinish. Mr. Espinosa is appealing the tax assessment on his 2000 Nissan Frontier of \$3,590; he estimates the value at \$2,544. He provided several copies of documentation including the motor vehicle tax bill 2016, NADA values (as of 7/4/16), Kelly Blue Book pricing report (dated 6/28/16) and Edmunds.com (as of 6/28/16). In addition, he brought the vehicle to Canton Town Hall for inspection by the BAA due to the condition of the vehicle. There was discussion about the documentation including NADA's listing the vehicle as a 6-cyl (there is no 4-cyl option, which is what the Frontier is) and whether that had an impact on the value. It was verified that the tax bill had the correct information and that the assessed value is for the Grand List as of 10/1/15, not as of NADA documentation of 7/4/16. The BAA members did not inspect the truck. After Mr. Espinosa left, David Sinish and Joe Pelehach made the decision on this case as Michael Espinosa is related to Margo Espinosa (husband). It was ruled that the value on the tax bill is fair and equitable and that there was no difference in value of a 6-cyl or 4-cyl and make **no adjustments**.

**Katherine Black and James Fuller**

They took the oath to tell the truth as given by David Sinish. The documentation provided was for the LX model, not the EX model which is their vehicle. Upon realizing this, they apologized and dismissed themselves from the meeting.

**Valentine Stachowski**

Mr. Stachowski took the oath to tell the truth as given by David Sinish. Mr. Stachowski is appealing the tax assessment on his 2004 Toyota 4 Runner of \$5,600 (which was reduced from \$7,350 by Canton's Assessor, Harry DerAsadourian); Mr. Stachowski estimates the value at \$3,300. He provided a copy of a Used Vehicle Appraisal from Middletown Toyota valuing the vehicle at \$3,297. In addition, Mr. Stachowski brought the vehicle to Canton Town Hall for inspection by the BAA due to the condition of the vehicle. He said the Toyota was involved in an accident and he never got the vehicle repaired. It also had high mileage. It was verified that the card from the Assessor's office indicated the correct information on the vehicle and noted that there was an adjustment previously valuing the vehicle at \$5,600. Mr. Stachowski said that the former Canton Assessor personally inspected the vehicle at an earlier date. The Board emphasized tax value as of 10/1/15, which Mr. Stachowski confirmed that he understood. The BAA members did not inspect the vehicle. After Mr. Stachowski left, the three board members felt that Mr. DerAsadourian's revision was fair and equitable. **No adjustments to the \$5,600 net value.**

There were no walk-in's.

The meeting adjourned at 10:45 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Margo M. Espinosa