

**BOARD OF CIVIL AUTHORITY AGENDA
ABATEMENT MEETING**

January 24, 2018

1. Call to Order 6:30 p.m.
2. Role Call
3. Approve/Amend Agenda
4. This meeting is being audio taped. Be sure to speak distinctly and state your name for the record.
5. 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."
6. Review Applications:
 - A. Sulejman & Sefija Ibrahimovic - Property tax penalties
 - B. Lewis Petit - Property tax and sewer charge (Fire)
 - C. Frank Scarano - Property tax penalties
 - D. Vermont Creamery LLC - Property tax penalties
7. Review Treasurer requests:
 - A. David Kitch - ambulance (deceased)
 - B. 24 Miscellaneous items total \$300 plus penalties
8. Other Business: -
 - a. Next meeting date is for February 28, 2018 checklist update meeting.
 - b. Let the Town Clerk know if what hours you are available for the March 6, 2018 school voting.
 - c. Update on the income/expense form revisions.
 - d. Payroll - Last paycheck designated Beneficiary form.
9. Adjourn

**BOARD OF ABATEMENT MEETING MINUTES
October 4, 2017**

The duly warned Board of Abatement Meeting was held on October 4, 2017, 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, Jeff Blow, William Bugbee, Charles "Chip" Castle, J. Guy Isabelle, JP Isabelle, W. John "Jack" Mitchell, Edward Paquin, Virginia Poplawski, Christopher Violette, R. Lee Walther, Sheila Walther, Paul White, and Assessor Joseph Levesque.

Those absent included: Jeff Blow, Pearl Bugbee, William Bugbee, J. Guy Isabelle, J.P. Isabelle, Bob Nelson, Jay Perkins, and Rolland Tessier.

Others present included: Fred Thumm

CALL TO ORDER AND OATH

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.

OATH TO VOTING MEMBERS

The Clerk reminded the BCA members present to sign their oaths and then read said oath which was affirmed by the Board members present:

BOARD OF ABATEMENT MEETING OF January 24, 2018 continued:

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.

CHANGES TO THE AGENDA

The agenda, by consensus, was accepted as presented.

ABATEMENT APPLICATION ITEMS

6-A Sulejman & Sefija Ibrahimovic

261 E. Montpelier Road

Tax Map 009 Lot 056-00

Request: late penalties for remaining balance of February & May 2018 tax installments

The application, income and expense statement, copy of the property tax bill and notice of change, plus copies of pay stubs were provided. On January 4, 2018 the property owner was notified his tax bill was changing due to the Assessor's error and omissions. The annual increase to the property tax bill is \$786.14 which was split between the 2 remaining installments (February and May 2018). The applicant is a mason and due to weather has not been able work - thus no income. Their budget will allow payment of the original February/May installments but not the large additional increase. The request is to abate penalties and interest only on these two installments through June 30, 2018 (end of the fiscal year).

Discussion points were:

- Board recognizes short notice with regards to property tax increase
- Board recognizes property owner has no control over weather which directly impacts work.
- The Income/Expense statement provided has some inconsistencies which remain unanswered as applicant did not attend the meeting.
- No penalties have been assessed as the installments are not due. There is no guarantee the original installments for February and May 2018 will be paid on time.
- Property owner has been enjoying a lower tax installment for a period of time which was based on less than the "fair market value" of the property.
- This Board will meet again on June 6, 2018 and the applicant may submit a new application for this meeting.
- The Assessor stated the building addition is only 50% complete and at some point the property value will increase.

On a motion by Virginia Poplawski, seconded by Paul White, the Board of Abatement voted to deny the request of Sulejman & Sefija Ibrahimovic, 261 E. Montpelier Road, Tax Map 009, Lot 056-00 to abate the penalties and interest on the February 2018 and May 2018 installments citing the said penalties and interest have not been assessed. Those not present for the vote were Jeff Blow, Pearl Bugbee, William Bugbee, J. Guy Isabelle, J.P. Isabelle, Bob Nelson, Jay Perkins, and Rolland Tessier. The motion passed with Joe Levesque recusing himself and Castle voting no.

6-B Lewis Petit

34 McHugh Road

Tax Map 014 Lot 071-00

Request: \$1,148.16 in property tax due to fire
\$479.21 for sewer use charges

BOARD OF ABATEMENT MEETING OF January 24, 2018 continued:

Board members were provided with the application, a copy of the property tax and sewer use charge bills, calculation sheets for property tax and sewer use charges, and a copy of the Assessor's card.

On a motion by Sheila Walther, seconded by Mitchell, the Board of Abatement voted to abate property taxes in the amount of \$1,148.16 on the property of Lewis & Priscilla Petit, located at 34 McHugh Road, Tax Map 014 Lot 071-00 citing the property was lost due to fire on September 27, 2017. Those not present for the vote were Jeff Blow, Pearl Bugbee, William Bugbee, J. Guy Isabelle, J.P. Isabelle, Bob Nelson, Jay Perkins, and Rolland Tessier.

On a motion by Violette, seconded by Paul White, the Board of Abatement voted to abate the sewer use charge of in the amount of \$ 479.21 on the property of Lewis & Priscilla Petit, located at 34 McHugh Road, Tax Map 014 Lot 071-00 citing the property was lost due to fire on September 27, 2017. Those not present for the vote were Jeff Blow, Pearl Bugbee, William Bugbee, J. Guy Isabelle, J.P. Isabelle, Bob Nelson, Jay Perkins, and Rolland Tessier.

6-C Frank J. Scarano

108 Sugar Woods Road,
Tax Map 009 Lot 117.15

Request: \$81.78 (late charge paid for the November 15, 2017 property tax).

Background: The Board was provided a copy of the application, a cover letter, copies of the property tax receipt, late letter, and tax bill. Applicant has never been late, and it was an oversight. He feels this collection works an injustice.

Discussion points were:

- The property owner was properly notified of the late payment.
- The property owner promptly paid the late fee of \$81.78 which was assessed in accordance with Town Charter.
- The applicant stated it was an oversight and not due to any extraordinary circumstances.
- The Board recognizes that property taxes have been paid timely in the past.

On a motion by Tom White, seconded by Violette, the Board of Abatement voted to deny the request of Frank J. Scarano for abatement of the late payment charge of \$81.87 citing the penalties were properly assessed.

6-D Vermont Creamery LLC

3 parcels on Pitman Road

Request: \$1,302.08 late charge

The Board was provided a copy of the applications, corresponding property tax bills and envelope copy, stating the postmark was one day past the due date and asking that the penalty be abated citing the collection works an injustice.

Sheila Walther recused herself due to a possible conflict. Discussion points were:

- The USPS postmark was clearly dated November 16, 2017.
- The late fees on all three installments has been paid.
- The late charge was properly assessed/charged in accordance with Town Charter.
- There were no "extraordinary circumstances" cited for the late payment.

On a motion by Mitchell, seconded by Paul White, the Board of Abatement voted to deny the requests of Vermont Creamery LLC for the abatement of property tax penalties

BOARD OF ABATEMENT MEETING OF January 24, 2018 continued:

on the properties known as 40 Pitman Road Tax Map 006 Lot 033-00, 20 Pitman Road Tax Map 006 Lot 033.06, and Tax Map 905 Lot 575.00 (personal property) in the total amount of \$1,302.08 citing the late charges were properly assessed and there were no extraordinary circumstances. The motion passed with Sheila Walther recusing herself due to a possible conflict. Those not present for the vote were Jeff Blow, Pearl Bugbee, William Bugbee, J. Guy Isabelle, J.P. Isabelle, Bob Nelson, Jay Perkins, and Rolland Tessier.

TOWN TREASURER ABATEMENT REQUESTS

The Town Clerk-Treasurer noted for the records that she will not be voting on the following request as she is the applicant.

7A. David Kitch

- Run #17-11542, Date of Service August 26, 2017 for \$131.43
- Run #17-13455, Date of Service September 28, 2017 for \$129.81
- Run #17-13465, Date of Service September 28, 2017 for \$88.27
- Ambulance bills (balance remaining after insurance payment)

On October 10, 2017 the Treasurer the bills for the above-mentioned items was returned noting the individual was deceased. It has been confirmed the Plainfield resident is deceased and there is no estate. Therefore, the request is to abate the three bills for David Kitch citing the person liable for the debt died insolvent.

On a motion by Paquin, seconded by Mitchell, the Board of Abatement voted to abate the three ambulance bills as noted above for David Kitch totaling \$379.51 citing the persona liable for the debt died insolvent. Those not present for the vote were Jeff Blow, Pearl Bugbee, William Bugbee, J. Guy Isabelle, J.P. Isabelle, Bob Nelson, Jay Perkins, and Rolland Tessier. Kelty recused herself due to a conflict.

7B. Town Treasurer - variety of small miscellaneous items (see attachment)

- For numerous parking tickets (plus penalties) and copies.
- Amount: The total abatement request is \$343.00 plus penalties

The Town Treasurer presented a spreadsheet of 24 items for abatement. Due to age, dollar amount, and no known mailing address the request is made stated the collection would create an undue expense for the Town. (See attached list.)

On a motion by Paquin, seconded by Lee Walther, the Board of Abatement voted to abate the miscellaneous levies as listed on the spreadsheet titled "Barre town Treasurer Request for Abatement dated January 24, 2018, citing the collection would create an undue expense for the Town. The motion passed with Tom White voting no. Those not present for the vote were Jeff Blow, Pearl Bugbee, William Bugbee, J. Guy Isabelle, J.P. Isabelle, Bob Nelson, Jay Perkins, and Rolland Tessier. Kelty recused herself due to a conflict.

OTHER BUSINESS

The next BCA meeting will be Wednesday, February 28, 2018, 6:30 p.m. for a checklist update meeting. At 5:45 p.m. the Tabulator Committee will meet to test the school election ballots.

Our next election will be for school issues on March 6, 2018. Please let the Clerk know what hours you will be available to work at the polls.

The Policy Committee (Lee Walther, Sheila Walter, Ed Paquin, and JP Isabelle) volunteered to revise the Income/Expense statement used with the abatement application. Lee ran some idea changes by the Board: put income/assets first, add notes for items such

BOARD OF ABATEMENT MEETING OF January 24, 2018 continued:

as property tax and insurances to remind applicants to calculate a monthly charge not the full quarterly/semi-annual payment(s) amount, keep it one page with perhaps more instruction on the back.

Enclosed in the BCA packet is a form titled "Last Paycheck Designating Beneficiary." Anyone who receives a payroll check needs to complete and return the document to the Town Clerk asap. As a reminder there can be only one beneficiary listed.

BCA members may have recently received a "zero" payroll check stub. The Town Clerk-Treasurer was informed to have health care benefits placed on W2s the Payroll company had to process an end of calendar year payroll. Since there is no option in the software program to select "individual records" for which health care benefits are applicable everyone in the system received a "zero check."

ADJOURN

On a motion by Mitchell, seconded by Tom White, the Board of Abatement voted unanimously to adjourn at 7:17 p.m. Those not present for the vote were Jeff Blow, Pearl Bugbee, William Bugbee, J. Guy Isabelle, J.P. Isabelle, Bob Nelson, Jay Perkins, and Rolland Tessier.

Board of Civil Authority

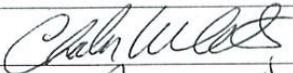
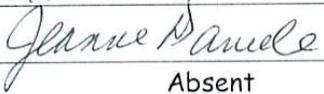
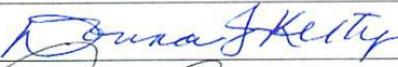
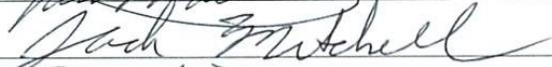
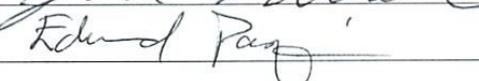
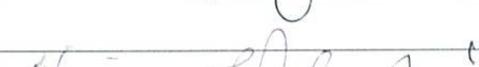
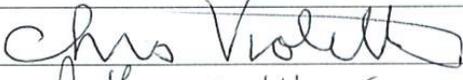
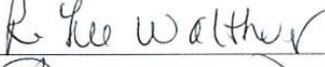
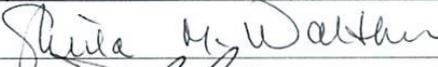
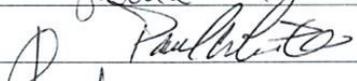
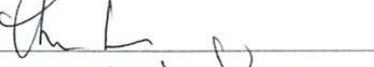
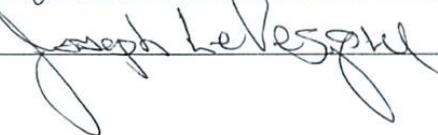
Donna J. Kelty, Town Clerk-Treasurer

BOARD OF ABATEMENT MEETING OF January 24, 2018 continued:

APPENDIX - BOARD OF ABATEMENT OATHS

**TOWN OF BARRE - ABATEMENT MEETING
OATH OF BOARD MEMBERS
January 24, 2018**

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	Absent
Bugbee, Pearl	Absent
Bugbee, William	Absent
Castle, Charles	
Daniele, Jeanne	
Isabelle, J. Guy	Absent
Isabelle, J.P.	Absent
Kelty, Donna	
Nelson, Bob	 Absent
Malone, Paul	
Mitchell, W. John "Jack"	
Paquin, Edward	
Perkins, Jay	 Absent
Poplawski, Virginia	
Ricks, Dottye	
Tessier, Rolland	 Absent
Violette, Christopher	
Walther, R. Lee	
Walther, Sheila	
White, Paul	
White Thomas	
Assessor Joseph Levesque	

BOARD OF ABATEMENT MEETING OF January 24, 2018 continued:

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS FOR ITEM 7B

Barre Town Treasurer Request for Abatement							
January 24, 2018							
Reason: Collection would create an undue expense for the Town.							
Ticket Date	Name	Mailing Address	Description	Principal	Penalties	Total	Reason
11/7/2010	Matthew Ballard	7 Cross St, Barre, VT	Winter Ban #177	\$ 15.00	\$ 20.05	\$ 35.05	Mail return no address
6/29/2012	John & Brittany Burt	PO Box 164, Barre, VT	Prohibit Parking #302	\$ 15.00	\$ 15.40	\$ 30.40	Mail return no address
8/26/2012	Jennette Chartrand	117 Eastern Union, Averill park, NY 12018	Prohibit Parking #57	\$ 15.00	\$ 15.40	\$ 30.40	Mail return no address
6/8/2011	Samantha Dickinson	30 Eastern Ave, Barre	Prohibit Parking #92	\$ 15.00	\$ 15.40	\$ 30.40	Mail return no address
6/30/2012	Samantha Eldred	47 Brooklyn St, Barre, VT	Prohibit Parking #305	\$ 15.00	\$ 15.40	\$ 30.40	Mail return no address
4/6/2006	Island Appraisals	2873 Main St, Isle Lamotte, VT 05463	Copy of Appraisal Card	\$ 3.00	\$ 3.75	\$ 6.75	Claim paid - cannot locate payment
12/15/2012	Brent Lamell	PO Box 1219, Montpelier, VT 05601	Winter Bank #352	\$ 15.00	\$ 15.40	\$ 30.40	Mail return no address
6/23/2012	Garrit Mcyntyre	753 Rowland Rd, Fairfield, CT 06824	Prohibit Parking #130	\$ 15.00	\$ 15.40	\$ 30.40	Mail return no address
8/19/2011	Samantha Miner	85 North St, Apt 2, Claremont, NH 03743	Prohibit Parking #235	\$ 15.00	\$ 15.40	\$ 30.40	Mail return no address
3/2/2013	Nicole Stratton	368 Bunker Hill Circle, Plfld, VT 05667	Prohibit Parking #364	\$ 15.00	\$ 15.40	\$ 30.40	Mail return no address
3/24/2013	Telephone Oper Co VT LLC	175 Industrial way, Portland, ME 04103	Winter ban #365 - plate BLY 582	\$ 15.00	\$ 15.40	\$ 30.40	Age - out of state - too costly to pursue
7/31/2012	Eric Thompson	41 Spring Hollow Lane, Barre, VT	Curb to left fine #278	\$ 10.00	\$ 13.60	\$ 23.60	Mail return no address
7/31/2012	Eric Thompson	41 Spring Hollow Lane, Barre, VT	Prohibit Parking #277	\$ 15.00	\$ 15.40	\$ 30.40	Mail return no address
12/21/2010	Cory P. Touchette	37 Bolster Road, Barre, VT	Winter Ban #129	\$ 15.00	\$ 20.05	\$ 35.05	Mail return no address
1/16/2015	Tarah R. Keiser	PO Box 51, Gvl, VT	Winter Ban #426	\$ 15.00	\$ 10.00	\$ 25.00	Mail return no address
10/11/2015	Curtis Kelsey Lyford	194 Websterville Rd, Barre, T	Prohibit Park #626	\$ 15.00	\$ 10.00	\$ 25.00	Mail return no address
2/16/2017	Shawn Douglas	67 Brook St, Websterville, VT	Winter Ban #822	\$ 15.00	\$ 10.00	\$ 25.00	Mail return no address
12/16/2015	Shawn Douglas	67 Brook St, Websterville, VT	Winter Ban #458	\$ 15.00	\$ 10.00	\$ 25.00	Mail return no address
7/24/2016	Kristy Jennings	253 Greenfield Ave #3, Ballston Spa, NY 12020	Prohibit Pkng #503	\$ 15.00	\$ 10.00	\$ 25.00	Mail return no address
8/20/2016	Gary Faye	325 Satinwood Lane, Greensburg, PA 15601	Prohibit Pkng #665	\$ 15.00	\$ 10.00	\$ 25.00	Mail return no address
7/30/2016	Christopher McKerman	13 Rezza Rd, Beverly Farms, MA 01915	Prohibit Pkng #285	\$ 15.00	\$ 10.00	\$ 25.00	Mail return no address
11/22/2015	Jaryd Langevin	14 Nichols St, Barre, VT	Winter Ban #451	\$ 15.00	\$ 10.00	\$ 25.00	Mail return no address
7/3/2015	Kristy Hunt	25 Cogswell St, GVL, VT	Prohibit Parking #281	\$ 15.00	\$ 10.00	\$ 25.00	Mail return no address
1/13/2017	Emilie Jewell Holland	89 Elm St. #1, Montpelier, VT 05602	Winter Ban #405 - Libercent St.	\$ 15.00	\$ 10.00	\$ 25.00	Mail return no address
Total Abatement Request				\$ 343.00	\$ 311.45	\$ 654.45	

7B