

Town of Rockingham & Bellows Falls Village Corporation
Boards of Abatement Meeting
September 18, 2014

Minutes

Present: Doreen Aldrich, Mary Barber, Pat Fowler, Peter Golec, Dennis Harty, Douglas MacPhee, Paul Obuchowski, Alan Ternes; BCA and Michael Harty, Paul Noble and Camilla Roberts; Listers

Others: Anna and Michael Emerson and Willis D. Stearns, II, Municipal Manager

Call to Order: Chairman, MacPhee, called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

Approve Minutes of May 28, 2014: Peter Golec moved to approve the minutes as printed, seconded by Alan Ternes. The motion carried with five in favor and three abstentions (not at the meeting)

Michael Emerson – 454 Rockingham Rd.; Rockingham - PIN115000450-001

Mr. Emerson was present with his mother. He had nothing more to offer than the information on his abatement hearing request form which was that he would pay \$18,328.96 and keep his current taxes up-to-date. Mr. Emerson said Chip (Willis Stearns) went back to 2009-2010 and recalculated what was due. Mr. Emerson said he thought he was going to go back to 2006. He is asking to abate all the interest and penalties to date and he will pay \$18,328.96 (\$16,511.20 in principal and \$1,817.76 “Other”. Stearns said the notice referred to by Mr. Emerson is dated June 11, 2014. There are additional years on the account now. The value in 2013 had dropped already to the \$153,000. What was abated, was a value that carried for those years when we agreed to drop it to \$153,000. The abatement was only on the years the assessment was faultily high. He believes Mr. Emerson is asking for the total obligation (4 pages attached dated 9/18/2014) of all interest and penalties through 2013-2014 of \$8,023.57. MacPhee asked if his taxes this year are current and Emerson said they were. After much discussion, Alan Ternes moved to abate \$8,023.57 in interest and penalties from 2010-2014 in taxes and \$900.52 for Emerson’s payment towards 2014-2015 which was applied to the delinquency rather than the current year’s taxes. Peter Golec seconded the motion. The board is looking for the payment of \$18,328.96. If not received by the 10th of next month, the interest continues on the \$18,328.96 Mr. Emerson owes us. Harty said he feels we are setting a precedent here and Obuchowski agreed. Camilla Roberts said she doesn’t feel we are setting a precedent; it is a tax burden that needed correction. The motion carried with five in favor, two opposed and one abstention.

Miguel Orantes - 53 Atkinson St. – PIN234010053 Mr. Orantes was not present. The clerk advised that he was scheduled to have surgery today. Fowler pointed out that Mr. Orantes says he is under Chapter 13 bankruptcy. Chairman MacPhee pointed out that Orantes had not submitted a financial statement. The clerk responded that she didn’t think he knew he had to. After much discussion, the board agreed that there wasn’t sufficient information to make a clear decision. Mary Barber moved to deny the request for abatement because of insufficient financial information. Peter Golec seconded the motion and the motion carried. The clerk and listers

were instructed to send a letter of explanation to Mr. Orantes and advise him to come back with more information.

D & S Laundry – 110 Rockingham St. – PIN 88-0000243 Municipal Manager, Chip Stearns, advised that this has been paid in full. The tax bill was sent to a new address and the owners paid.

Quality Impressions Print Shop – Main St.; Saxtons River – PIN 88-0000203

The listers advised that is a business (personal property) that closed. The listers were unaware of this closure until 201102012 and recommend abatement to clear the books. Paul Obuchowski moved to abate \$423.31, seconded by Peter Golec. The motion carried:

Other Business: None

Adjourn: Peter Golec moved to adjourn at 7:40 p.m., seconded by Mary Barber. The motion carried.

Respectfully submitted _____ Clerk
Doreen Aldrich

Approved: _____ Chairman