

DRAFT - UNAPPROVED
WILMINGTON BOARD OF ABATEMENT
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 18, 2013 AT 5:30PM
MINUTES OF MEETING

The Wilmington Board of Abatement convened at 5:31pm on June 18, 2013 in the second floor meeting room of Town Hall.

IN ATTENDANCE: A quorum was achieved with 14 out of 17 members present. Selectboard – Jake White, Susie Haughwout (also as Town Clerk), Diane Chapman, Jim Burke, Tom Fitzgerald (also as Justice of the Peace); Justices of the Peace – Rosemarie Blair, Elizabeth McEwen, Frank Spencer, Tom Consolino; Listers – Len Chapman, Lynne Matthews, Diane Schipke, Jerry Osler; Town Treasurer – Christine Richter. RECUSED – Fred Houston, JOP

Clerk opened nominations for Chair – Tom Fitzgerald nominated Elizabeth McEwen, seconded by Diane Chapman. Hearing no other nominations, the Board voted to elect McEwen as Chair unanimously.

Clerk swore in the Board of Abatement and property owner who was present.

The Board heard the following requests for sewer tax abatements due to Irene Flood damaged properties:

FREDERICK HOUSTON – owner 6 South Main Street – Houston is a Justice of the Peace and recused himself from the Board of Abatement in order to present the case for his property. The property is currently being repaired. He stated that water service was restored to his property on 9/20/2013 and requested a sewer tax abatement of \$739.03 which covers the period from his prior post-flood abatement until 9/20/14. Houston stated that he was willing to receive the abatement in the form of a credit if approved.

ROBERT GRINOLD – owner 15 West Main Street – appeared by written request submitted to Clerk – Grinold owned the property from 6/18/13 to 2/10/14 during which time there was no water service connected. He requested a sewer tax abatement for that period.

ANN COLEMAN-SPECHT/JOSEPH SPECHT – 23 West Main Street – appeared by written request submitted to Clerk. Coleman's building was totally lost in the Irene Flood and has not yet been rebuilt; therefore there is neither water nor sewer connected. The Board asked if it was appropriate to continue approving abatements on a non-existing building – should the allocation be rescinded by the sewer commission. Clerk informed the Board that this case is unique with no particular guidance from the statutes and is completely under the Board's discretion.

TOWN OF WILMINGTON fka BRISSETTE – 3 Shafter Street – this property was a FEMA acquisition by the Town. The Town was required to demolish the building and the property is permanently restricted from rebuilding. There is an outstanding amount remaining on the books and the Treasurer requested this abatement as a matter of financial housekeeping.

SCHEDULE OF SMALL PROPERTY TAX BALANCES & SMALL SEWER TAX BALANCES – This request was brought by the Treasurer as a matter of financial housekeeping. Copies of schedules attached.

MOTION TO GO INTO DELIBERATIVE SESSION made by Christine Richter, seconded by Jim Burke. VOICE VOTE – ALL IN FAVOR. Tom Consolino recused himself from the discussion under deliberative session with regard to the ANN COLEMAN-SPECHT/JOSEPH SPECHT property and returned to the room for the remaining discussion.

MOTION TO EXIT DELIBERATIVE SESSION made by Jim Burke, seconded by Christine Richter. VOICE VOTE – ALL IN FAVOR

MOTION TO ABATE SEWER TAXES for property owned by FREDERICK HOUSTON at 6 South Main Street in the amount of \$739.03 and issue a credit, subject to confirmation of the amount by the Treasurer made by Jim Burke, seconded by Elizabeth McEwen. VOICE VOTE – ALL IN FAVOR

MOTION TO ABATE SEWER TAXES for property owned by ROBERT GRINOLD at 15 West Main Street for the period of 6/18/13 through 2/10/14 made by Elizabeth McEwen, seconded by Rosemarie Blair. VOICE VOTE – ALL IN FAVOR

MOTION TO ABATE ALL REMAINING SEWER TAXES/PENALTIES/INTEREST for property owned by TOWN OF WILMINGTON (fka BRISSETTE) at 3 Shafter Street made by Jake White, seconded by Elizabeth McEwen. VOICE VOTE – ALL IN FAVOR

MOTION TO ABATE SMALL BALANCE PROPERTY TAX AMOUNTS & SMALL BALANCE SEWER TAX AMOUNT as presented by the Treasurer made by Rosemarie Blair, seconded by Diane Schipke. VOICE VOTE – ALL IN FAVOR

MOTION TO ABATE SEWER TAXES/PENALTIES/INTEREST for FY 2013 for property owned by ANN COLEMAN-SPECHT & JOSEPH SPECHT at 23 West Main Street and to issue a refund if necessary, also to include a note indicating that it is unlikely that the Board of Abatement will continue to look favorably on future flood related abatement requests for the non-existent building, made by Jim Burke, seconded by Rosemarie Blair. VOICE VOTE – 13 IN FAVOR – Tom Consolino recused.

MOTION TO ADJOURN made by Diane Chapman, seconded by Jerry Osler. VOICE VOTE - ALL IN FAVOR - ADJOURNED – 5:59pm

TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE, INFORMATION AND BELIEF, THESE MINUTES ARE A TRUE AND OFFICIAL RECORD OF ALL ACTION TAKEN AT THE BOARD OF ABATEMENT MEETING HELD, JUNE 18, 2014.

MINUTES PREPARED ON FRIDAY, JUNE 20, 2013 & SUBMITTED TO WEBMASTER ON FRIDAY, JUNE 20, 2014 AT 7:17PM.

ATTEST:



Susan Joy Haughwout, Wilmington Town Clerk

JUNE 20, 2014

DATE: _____

TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE, INFORMATION AND BELIEF, THESE MINUTES ARE A TRUE INDICATION OF THE BUSINESS OF THE BOARD OF ABATEMENT MEETING HELD, JUNE 18, 2014.

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