

**Town of Cromwell**  
**Board of Assessment Appeals**  
**Special Meeting**  
**Thursday, September 19, 2019**  
**5:00pm Assessor's Office**

- A. Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order by Chairman Vincenzi 5:00 pm.
- B. Roll Call:** Board Members Chairman William Vincenzi, Matthew Long present.  
Roy Rowland: Absent.
- C. New Business:** 1. Approve Minutes from 9/11 hearings.

A *motion* was made by Mr. Long, *seconded* by Chairman Vincenzi to approve the minutes of the 9/11/19 meeting. All in favor; **motion passed**.

- D. Old Business:** 1. Decisions on hearings of 9/11.

The Board reviewed the details of the undecided hearings; Mr. Long pointed out that Mr. Pare's case had a different fact pattern and should be treated separately. Regarding Alison Rydzewski, Deborah and Frank Salerni and Kenneth Bobenski's appeals: Mr. Long explained to the Chairman that he spoke with the Assessor regarding her opinion on how to handle the appellant requests to have their exemption applied. Mr. Long wanted to make the assessments zero, the Assessor suggested the assessments be 500 and Mr. Long explained to the Chairman why this was the case. Chairman Vincenzi explained why he believed the assessments should be zero and that Mr. Bobenski was correct in expecting the Assessor's Office to send out the required forms annually if they are required to be filed annually. Mr. Long acknowledged that the Assessor's Office wasn't enforcing the application requirement and the exemption was being given anyway; he believes people became conditioned to think that not filing was ok. The local ordinance was reviewed and concern was expressed that it be amended by the Town Council. Mr. Long pointed out that the Board has the ability to correct clerical errors made in the Assessor's Office. The Board discussed applying 100 assessments and reviewed the Assessor's email sent out in advance of the hearings. It was also noted that all appellants completed the annual application for retro-fitted handicapped vehicles for the upcoming 2019 Grand List.

Regarding David Pare's appeal: Mr. Pare paid under protest. Mr. Long reviewed the documentation Mr. Pare provided and noted that the first application submitted to the Assessor's Office was dated 12/2017, too late for the 2017 Grand List, but early for the 2018 Grand List. He questioned why the Assessor's Office didn't use the early application and apply the exemption to the 2018 GL. Mr. Long explained why he believed that this was a clerical error, citing CGS 12-60 and therefore the net assessment could be corrected to 0; Chairman Vincenzi agreed. Mr. Pare completed the annual application for retro-fitted handicapped vehicles for the 2019 Grand List.

**Appellant:** Alison Rydzewski, 123 West Street, Apt 426, Cromwell  
2012 Dodge Grand CA Current Assessment: 6,250

A *motion* was made by Mr. Long, *seconded* by Chairman Vincenzi to reduce the assessment to 100. All in favor; **motion passed**.

**Appellant:** Deborah and Frank Salerni, 4 Knight Lane, Cromwell  
2001 Chevy Express Current Assessment: 2,780

A *motion* was made by Mr. Long, *seconded* by Chairman Vincenzi to reduce the assessment to 100. All in favor; **motion passed**.

**Appellant:** Kenneth Bobenski, 113 West Street, Cromwell  
2013 Honda Odyssey Current Assessment: 12,250

A *motion* was made by Mr. Long, *seconded* by Chairman Vincenzi to reduce the assessment to 100. All in favor; **motion passed**.

**Appellant:** David Pare, 5 Bellevue Terrace, Cromwell  
2005 Toyota Sienna Current Assessment: 3,780

Mr. Long made a *motion* based on the facts he presented regarding Mr. Pare's case, that Mr. Pare be granted the 3,780 exemption for his 2005 Toyota Sienna for the GL Year 2018. Chairman Vincenzi *seconded*. All in favor; **motion passed**.

**E. Staff Comments:** Mr. Vincenzi thanked Mr. Long for the great job he did in researching the statutes in helping them render fair decisions. The Board thanked the Clerk.

**F. Adjournment:** Chairman Vincenzi *motioned* to adjourn the meeting at 5:44 pm; Mr. Long *seconded*. All in favor; **motion passed**.

Respectfully Submitted,



Lisa Ruggiero