

BOARD OF ABATEMENT

—Draft Minutes—

October 28, 2015

Members: Donna Bohannon, Rosella Hansen, Barbara Baker, Connie Boutin, Herbie Pearo, Jim Magner, Robert Creller, Alton Brusco

Guests: Danielle James Choiniere, Janet Rothschild

Meeting opened at 5:40 pm.

- *Herbie Pearo motioned to nominate Alton Brusco as chair of the Abatement Board. Barbara Baker seconded. All in favor, motion carried.*

Janet Rothschild was seeking to abate delinquent taxes she had paid on 274 Route 2 South as part of a tax sale held December 2012. She reported there were errors on the assessor card: top floor was unfinished after a fire, and the basement should have reflected that it had a dirt floor and a 4-foot clearance.

The building, with those errors, was assessed for \$172,700 when Janet purchased the property. It was then reduced to \$95,000 after the condition of the house was updated.

Janet was requesting a \$2,938.14 abatement on the taxes she paid when the house was still under the prior owners' names—tax sale deeds are not drawn up until 1 year after the tax sale if the property is not redeemed. \$2,595.78 was for taxes and \$342.36 for interest.

Barbara Baker made a motion to refund the money, then rescinded the motion based on the former owners should have grieved the assessment.

Alton Brusco had a problem abating taxes for people who did not own the property, to which Herbie Pearo stated it sets a precedent.

Janet Rothschild and Donna Bohannon were asked to leave the room at 6:05 pm so the board could discuss their options.

Robert Creller said they could abate the interest.

The biggest concern was Janet was not the legal owner of the property for the years she wished to abate, and the board did not want other purchasers, past or present, arguing for the same compensation.

- *Barbara Baker motioned to deny the abatement requested, seconded by Herbie Pearo. All in favor, motion carried.*

The board nominated Alton Brusco to put something official in writing, and Danielle would help.

- *Barbara Baker motioned to adjourn the meeting at 6:25 pm, Robert Creller seconded. All in favor, meeting adjourned.*

Minutes will be approved at the next scheduled meeting.

Respectfully submitted,
Danielle James Choiniere