

DECREE

WALDO, SS.

**COUNTY COMMISSIONERS COURT
PETITION # 329
FEBRUARY 6, 2007 ADJOURNED SESSION
TO WIT: FEBRUARY 13, 2007**

WILLIAM SHEPHERD VERSUS TOWN OF BURNHAM:

On February 6, 2007, the three Waldo County Commissioners, John M. Hyk, Chairman; Amy R. Fowler, and Donald P. Berry, Sr. held a tax abatement hearing at the request of Plaintiff William Shepherd regarding his 130 acre woodlot on Map 9, Lot 26 of the Burnham tax map in Burnham Maine. Present with the Commissioners was Plaintiff William Shepherd along with Defendants Town of Burnham Assessors/Selectmen Luke Goodblood, Stuart C. Huff, Ricky Basford and Assessing Agent Matthew Caldwell. In addition, Burnham citizens Francis Grignon Sr. and Jr. were present. Recording the minutes was Waldo County Clerk Barbara L. Arseneau along with Deputy County Clerk Veronica Stover.

The Plaintiffs requested abatement on the 130 acre woodlot because he claimed that the deed stipulated that it was not accessible to anyone not related to Charles Cookson, original owner. He further claimed that it was only accessible by four-wheeled drive vehicles.

The Defendants explained the tier system within the town and stated that they had reduced Mr. Shepherd's assessment on that 130 acre lot. They further explained that tillable acreage and tree growth are assessed the same.

After hearing the testimonies of the Plaintiffs and Defendants, the County Commissioners recommended delaying any action and allowing opportunity for Mr. Shepherd to produce the language in his deed that indicates only certain people are allowed access to the property. It was hoped that he and the assessors could meet and work things out.

****D. Berry, Sr. moved, A. Fowler seconded to adjourn the hearing at 9:30 a.m. Unanimous.**

Signed this _____ day of _____, 2007 by the
Waldo County Commissioners:

John M. Hyk, Chairman Amy R. Fowler, Associate Donald P. Berry, Sr.

Attest: _____
Barbara L. Arseneau, Waldo County Clerk