

**BOARD OF CIVIL AUTHORITY AGENDA
ABATEMENT MEETING**

March 1, 2017

1. Call to order 6:30 p.m.
2. Amendments to the agenda if needed.
3. Annual Reorganization - Elect Chair and Vice Chair.
4. Approve Abatement meeting minutes of January 26, 2017.
5. Administer abatement oath to BCA (remember to sign their 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 the Treasurer requests:
 - A) Clyde Austin/Barre Town - Tax Sale
 - B) Pamela Raymond - Ambulance
 - C) Michael Churchill - Ambulance
 - D) Karen Johnson - Ambulance
 - E) David Callahan - Ambulance
7. Review applications:
 - A) Rackliff, Matthew - taxes, sewer, water
 - B) McKelvey, Jennifer - taxes
 - C) Lawrence, Brian - property taxes
 - D) Whipple, Phillip - ambulance
 - E) Riley, Dennis - taxes (fire)
 - F) Intrator, Neil - taxes (fire)
8. Other Business as may come before the Board:
 - A) Updates to checklist made by Town Clerk for the record - list to be provided at the meeting.
 - B) Appoint JPs to carry sick ballots for March 7, 2017 school election.
 - C) Error on ballot for March 7, 2017 - no impact to election.
 - D) Next meeting date is May 3 (Open Town Meeting) or May 4 to appoint JPs for Annual Town Meeting. Confirm June 2017 abatement meeting date.
10. Adjourn

**BOARD OF ABATEMENT MEETING MINUTES
March 1, 2017**

The duly warned Board of Abatement Meeting was held on March 1, 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, Pearl Bugbee, William Bugbee, Charles "Chip" Castle, Jeanne Daniele, Jay Perkins, Virginia Poplawski, Dotty Ricks, Christopher Violette, R. Lee Walther, Sheila Walther, Paul White, Tom White, and Assessor Joseph Levesque.

Those absent included: Tracy Delude, J. Guy Isabelle, JP Isabelle, W. John "Jack" Mitchell, Edward Paquin, and Rolland Tessier. Others present included: Matthew Rackliff and Fred Thumm.

BOARD OF ABATEMENT MEETING OF MARCH 1, 2017 continued:

Chair Malone called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

CHANGES TO THE AGENDA

By consensus the Board agreed to amend the agenda to allow Item 7A, Matthew Rackliff to be heard following the approval of minutes.

ANNUAL REORGANIZATION

On a motion by Lee Walther, seconded by William Bugbee, Paul Malone was nominated for Chair of the BCA for the term of February 1, 2017 through January 31, 2019. With no other nominations, the motion was called and unanimously passed. The following members were not present for the vote: Tracy Delude, J. Guy Isabelle, JP Isabelle, W. John "Jack" Mitchell, Edward Paquin, and Rolland Tessier.

On a motion by Kelty, seconded by Paul White, Christopher Violette was nominated for Vice Chair of the BCA for the term of February 1, 2017 through January 31, 2019. With no other nominations, the motion was called and unanimously passed. Tracy Delude, J. Guy Isabelle, JP Isabelle, W. John "Jack" Mitchell, Edward Paquin, and Rolland Tessier.

MINUTES

On a motion by Castle, seconded by William Bugbee, the Board of Abatement voted to approve the Abatement Meeting Minutes of January 26, 2017 with the following corrections:

- 1. Page 2, Review of Attorney Letters..., paragraph 3, first sentence delete the words "~~is rubber stamped....Mike.~~" and is to be replaced with "is addressed to Mike when in fact the Board of Abatement is the one asking for the opinion."*

The following members were not present for the vote: Tracy Delude, J. Guy Isabelle, JP Isabelle, W. John "Jack" Mitchell, Edward Paquin, and Rolland Tessier.

OATH TO VOTING MEMBERS

The Board members present took the following 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.

ABATEMENT APPLICATION ITEMS

7A. Matthew Rackliff

30 Platinum Plain

Tax Map 027 Lot 022-10

Request: \$8,787.73 (delinquent property tax, sewer & water charges)

Background: The applicant provided a completed application, income & expense statement, a copy of his current year tax bill, and a listing of the outstanding delinquent amounts by installment.

Mr. Rackliff was present and was administered the oath. He provided the Board with the following facts:

- ✓ He is steadily employed and has a secure job,
- ✓ His daughter lives with him and he has helped to support her but she will be moving to California soon.
- ✓ The property in question is the family homestead and he has been paying off siblings - perhaps more than he should have.

BOARD OF ABATEMENT MEETING OF MARCH 1, 2017 continued:

On a motion by Lee White, seconded by Pearl Bugbee, the Board of Abatement voted to go into deliberative session at 6:44 p.m. The following members were not present for the vote: Tracy Delude, J. Guy Isabelle, JP Isabelle, W. John "Jack" Mitchell, Edward Paquin, and Rolland Tessier. Mr. Rackliff was asked to wait outside the meeting room.

On a motion by Castle, seconded by Lee White, the Board of Abatement voted to come out of deliberative session at 7:01 p.m. The following members were not present for the vote: Tracy Delude, J. Guy Isabelle, JP Isabelle, W. John "Jack" Mitchell, Edward Paquin, and Rolland Tessier. Mr. Rackliff returned to the meeting.

The Board asked additional questions which resulted in the following:

- Town Attorney Mike Monte is pursuing payment of the delinquent charges, has been in touch with the property owner. This is the reason for pursuing abatement.
- Mr. Rackliff has owned the property for 2 ½ years and may have some home equity. He would like to try for a refinance with his lender.
- The property owner acknowledged that he has been received the monthly delinquent bills and the late letters. He is not sure if he has made any payments since purchasing the property.
- The Board had concerns that if any portion of the delinquent amount were abated that Mr. Rackliff would be unable to keep current on his taxes, sewer, and water. He informed the Board he may have been living beyond his means for some time and that his daughter(s) were not contributing a large amount to the household.

On a motion by Sheila White, seconded by Pearl Bugbee, the Board of Abatement voted to go into deliberative session at 7:05 p.m. The following members were not present for the vote: Tracy Delude, J. Guy Isabelle, JP Isabelle, W. John "Jack" Mitchell, Edward Paquin, and Rolland Tessier. Mr. Rackliff was asked to wait outside the meeting room.

On a motion by Castle, seconded by Lee White, the Board of Abatement voted to come out of deliberative session at 7:35 p.m. The following members were not present for the vote: Tracy Delude, J. Guy Isabelle, JP Isabelle, W. John "Jack" Mitchell, Edward Paquin, and Rolland Tessier. Mr. Rackliff returned to the meeting.

The Chair informed Mr. Rackliff a decision had been made and asked the Clerk to read the decision: *The Board of Abatement finds that there is evidence to support financial hardship. However, they are denying the request and recommend Mr. Rackliff continue his efforts to refinance with his lender and to keep the Town Attorney informed. Should the refinance efforts fall short or fail to meet all his financial obligations he always has the option of coming to this Board to make another request.*

The Clerk further noted that Mr. Rackliff will be receiving the decision in writing and a copy will be forwarded to the Town Attorney.

TOWN TREASURER ABATEMENT REQUESTS

The Town Clerk-Treasurer noted for the records that she will not be voting on the following 5 items as she is the applicant.

On a motion by Sheila Walther, seconded by Castle, the Board of Abatement voted unanimously to abate the following 5 items as presented by the Town Treasurer:

- *6A-Town of Barre/Clyde Austin Life Estate, Tax Map 028, Lot 039, property the Town of Barre acquired through tax sale, with delinquent property tax in the amount of \$1558.54 plus penalties, delinquent sewer charges of \$758.40 plus penalties citing the collection would work an injustice.*

BOARD OF ABATEMENT MEETING OF MARCH 1, 2017 continued:

- *6B-Pamela Raymond, ambulance bill identified as Run #16-16963, date of service December 12, 2016 in the amount of \$1,201.35 citing the person liable for the debt died insolvent.*
- *6C-Michael Churchill, ambulance bill identified as Run #15-17371, in the amount of \$222.49 citing the person liable for the debt died insolvent.*
- *6D-Karen Johnson, ambulance bill identified as Run #16-10924, date of service August 3, 2016, in the amount of \$632.50 citing the person liable for the debt died insolvent.*
- *6E-David Callahan, ambulance bill identified as Run#16-2978, date of service February 29, 2016, in the amount of \$125.44 citing the person liable for the debt died insolvent.*

The following members were not present for the vote: Tracy Delude, J. Guy Isabelle, JP Isabelle, W. John "Jack" Mitchell, Edward Paquin, and Rolland Tessier.

ABATEMENT APPLICATION ITEMS CONTINUED:

7B Jennifer McKelvey - The Treasurer stated the applicant understands the need to be present for the hearing but is out of state and requests no action be taken until the next meeting. By consensus the Board agreed and appreciates that the applicant understands the importance of her presence.

7C. Brian Lawrence

9 Bianchi Street

Tax Map 025 Lot 143-00

Request: \$1,500.00 of the property tax bill.

Background: The application, photos of the property, and a copy of the tax bill was provided to the Board.

During discussion the following facts were noted:

- ✓ The property was purchased in July 2016 and is not the primary residence of the applicant.
- ✓ The property at the time of purchase needed many repairs.
- ✓ At the time of purchase the buyer (now owner) would have been aware of the property condition.

On a motion by Perkins, seconded by Paul White, the Board of Abatement voted to deny the request of Brian Lawrence to abate property taxes on 9 Bianchi Street, based on the facts stated above with Ricks and Tom White voting no. The following members were not present for the vote: Tracy Delude, J. Guy Isabelle, JP Isabelle, W. John "Jack" Mitchell, Edward Paquin, and Rolland Tessier.

7D. Phillip Whipple

Ambulance

Date of service May 29, 2016

Request: \$600.00

Background: Mr. Whipple provided the Board a completed application, income & expense statement, and the letter from the Central Vermont Medical Center confirming eligibility for financial assistance.

On a motion by Castle, seconded by Sheila Walther, the Board of Abatement voted to approve the request of Phillip Whipple, for his ambulance service on May 29, 2016 in the amount of \$600.00 citing financial hardship with Levesque voting no. The following members were not present for the vote: Tracy Delude, J. Guy Isabelle, JP Isabelle, W. John "Jack" Mitchell, Edward Paquin, and Rolland Tessier.

BOARD OF ABATEMENT MEETING OF MARCH 1, 2017 continued:

7E. Dennis Riley

729 Graniteville Road
 Tax Map 018 Lot 049-00
 Request: \$1,364.46

Background: The Board was provided a complete application, a copy of the current year tax bill, a letter from the Assessor confirming there was a fire on December 9, 2016 and the property loss is valued at \$105,200. The applicant is seeking abatement for the structure loss for the period December 9, 2016 through June 30, 2017 (current fiscal year).

On a motion by Violette, seconded by Castle, the Board of Abatement voted to abate property taxes for Fiscal Year 2016-2017 in the amount of \$1,364.46, on the property of Dennis Riley, 729 Graniteville Road, Tax Map 018, Lot 049-00, citing the property was destroyed during the fiscal year. The following members were not present for the vote: Tracy Delude, J. Guy Isabelle, JP Isabelle, W. John "Jack" Mitchell, Edward Paquin, and Rolland Tessier.

7F. Neil Intrator

505 Barclay Quarry Road
 Tax Map 010 Lot 028.01
 Request: \$2,272.39 for property taxes (due to fire)

Background: The Board was provided with the complete application, a copy of the 2015 and 2016 property tax bills, and a copy of the note from the Assessor confirming the fire took place on June 25, 2016 and the value of the property destroyed is \$84,600. The abatement request is for the period June 25, 2016 - June 30, 2017. The time frame covers two fiscal years (6 days in 15/16 and 365 days in 16/17).

On a motion by Castle, seconded by Violette, the Board of Abatement voted to abate property taxes for the period of June 25, 2016 - June 30, 2017 in the amount of \$2,272.39 on the property of Neil Intrator, 505 Barclay Quarry Road, Tax Map 010 Lot 028-01 citing the property was destroyed. The following members were not present for the vote: Tracy Delude, J. Guy Isabelle, JP Isabelle, W. John "Jack" Mitchell, Edward Paquin, and Rolland Tessier.

CHECKLIST UPDATE

To comply with the Town Charter the provided the Board with a listing of individuals who were added and removed from the checklist for the period November 3, 2016 through March 1, 2017.

Additions to the checklist= 191

Christine Abare	John S. Adams Sr.	Ryan C. Adams
Zachary John Anderson	Cameron Arnold	David K. Aubut
Janet Aubut	Todd M. Audet	Carroll Avery
Darlene M. Avery	Justin F. Barberi	Jacob B. Baron
Clay E. Bell	John N. Bell	Michael Anthony Berby
Chad Bernier	Travis B. Beyor	Donald K. Bigglestone
Jordyn E. Binaghi	Gregory D. Bisson	Charles R. Bizzozero
Jared Lee Blakely	Raymond P Blanchette	Jessica L. Boisvert
Paul E. Bombard	Kenneth Broe	Sandra M. Broe
Benjamin C. Brown	Brenda V. Brown	Whitney A. Brown
Callie Elaine Buck	Trisha M. Bullard	Brandon Bussiere
Hannah J. Carpenter	Christine A. Chicoine	William Scott Child
Paige Chouinard	Kenneth Christman	Dennis W. Clark I

BOARD OF ABATEMENT MEETING OF MARCH 1, 2017 continued:

Holly Cnossen	Christopher M. Colby	Devon Collins
Morgan Kay Comolli	Christopher D. Connolly	Diane Couture
Thomas E. Couture	Chandler Cressey	Candy Daniels
Raymond L. Davis	Michael J. Decato	Katharine M. Desanto
Amber S. Dessureau	Arthur J. Dessureau	Marie E. Dessureau
Philip A. Dessureau	Gaelyn Destino	David G. Detweiler
Kenneth A. Deuso I	Robin Deyo	Tierra Deyo
Steven A. Diltz	John F. Drinkwine	Kenneth W Dunbar
Christopher M Duprey	Irma Dutil	Jonathan Leo Dutil
Andrea Epstein	Steven Epstein	Heidi Anne Erdos-King
Courtney L Estes	Audrey J Gargo	Shane R Fargo
Emile Gambler	Bradley Alan Goodale	Ryan James Grandfield
Mark Griffith	Raymond M. Grout	Katlyn Hall
Todd Hall	Jessie L Hannon	Denis Hedding
Olaf E Hedding	Snapper S Henry	Michael Karl Hoffman
Catrina M. hood	Nick Adam Hoskins	Caitlin Bailey Hull
Annie Huntington	Linda Janawicz	Jeffrey L. Joslin
Felecia R. Kennison	Philip J. Keough	Agatha A. Kessler
Danielle Farnsworth Kidder	Ashton M Kimball	Jolin L. Kimberley
Erik S Kindestin	Kirk Kreitz	Colleen Kresco
John Kinkle	Cody A. Lafountain	Eric Michael Lajeunesse
Joanne Roy Lajeunesse	Jessica A Lance	Matthew K Lavoy
Paige Leblanc	William R. Lefebvre Sr.	Isadore Joseph Lemieux Jr.
Kayla Marie Masse Link	Matthew Paul Link	Corinne M Longfellow
Thomas C Longfellow	Faye Longo	Kody Lyon
Jacqueleen E MacAulay	Jennifer L MacAuley	Shawn Michael MacAuley
Steven J. Magoon	Kimberly L Magoon Somaini	Alexandra T Marek
Billie Jo Martin	David C Maxfield	Robert D Maxfield
Bobbie-Jo Maxham	Noah Josef Mayr	Ian D. McCullough
John R. McHugh	Amanda Meredith	David Thomas Meredith
Adam K Meyer	Brenda V Millett I	Robert W. Millett
Ashley Morgan Moreau	Gudrun Noetzold	Wolfgang Noetzold
Jacob P. Normandy	Leo A. Norton Jr.	Ryan O'Hara
Stephen R. O'Hara	Christie E. Cote Omodeo	Kayla A. O'Reilly
Tanner J. Ormsby	Michael Orris	James A. Parker Jr.
Jason Christopher Parry	Jesse C Paya	Steven Jason Perry
Paul Phillips Jr.	Robert D. Phillips	Patrick J Pipitone
Amy Plante	Jayvian W. Poitras	Tracy Lauren Potter V
Gerald Provost	Mary Rackliff	Patrick Brian Rayta
Robert Rea Jr.	Oreste S. Reader	Danielle Record
Christina T. L Rossell	Kimberly L Royer	Gregg J Rufolo
Alisha L J Sancibrian	Chares M. Savoia	Brian David Segit
Jaime Semprebon	Devon C Sherman	Amanda L Shute
Sierra N Slothower	Brooke Spence	Tara A Starzec
Alfred R. Stevens	Mahfoud Tebbakh	Gilles J. Therrien
James A. Thurston	Charles Thygesen Jr.	Dawmarie Tomasi
Garrett Townsend	Nancy L Trepto	Andrew A Trombley
Morgan leigh Trombley	Brian John Tucker	Dwayne M Tucker
Mindy K Crosby Vincent	Jeffrey Dale Washburn	Lindsey J Wells
Roy E Wescom III	Christine D Williams	Bradley Wilson
Calvin Thomas Wright	Yale W. Palmer Young	

BOARD OF ABATEMENT MEETING OF MARCH 1, 2017 continued:

The following are the 37 deletions

Paul C. Allen	Paul E. Baril	Merle W. Benjamin
Winston C. Bresett	Laurette R. Chouinard	Verna Cote
Thomas C. Davis	Leona M. Day	Ralph O. DeForge
J. Arthur Deroche	James S. Durham	Kevin J. Fritz
Wayne E. Gilman	Brandon D. Grant	Corey M. Griffith
Donald R. Harding	Jean Hayward	Beverly Healy
Alan A. Hebert	Ellis S. Isabelle	Fred McGrath Jr.
Charlie G. Merrill	Al R. Monty	Raymond C. Munson
John F. O'Hara	Jody Lyn Pinard	Michael Scott Pinkans
Carol D. Richards	Marcell L Smith	Ruth R. Smith
Douglas W. Spaulding	Francis J. Tedeschi	Bradford M. Towne
Frederick W. Vanbuskirk	Kevin Duane Whible	Teresa M. White

OTHER BUSINESS

The consensus of those present is to appoint Chris Violette and William Bugbee to carry sick ballots at the March 7, 2017 Annual Barre Town School District elections. Alternates will be Lee Walther and William Bugbee.

There is a printing error on the school district ballot which will not impact the outcome of any questions. On Articles 2 and 3, Voting for school Directors, there is a yes/no question which should not be there as there is no yes/no answer to the question. All other tallies are correct when tested.

Next Meeting: The next meeting will be Wednesday, May 3, 2017, 6:30 p.m. to meet the requirements of the Town Charter for checklist update and to appoint JPs to carry sick ballots.

To eliminate any meeting schedule conflicts for the Town and Board meetings the June Board of Abatement meeting will be rescheduled to the first Wednesday of the month June 7th.

ADJOURN

On a motion by William Bugbee, seconded by Lee Walther, the Board of Abatement voted unanimously to adjourn at 8:15 p.m. The following members were not present for the vote: Tracy Delude, J. Guy Isabelle, JP Isabelle, W. John "Jack" Mitchell, Edward Paquin, and Rolland Tessier.

Board of Civil Authority

Donna J. Kelty, Town Clerk-Treasurer

(See next page for oaths.)

BOARD OF ABATEMENT MEETING OF MARCH 1, 2017 continued:

APPENDIX - BOARD OF ABATEMENT OATHS

**TOWN OF BARRE - ABATEMENT MEETING
OATH OF BOARD MEMBERS
March 1, 2017**

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
Bugbee, Pearl	<i>Pearl Bugbee</i>
Bugbee, William	<i>William Bugbee</i>
Castle, Charles	<i>Charles Castle</i>
Daniele, Jeanne	<i>Jeanne Daniele</i>
Delude, Tracy	<i>Absent</i>
Isabelle, J. Guy	Absent
Isabelle, J.P.	Absent
Kelty, Donna	<i>Donna Kelty</i>
LaClair, Robert	<i>Absent</i>
Malone, Paul	<i>Paul Malone</i>
Mitchell, W. John "Jack"	Absent
Paquin, Edward	Absent
Perkins, Jay	<i>Jay Perkins</i>
Poplawski, Virginia	<i>Virginia Poplawski</i>
Ricks, Dottie	<i>Dottie Ricks</i>
Tessier, Rolland	<i>Absent</i>
Violette, Christopher	<i>Chris Violette</i>
Walther, R. Lee	<i>R. Lee Walther</i>
Walther, Sheila	<i>Sheila R. Walther</i>
White, Paul	<i>Paul White</i>
White Thomas	<i>Thomas White</i>
Assessor Joseph Levesque	<i>Joseph Levesque</i>