



Town of Barre VERMONT

BOARD OF ABATEMENT MEETING

May 4, 2022

AGENDA

1. Call to order.....6:00 p.m.
2. Remind those present that the meeting will be audio taped.
Please speak clearly and identify yourself.
3. Roll call.
4. Approve the agenda.
5. Approve the February 2, 2022 meeting minutes.
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, May 4, 2022 at 6:00 p.m.

Board of Abatement Member Present: Jeff Blow, Justin Bolduc, Charles “Chip” Castle, Lori Cohen, Donna J. Kelty, Thomas Koch, Norma Malone, Bob Nelson, Paul Malone, W. John “Jack” Mitchell, Virginia Poplawski, R. Lee Walther, Sheila Walther, Jennifer Allard, and Tina Lunt. Those attending virtually: William Bugbee, Jeanne Daniele (left at 6:25 p.m.), and Paul White.

Board of Abatement Members Absent: Ed Paquin, JP Isabelle, Jay Perkins, Guy Isabelle, and Russ Beaudoin.

Others Present: Connie Bogart and Chris Violette.

CALL TO ORDER: Chair Malone called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and proceeded with roll the call. Those present were reminded that the meeting is being audio taped and to speak clearly and identify yourself.

APPROVE THE AGENDA:

On a motion by Chip Castle, seconded by Jeff Blow, the Board of Abatement voted unanimously to approve the amended agenda as follows:

1. Add 7a. Deliberative Session

APPROVE THE MINUTES:

On a motion by Norma Malone, seconded by Lee Walther, the Board of Abatement voted unanimously to approve the February 2, 2022 meeting minutes as presented. Lori Cohen abstained.

ABATEMENT OATH:

BOARD OF CIVIL AUTHORITY MEETING OF May 4, 2022 continued:

Clerk Lunt administered the Oath to Board members.

ABATEMENT REQUESTS:

1. Connie Bogart
Abatement request for: Ambulance
Amount: \$833.72

Mrs. Bogart was present and administered the Oath.

Mrs. Bogart stated she has financial difficulties and is unable to pay the ambulance bill. Mrs. Bogart explained she did not have Medicaid coverage at the time of service.

Mrs. Walther noted, according to Mrs. Bogart's application, she is requesting abatement under statutory criteria No. 9; the exemption available under 32 VSA § 3802(11). Mrs. Bogart stated this was a mistake and

her abatement request is for statutory criteria No. 4; that the persons liable for the tax are financially unable to pay. It is noted for the record Mrs. Bogart's application is amended as stated.

Board members asked clarifying questions regarding the Income, Expense, Resource and Asset Statement provided by Mrs. Bogart.

Chair Malone thanked Mrs. Bogart for coming in.

With no more applicants present, the Board agreed to enter deliberative session.

DELIBERATIVE SESSION:

On a motion by Sheila Walther, seconded by Lori Cohen, the Board of Abatement voted unanimously to enter deliberative session at 6:14 p.m. Chris Violette was invited into deliberative session to serve as the audio-visual administrator.

On a motion by Jeff Blow, seconded by Norma Malone, the Board of Abatement voted unanimously to exit deliberative session at 6:42 p.m.

2. George Stone
Abatement request for: Ambulance
Amount: \$250.00
3. James Boivin
Abatement request for: Ambulance
Amount: \$110.93
4. The Treasurer presented the following for abatement on behalf of the Town of Barre:
 - a. Frederick Fleury, Run 20-8763, date of service July 26, 2020 in the amount of \$164.00. Mr. Fleury is deceased, and the family is not financially able to pay.
 - b. EMS collections: amount of \$38,215.82. These account holders are either deceased or were enrolled in Medicaid and ineligible to send to the Town's collection agency.

BOARD OF CIVIL AUTHORITY MEETING OF May 4, 2022 continued:

- c. EMS collections: amount of \$1,922,747.34. The Selectboard voted to send calls prior to 7/1/2018 to collections.

DECISIONS:

The following decisions were rendered.

1. Connie Bogart
Abatement request for: Ambulance
Amount: \$833.72

The Board of Abatement voted to approve the abatement request of Connie Bogart, in the amount of \$833.72 for an ambulance bill, citing that the applicant is financially unable to pay.

2. George Stone
Abatement request for: Ambulance
Amount: \$250.00

The Board of Abatement voted to deny the abatement request of George Stone, in the amount of \$250.00 for an ambulance bill, citing the application was incomplete.

3. James Boivin
Abatement request for: Ambulance
Amount: \$110.93

The Board of Abatement voted to approve the abatement request of James Boivin, in the amount of \$110.93 for an ambulance bill, citing the applicant is financially unable to pay.

Town of Barre:

- a. Frederick Fleury, Run 20-8763, date of service July 26, 2020 in the amount of \$164.00:

The Board of Abatement voted to abate the invoice for Mr. Fleury, citing the collection of tax would create an undue expense for the Town and that all persons liable for the tax have died or removed from the state.

- b. EMS Collections: amount of \$38,215.82:

The Board of Abatement voted to deny the abatement request. This item will be presented to the Selectboard for further discussion.

- c. EMS collections: amount of \$1,922,747.34:

The Board of Abatement voted to deny the abatement request. This item will be presented to the Selectboard for further discussion.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

ADJOURN:

BOARD OF CIVIL AUTHORITY MEETING OF May 4, 2022 continued:

On a motion by Lee Walther, seconded by Norma Malone, the Board of Abatement voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 6:45 p.m.

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

Filed in the Barre Town Clerk's Office on this _____ day of _____, 2022.

_____, Barre Town Clerk.
Tina Lunt, Town Clerk