



# Town of Barre VERMONT

## BOARD OF ABATEMENT MEETING

February 1, 2023

### AGENDA

1. Call to order.....immediately following the Board of Civil Authority meeting
2. Roll call.
3. Approve the agenda.
4. Approve the May 4, 2022 meeting minutes.
5. Review Board of Abatement Hearing and Code of Conduct Policy
6. Administer abatement oath to BOA.
7. Hear requests for abatement.
8. Public comment.
9. Adjourn

### BOARD OF ABATEMENT MINUTES

The duly warned Board of Abatement meeting was held at the Municipal Building, Selectboard meeting room, in Lower Websterville on Wednesday, February 1, 2023, at 6:00 p.m., immediately following the Board of Civil Authority Meeting.

**Board of Abatement Members Present:** J. Guy Isabelle, JP Isabelle, Donna J. Kelty, Thomas Koch, Rob LaClair, Tina Lunt, Dean Preston, Norma Malone, Paul Malone, W. John Mitchell, Bob Nelson, Edward Paquin, Virginia Poplawski, R. Lee Walther, Sheila Walther, and Paul White. Those attending virtually: Jeanne Danielle.

**Board of Abatement Members Absent:** Justin Bolduc, Frederick Thumm, and Russ Beaudoin, Lori Cohen, Jennifer Allard, and one vacant seat.

**Others Present:** Those present virtually: Finance Director Katelyn Kran.

**CALL TO ORDER:** Chair Malone called the meeting to order at 7:11 p.m. and proceeded with roll call.

#### **APPROVE THE AGENDA:**

*On a motion by Norma Malone, seconded by JP Isabelle, the Board of Abatement voted unanimously to approve the agenda as presented.*

#### **APPROVE THE MINUTES:**

*On a motion by JP Isabelle, seconded by Ed Paquin, the Board of Abatement voted unanimously to approve the May 4, 2022 meeting minutes with amendments as provided to the Clerk.*

**BOARD OF CIVIL AUTHORITY MEETING OF February 1, 2023 continued:**

**ABATEMENT HEARING AND CODE OF CONDUCT POLICY:**

Board members reviewed the Abatement Hearing and Code of Conduct Policy. Minor edits were shared with Clerk Lunt. Board consensus is that Clerk Lunt will share a new version of this document at the next meeting, which the Board will act upon for approval purposes.

**ABATEMENT OATH:**

Clerk Lunt administered the Oath to the Board member who was present virtually. Those present signed the abatement oath.

**ABATEMENT REQUESTS:**

1. Town of Barre – Finance Department  
Abatement request for: Sewer  
Amount: \$2,474.19

Finance Director Katelyn Kran was present virtually. Clerk Lunt administered the abatement oath to Mrs. Kran. Chair Malone asked Mrs. Kran to present the request.

Mrs. Kran stated that during the Town’s accounting software transition the system created a duplicate account for parcel 026/042.00. Town staff came across this duplication in the Accufund Software during the transfer of ownership when the parcel was being sold. The duplicate account typically would have been caught by Town staff, however, due to an unexplainable system glitch, the additional account number was unsearchable by parcel ID, name, or address. Prior to the closing on this property, Main Street Law contacted the Town regarding any prior delinquencies on this parcel. Town staff were not aware of the duplicate account at the time and provided Main Street Law with information based on the one account. Unfortunately, the Town was unaware of the duplicate account with sewer delinquencies.

The Town is requesting the abatement of \$2,474.19 as they believe the new owner of this parcel should not be responsible due to the system error. Clerk Lunt shared that since learning of this system error, Town staff has been proactive in effectively making sure the Town does not have any other existing duplicate accounts.

*On a motion by JP Isabelle, seconded by Bob Nelson, the Board of Abatement voted to approve the abatement request for the Town of Barre Finance Department, citing that the collection of the tax would work an injustice.*

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** None

**ADJOURN:**

*On a motion by JP Isabelle, seconded by Bob Nelson, the Board of Abatement voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 7:32 p.m.*

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These are the minutes as taken by the Clerk of the Board.

**BOARD OF CIVIL AUTHORITY MEETING OF February 1, 2023 continued:**

Filed in the Barre Town Clerk's Office on this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2023.

\_\_\_\_\_, Barre Town Clerk.

Tina Lunt, Town Clerk