

# MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF ABATEMENT

Wednesday, August 28, 2024, 6 pm, Brandon Town Hall, DOWNSTAIRS 1 Conant Square, Brandon, VT

Zoom Meeting ID	253 279 4161
Zoom Link	<a href="https://zoom.us/j/2532794161">https://zoom.us/j/2532794161</a>
Dial-in only	(929) 205-6099; Enter Meeting ID 253 279 4161 #; # again

Present: Board of Abatement members: Chair Laura Peterson, Doug Bailey, Brian Coolidge, Bertram Coolidge, Patricia Welch, Bob Clark, John Peterson, Ralph Ethier and Susan Gage.

Chair Laura Peterson opened the meeting at 6:14 pm and the opened the following hearing:

## **TAX ABATEMENT**

**Anita and Janner Morgan**, 21 Old Brandon Rd, Brandon, VT; Requesting abatement of Taxes under **24 V.S.A. § 1535(a)(5) taxes or charges upon real or personal property lost or destroyed during the tax year.**

Chair Peterson asked board members present whether there were any ex-parte communications or conflicts of interest regarding the subject property and/or property owners. There were none. Clerk Sue Gage distributed the evidence provided in the hearing, consisting of letter of request from the Morgan's, current year tax bill, property card and calculation of potential abatement, including proration of taxes. Clerk Gage explained that Anita and Janner Morgan's home and garage as well as all their possessions were destroyed in a fire on July 15, 2024. Clerk Gage explained the calculations of taxes due and potential abatement included in the evidence distributed.

Tricia Welch asked whether taxes can be reinstated if a homeowner rebuilds during the tax year. Clerk Gage stated that once taxes are abated, there is no recovering the taxes for that tax year. The state of Vermont utilizes April 1, to generate grand lists, and anything in place on that date would drive the assessments for the upcoming tax year.

The board entered deliberative session briefly and returned to make a motion to abate property taxes in the amount of \$485.07 which are the taxes on the home and outbuildings that were lost in the July 15 fire.

The hearing was closed at 6:27 pm

## **TAX ABATEMENT**

**Town of Brandon**, 106 Newton Rd, Brandon, VT; **Abatement of Taxes on property acquired through FEMA flood abatement.**

Board voted unanimously to abate taxes in the amount of \$2,757.90 for property acquired by the Town of Brandon, through FEMA for flood mitigation efforts on Newton Rd. Property was owned by Forestdale Holding Partnership and the transfer to the town occurred on July 24, 2024. Clerk Sue Gage prorated the taxes and calculated the amount to abate. Hearing was closed at 6:35 pm.

The Board of Abatement was adjourned at 6:40 pm

Respectfully submitted,



Susan Gage, Clerk