

**BOARD OF ABATEMENT MEETING**  
**JUNE 29 2016**  
**6:00 PM**

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Present: Kathleen Neathawk, Town Clerk & Treas.; Ann DiBernardo, Stefan Golec and Lamont Barnett, Select Board Members; Evelyn Weeks and Stefan Golec, Village Trustee; Stephen Crofter, Patricia Fowler, Dennis Harty, Sally MacPhee and Heather Waryas, JP'S; Camilla Roberts and Paul Noble  
Board of Listers

Others: James McAuliffe and Even Moore, Taxpayers

The clerk opened the meeting at 6:04 p.m. to nominate a chairperson. Lamont Barnett nominated Stefan Golec, seconded by Steve Crofter. There were no other nominations or objections, the motion carried.

**Island Holdings LLC- PIN 234460025- 21 Island St.**

McAuliffe spoke on behalf of BFADC who now owns the property. He stated the building is vacant, crumbling to the ground and there are hazardous materials in and around the grounds. The building was purchased in hopes to revive it and put a business there. It has taken a lot of time and energy on McAuliffe's part to get things this far. They are waiting for the State of Vermont to come in and help clean the site up. Roberts asked if there is any income coming in and McAuliffe answered "No" therefore they feel they cannot pay the taxes. MacPhee made a motion to abate the taxes, seconded by Barnett. Harty asked what would happen if the taxes were not paid, would the property go to tax sale. Barnett replied "Yes". Harty went on to say "So we wouldn't get taxes anyway because the town is exempt". After some discussion, because the Board was unclear about the dates on the abatement application, Roberts made a motion to amend the original motion with MacPhee and Barnett in agreement to the amendment. The amendment was to abate taxes for tax years 2014-15 and 2015-16 not to abate a specific amount. Motion passed with four were opposed, Harty, Waryas, DiBernardo and Golec.

**Island Holdings LLC-PIN 23440610-10 Island St.**

McAuliffe cited the same reasoning for this piece of property as the previous. There being no further discussion Barnett made a motion to abate taxes for the year 2015-16, seconded by MacPhee. The motion passed with no objections.

**Town of Rockingham/ Bellows Falls Village Corporation**

Golec referred to the Resolution signed by both the Town of Rockingham Selectboard and the Village of Bellows Falls Trustee's on June 6, 2006 that state's "At the close of each tax year, the Delinquent Tax Collector for the Town of Rockingham/Bellows Falls Village Corporation will present to the Board of Abatement a request to abate any delinquent property taxes totaling

Twenty Dollars (\$20.00) or less". MacPhee made a motion to abate the taxes at a total of \$559.59, seconded by Weeks. There was no discussion. Motion passed with no objections.

**Evan Moore and Anna Powers-PIN 060820051- 51 Rounds Rd.**

Mr. Moore was present and was asked if he had anything else to add to the application. He stated he thought he covered everything with what he had sent in. Harty made a motion to abate \$1,534.59 in taxes, seconded by Barnett. Roberts responded that she could find nothing in their correspondence where the criteria which he marked for his reason for abatement "Taxes where there is a manifest error or mistake by the Listers". She stated the case that Moore cited as his bases for abatement and it was determined there was no manifest or lister error. Mr. Moore admitted he had cited the wrong case and asked for his abatement to be tabled so he could do his homework. Chairman Golec responded there was a motion and that motion would need to be withdrawn in order to table this. No one withdrew the motion. The motion failed unanimously with Noble and Roberts recusing themselves.

There being no further business Chairman Golec made the motion to adjourn at 7:10 p.m., seconded by DiBernardo. The motion carried.

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_ Town Clerk

Kathleen Neathawk

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_ Chairman

Stefan Golec