

**BOARD OF CIVIL AUTHORITY
ABATEMENT AGENDA**

**BOARD OF ABATEMENT MEETING MINUTES
January 24, 2019**

1. Call to Order 6:30 p.m.

2. Amendments to the Agenda (if needed)

3. Role Call and BCA oath:

"I do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will well and truly hear and determine all matters at issue relating to the abatement of taxes and other levies submitted for my decision."

4. Approve the BCA Checklist Update meeting minutes of January 3, 2019.

5. Review applications: (See next page)

6. Treasurer requests

7. Other Business: -

a. Next meeting will be on February 14, 2019 for the purpose of conducting our Bi-annual Reorganization and Checklist Update. The checklist update will be for the special BUUSD election to be held on February 19, 2019.

b. In your packet is your **Justice of the Peace oath**. If you do not take, sign, and return your elected oath of office to the Town Clerk by February 1st you cannot legally conduct any Justice of the Peace business. The oath form is enclosed.

c. There will also be a checklist update meeting on February 28 for the *March 5, 2019 Town Meeting vote*. This will be to elect School Directors to fill board seats for the existing School Boards through June 30, 2019. The new Barre Unified Union District school year will begin July 1, 2019.

d. Let Sheila know if you are available to work the February and March elections as soon as possible

e. Expect additional elections in April and May 2019. More information to follow.

8. Adjourn

BOARD OF ABATEMENT MINUTES.

The duly warned Board of Abatement Meeting was held on January 24, 2019, Barre Town Municipal Building, Selectboard meeting room, in Lower Websterville at 6:30 p.m.

The following members were present: Chair Paul Malone, Town Clerk-Treasurer Donna Kelty, Pearl Bugbee, William Bugbee, J. Guy Isabelle, JP Isabelle, Norma Malone, Jay Perkins, Virginia Poplawski, Christopher Violette, R. Lee Walther, Sheila Walther, Paul White, and Tom White. Members not in attendance: Jeff Blow, Charles "Chip" Castle, Jeanne Daniele, W. John "Jack" Mitchell, Bob Nelson, Edward Paquin, Dotty Ricks, and Interim Assessor Russ Beaudoin.

Also present were applicants Christian and Jennifer Schoenig.

CALL TO ORDER - Chair Malone called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. and proceeded with the role call. He noted the meeting is being audio taped. Be sure to speak distinctly and state your name for the record.

**BOARD OF ABATEMENT MEETING OF January 24, 2019 continued:
CALL TO ORDER**

The Board members were administered the oath: "I do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will well and truly hear and determine all matters at issue relating to abatement of taxes and other levies submitted for my decision. So help God (or under the pains and penalties of perjury).

CHANGES TO THE AGENDA

The agenda, by consensus, was accepted as presented.

MINUTE APPROVAL

On a motion by Paul White, seconded by Chris Violette, the Board of Civil Authority voted to approve the Board of Civil Authority Checklist Update meeting with the following corrections:

- *Page 1, Board attendance, move Edward Paquin to the "not present" list; and*
- *Page 1, "Changes to the Checklist," first sentence change the dates to November 1, 2018 thru January 3, 2019.*

Those not present for the vote: Jeff Blow, Charles "Chip" Castle, Jeanne Daniele, W. John "Jack" Mitchell, Bob Nelson, Edward Paquin, Dottye Ricks, and Interim Assessor Russ Beaudoin.

ABATEMENT APPLICATION ITEMS

5-1. Christian and Jennifer Schoenig

302 Quarry Hill Road

Tax Map 006 Lot 027-00

Request: \$3,000.00 for sewer use and water charges.

Board member Violette recused himself from this hearing.

Mr. and Mrs. Schoenig were present and administered his oath. During testimony to the Board the following facts were noted.

- Ms. Schoenig was the "breadwinner" and was involved in an accident which left her with a traumatic brain injury (temporary).
- Ms. Schoenig operated a daycare at her home and was unable to do so after the accident.
- Insurance did not cover many of the medical bills for treating the injury.
- For a short time her parent moved in and assisted the household.
- Ms. Schoenig is now recovered and working at a school (summers off without pay).
- The family has three children.
- They recognize they owe the principal but the penalties and interest are not allowing them to catch up.
- The delinquent account is in the hands of the Town Attorney for collection.
- They have a repayment plan with the Town Attorney for repayment of the balance while keeping current.

The couple was thanked for coming in and were informed they would be mailed a letter informing them of this Board's decision.

DELIBERATIVE SESSION

With no other applicants present, there was a motion by Lee Walther, seconded by William Bugbee, the Board of Abatement voted to enter deliberative session at 6:53 p.m. to discuss the two applications, Schoenig and Swift. The following were not present for the vote: Jeff Blow, Charles "Chip" Castle, Jeanne Daniele, W. John "Jack" Mitchell, Bob Nelson, Edward Paquin, Dottye Ricks, and Interim Assessor Russ Beaudoin.

BOARD OF ABATEMENT MEETING OF January 24, 2019 continued:

On a motion by Edward Paquin, seconded by William Bugbee, the Board of Abatement voted to come out of deliberative session at 8:07 p.m. Those not present for the vote: J. Guy Isabelle, JP Isabelle, Paul Malone, W. John "Jack" Mitchell, Bob Nelson, and Interim Assessor Russ Beaudoin.

By consensus the Board of Abatement came out of deliberative session at 7:23 p.m.

DECISIONS - The Clerk read the follow decisions which were rendered while the Board of Abatement was in deliberative session.

5-1. Christian and Jennifer Schoenig

302 Quarry Hill Road
Tax Map 006 Lot 027-00

The Board of Abatement voted to abate the delinquent penalties and interest totaling \$1,849.36, for Christian & Jennifer Schoenig, 302 Quarry Hill Road, Tax Map 006 Lot 028.00 citing financial hardship. Those not present for the vote: J. Guy Isabelle, JP Isabelle, Paul Malone, W. John "Jack" Mitchell, Bob Nelson, and Interim Assessor Russ Beaudoin.

5-2. Bonnie Swift

548 A Crosstown Road
Ambulance Run #18-10186

The Board of Abatement voted to deny the abatement request of Bonnie Swift for abatement of an ambulance bill run # 18-10186 in the amount of \$584.45 citing the evidence presented did not support the financial hardship criteria. Those not present for the vote: J. Guy Isabelle, JP Isabelle, Paul Malone, W. John "Jack" Mitchell, Bob Nelson, and Interim Assessor Russ Beaudoin.

TOWN TREASURER ABATEMENT REQUESTS

1. **Town of Barre** - The Town has several miscellaneous billings which have been deemed uncollectible and should be removed from the books. The table below describes the items and dollars requested.

On a motion by JP Isabelle, seconded by Lee Walther, the Board of Abatement voted to approve the request of the Treasurer to abate the following miscellaneous items citing the collection of the levies would create an undue expense for the Town. The motion passed with Tom White voting no. Those not present for the vote: J. Guy Isabelle, JP Isabelle, Paul Malone, W. John "Jack" Mitchell, Bob Nelson, and Interim Assessor Russ Beaudoin.

Name	Description	Acct #	Principal	Interest	Total
⊗Bradley, Ian	11-18-10 winter ban	6205	15.00	11.35	26.35
⊗Bradley, Ian	12-21-10 winter ban	6205	15.00	11.35	26.35
**Johnson, Dick	12-31-12 winter ban	8947	15.00	15.55	30.55
⊗Rodriguez, Elizabeth	1-29-13 prohib pkng	8584	15.00	15.55	30.55
⊗Ruel, Ryan	8-20-09 trash remov	5803	<u>130.00</u>	<u>98.59</u>	<u>228.59</u>
Total			190.00	152.39	342.39

Key for Table above

** No current mailing address, unable to locate, age. The collection would create an undue expense for the Town.

⊗ Decease, no estate. The person liable for the levy is deceased.

BOARD OF ABATEMENT MEETING OF January 24, 2019 continued:

OTHER BUSINESS

Special School Elections: The next BCA meeting is scheduled for Thursday, February 14, 2019 to update the checklist for the upcoming school election on February 19, 2019. This will also be followed by an additional checklist update meeting on Thursday, February 28, 2019 for the March 5, 2019 School Election.

The Clerk informed the Board the Town Attorney is preparing for tax sales. In accordance with law he is advising them of the Abatement process. He feels there may a couple of parties making a request. The Clerk would like to combine a special abatement meeting with one of the checklist update meetings.

During discussion it was noted that only three BCA are needed to update the checklist and that February 14th might preclude many from attending. Therefore, by consensus the Board decided on the following February 2019 meeting schedule:

- Thursday, February 14, 2019 there will be a BCA checklist meeting at 5:00 p.m. Those in attendance will be JP Isabelle, William Bugbee, Chris Violette, and Town Clerk Donna Kelty; and
- Thursday, February 28, 2019 there will be a BCA meeting at 6:30 p.m. for the purpose of Bi-annual reorganizational, checklist update, and abatement meeting.

Be sure to let Sheila know what hours you can work at the polls. The Clerk also noted there will be school election in April and May as well. More detailed information will follow.

ADJOURN

On a motion by JP Isabelle, seconded by Tom White, the Board of Abatement voted unanimously to adjourn at 7:38 p.m.

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

Donna J. Kelty, Town Clerk-Treasurer

(See next page for administered oaths)

BOARD OF ABATEMENT MEETING OF January 24, 2019 continued:

APPENDIX - BOARD OF ABATEMENT OATHS

**TOWN OF BARRE - ABATEMENT MEETING
OATH OF BOARD MEMBERS
January 24, 2019**

I do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will well and truly hear and determine all matters at issue at issue relating to the abatement of taxes and other levies submitted for my decision. So help me God (or under the pains and penalties of Perjury).

Name	Signature
Blow, Jeff	
Bugbee, Pearl	<i>Pearl Bugbee</i>
Bugbee, William	<i>William Bugbee</i>
Castle, Charles	
Daniele, Jeanne	
Isabelle, J. Guy	<i>J. Guy Isabelle</i>
Isabelle, J.P.	<i>J.P. Isabelle</i>
Kelty, Donna	<i>Donna Kelty</i>
Nelson, Bob	
Malone, Norma	<i>Norma Malone</i>
Malone, Paul	<i>Paul Malone</i>
Mitchell, W. John "Jack"	<i>W. John Mitchell</i>
Paquin, Edward	
Perkins, Jay	<i>Jay Perkins</i>
Poplawski, Virginia	<i>Virginia Poplawski</i>
Ricks, Dottye	
Violette, Christopher	<i>Christopher Violette</i>
Walther, R. Lee	<i>R. Lee Walther</i>
Walther, Sheila	<i>Sheila M. Walther</i>
White, Paul	<i>Paul White</i>
White Thomas	<i>White Thomas</i>
Assessor Russ Beaudoin	