

**TOWN OF BARRE**  
**BOARD OF ABATEMENT AND CHECKLIST UPDATE MEETING**  
**February 24, 2021**

**AGENDA**

Call in: 802-477-1200 Meeting via Teams

1. Call to order 6:00 P.M.
2. Remind those present the meeting will be audio and video recorded:  
Meeting conduct reminders:
  - Mute when not speaking
  - Please use your “raise hand” icon when you have something to say.
  - Identify yourself when speaking and speak clearly.
3. Roll Call – Welcome new member Lori Cohen.
4. Considering approving/amending the agenda
5. Approve the Abatement Meeting minutes of January 27, 2021.
6. Administer the Abatement oath to BCA:  
“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.”
7. Continuation of request from January meeting.
8. Board of Civil Authority Bi-Annual Reorganization Meeting:
  - A. Elect Chair
  - B. Elect Vice Chair
  - C. Meeting days (still 1<sup>st</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday), 6:00 p.m.?
9. Adjourn the Abatement portion of the meeting.
10. Call the BCA Checklist meeting to order.
11. Review the additions and deletions to the checklist (no action needed).
12. March 2, 2021 election update – COVID protocols.
13. Other Business:
  - A) March 2, 2021 election – let Donna know if you can work.
  - B) Next meeting will be May 5, 2021 for checklist update. Be prepared to review the Tax Grievance code of Conduct Policy (Section 6 of your binder).
  - C) Next election will be May 11, 2021 for Open Town and Annual voting by ballot.
  - D) Reappraisal on schedule – Tax Grievance Hearing schedule to be determined – usually begins near end of month July.
  - E) Verify your contact information and notify Donna if there are any changes.
  - F) Any other business.
14. Adjourn.

**MEETING MINUTES**

The duly warned meeting of the Barre Town Board of Abatement and Board of Civil Authority was advertised to be held via Teams on Wednesday, February 24, 2021 for the purpose of continuing an abatement hearing from January 2021 and to review the Barre Town Checklist to be used at the Barre Unified Union School District Election and Special Barre Town Elections to be held on Tuesday, March 2, 2021.

The following members were in attendance by Teams or by Telephone: Chair Paul Malone, Town Clerk-Treasurer Donna J. Kelty, Jeff Blow, Justin Bolduc, William Bugbee, Charles Castle, Lori Cohen, Jeanne Daniele, JP Isabelle, Norma Malone, W. John “Jack” Mitchell, Ed Paquin, Jay Perkins, Virginia Poplawski, R. Lee Walther, Sheila Walther, and Paul White. Those not present: Robert Nelson, J. Guy Isabelle, Tom Koch, and Assessor Russ Beaudoin (for Abatement only). Others present included Assistant Manager Elaine Wang (IT support) and Rhonda and Shawn Thygesen (by telephone).

**CALL TO ORDER** - The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m.

Lee Walther reminded Justices if they have signed their oath of office and turned it into the Town Clerk’s office they would have to recuse themselves from voting.

**Roll call** was taken and the new member Lori Cohen was welcomed. The Town Clerk stated she had not received Oaths from Jeff Blow or Lori Cohen.

**AGENDA APPROVAL**

*On a motion by William Bugbee an duly seconded, the Board voted to approve the agenda as presented. Those absent for the vote were J. Guy Isabelle, Tom Koch, and Assessor Russ Beaudoin. Lori Cohen and Jeff Blow did not vote..*

**BOARD OF CIVIL AUTHORITY MEETING OF February 24, 2021 continued:**

**MINUTE APPROVAL**

*On a motion by motion by Jeanne Daniele, seconded by Norma Malone, the Board of Abatement voted to approve the January 27, 2021 with the grammar and spelling corrections provided to the Town Clerk. Those absent for the vote were J. Guy Isabelle, Tom Koch, Assessor Russ Beaudoin, Lori Cohen and Jeff Blow.*

**OATH**

The Town Clerk administered the oath to those members participating in the hearing.

**HEARING THE APPEAL**

Rhonda and Shawn Thygesen attended the meeting by telephone. William Bugbee and Charles Castle recused themselves from the hearing.

The Board questioned the applicants on the Income/Expense statement, (employment, monthly income, assets, and debt). They thanked the applicants for taking the time to attend.

*On a motion by Lee Walther and duly seconded the Board of Abatement voted to enter deliberative session at 6:44 p.m. Those absent for the vote were J. Guy Isabelle, Tom Koch, Assessor Russ Beaudoin, Lori Cohen and Jeff Blow.*

It is noted for the record that Lori Cohen, Jeff Blow, and Jack Mitchell were leaving the meeting. Mr. Mitchell did not participate in the initial hearing and did not feel he should discuss/vote. The other two individuals had not returned their Oath and could not participate.

*On a motion by Jeanne Daniele, seconded by Norma Malone, the Board of Abatement came out of deliberative session at 7:07 p.m. Those absent for the vote were J. Guy Isabelle, Tom Koch, Assessor Russ Beaudoin, Lori Cohen and Jeff Blow.*

The Clerk read for the record: The application for abatement from Rhonda and Shawn Thygesen was denied citing the evidence presented did not support the request.

Jack Mitchell and Chip Castle returned to the meeting.

**BI-ANNUAL REORGANIZATION**

A motion was made by Jeanne Daniele and second by Chip Castle to nominate Ed Paquin as Chair of the BCA. Mr. Paquin declined the nomination due to work related items.

*On a motion by Ed Paquin, seconded by Paul White, the Board of Civil Authority voted to elect Paul Malone as Chair and Jay Perkins as Vice Chair. Those absent for the vote were J. Guy Isabelle, Tom Koch, Assessor Russ Beaudoin, Lori Cohen and Jeff Blow.*

Board consensus is to continue conducting meetings on the 1<sup>st</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of the month, 6:00 p.m., with the customary meeting place of the Barre Town Municipal Building. However, during COVID the BCA will meet using the technology provided by the Town.

*A motion was made and duly seconded to adjourn at 7:28 p.m. Those absent for the vote were J. Guy Isabelle, Tom Koch, Assessor Russ Beaudoin, Lori Cohen and Jeff Blow.*

**BOARD OF CIVIL AUTHORITY CHECKLIST UPDATE MEETING**

Chair Malone called the meeting to order at 7:29 p.m.

**CHANGES TO THE CHECKLIST**

In accordance with VSA Title 17, Chapter 43, Section 2144 (b) the Town Clerk has added 57 voters to the checklist and made 52 deletions to the checklist for the period November 20, 2020 through February 24, 2021. No action is required by the BCA but the names are being entered into the minutes as a matter of record.

**ADDITIONS TO THE CHECKLIST**

Bailey, Michael C.	Baribault, Charlotte M	Baribault, Michael R
Bartlett, Madison E.	Battach, Shadi	Beede, Jordyn R.
Bernier, Ezra E.	Blasetti, Brittany Marie	Blow, Sharon Ann
Breer, Kaysie M.	Brown, Dalton Lee	Campbell, Shawnta M
Cotnoir, Randy J.	Cushman, Emma N.	Darling, Jake W.
Dedominick, Gary Ethan	Dyer, William R. Jr.	Fischer, Isabelle M.
Fleury, Stephanie L.	Foster, Rhor M	Friedrichs, Joshua T.

**BOARD OF CIVIL AUTHORITY MEETING OF February 24, 2021 continued:**

Fullerton, Travis Michael	Geraci, Bryan Joseph	Geraci, Rachel A.
Haug, Brett A.	Hewitt, Madison Paige	Hogan, Eamon Fleming
Isham, Sarah A.	Johnson, Laven Michael	Keiser, Kathy L.
King, Natasha	Larivee, Alyssa Mae	Larsen, Nika Elise
Lewis, Richard John	Lewis, Susanne Hooper	Locarno, Jazlyn T.
Martinez, Joan Marie	Matheson, Amy	Morris, Hunter J.
Obrien, Scott D.	Orr, Brady A.	Parker, Bonnie Hough
Parsons, Grace Christine	Pearce, Alyssa L.	Preston, Aaliyah Lyn
Ryan, Keri Dae	Sanborn, Clarence A.	Sanborn, Joshua D.
Shangraw, Donnia Lee	Taylor, Joshua Elias	Tomasi, Joshua
Tosi, Todd J.	Weselcouch, James B.	Wilde, Thomas M.
Williams, Braxton	Wilson, Christy Mariah	Wilson, Emily S.

**DELETIONS BY REASON OF DEATH, PURGE, DUPLICATION, APPLICATION**

Adams, John S. Sr.	Aldrich, Emily A.	Bartlett, Katie M.
Croteau, Cheyenne S.	Croteau, Kathleen A.	Gilbert, Janet A.
Gregoire, Cindy L.	Gregoire, Layne A.	Macaulay, Jacqueline E.
McNaulty, Brett B.	Blaine, Allen F.	Bean, Merlin L. Jr.
Beck, Norman D.	Brodie, Stephen P.	Boutin, Robert Louis
Bresett, Barbara P.	Denko, Donald	Chaloux, Anthony G.
Davis, Delores P.	Ghiringhelli, Catherine O.	Fandino, Julie T.
Gale, Carmen	Jones, Harold E.	Green, Lillian D
Hutchins, Janet L.	McBride, Daniel Albert	Larose, George V.
Mansfield, James E.	Reed, Philip John	Millington, L. Taylor
Perkins, Leon A.	Roy, Raymond H.	Reilly, Constance C.
Reilly, Lawrence H.	Atkins, Jordan T.	Winchester, Donna L. S.
Zampieri, James	Gregoire, Jason D.	Geider, Jane L.
Geider, Kenneth G.	Hornstein, Julie	Hook, Damian L.
Hook, Heidi M.	Brooks, Annette M.	Lacroix, Jaclyn Kate
Simpkins, Jeannine Mary	Owen, Robert L	Brooks, Edward A.
King, Nancy	Spence, Brooke	Slayton, Dianna I

**APPOINT JPs TO CARRY SICK BALLOTS**

Due to COVID-19 there will be no JP Deliveries for the March 3, 2021 Barre Unified Union School District and Special Barre Town Elections.

**PROCESSING OF EARLY BALLOTS**

The Board of Civil Authority will once again begin the process of opening early ballots on Friday, February 26, 2021, 12:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m., at the Barre Town Municipal Building, Selectboard meeting room. Accommodations will be made for the public to view the process. If needed the early ballot process will continue on Monday morning, March 1<sup>st</sup>. Date and time will be posted on the Town website.

**OTHER BUSINESS**

Sanitizing supplies will be available at the polling place, maximum capacity (including workers) in gym is 75, and the school is allowing election workers access to the bathroom facilities. School will not be in session.

The Clerk-Treasurer provided dates/times of upcoming items, Board members were reminded to check their contact information and if changes are needed provide them as soon as possible.

Assistant Manager Wang (IT support) noted the applicant from the Abatement hearing was still connected by phone. There was concern that “deliberative session” during the Abatement meeting was heard by the applicant. It was noted this cannot be undone; it is unclear what the applicant may have heard (if anything) and having the applicant in deliberative session without invitation violates the rule. For future meetings “ensuring anyone who is not invited or should not to be part of a deliberative/executive session” will be added to the checklist of things to do.

**ADJOURN**

*On a motion by William Bugbee and duly seconded, the Board of Civil Authority voted to adjourn at 7:41 p.m.*

Respectfully submitted:

Donna J Kelty, CVC, CVT  
Town Clerk-Treasurer and Clerk of the BCA