

Board of Abatement November 13, 2023
Benson Town Office

Board Members Present: Lynn Bowen, Lois Trenn, Heidi Chandler, Jerod Glover, Thomas Bartholomew, Linda Peltier, Brad Barrett, John Hill and Eric Shaw.

For the Appellant: Jason Rasco

Others: Delinquent Tax Collector, Barbara Burlett, and Norma Phillips

Lynn Bowen called the meeting to order at 6:30pm. John Hill moved to approve the minutes of the September 5, 2023 Board of Civil Authority meeting. The motion was seconded by Linda Peltier and it was so moved. John Hill made a motion to approve the agenda, seconded by Linda Peltier.

Request for Abatement on Parcel 000006-1, located at 1975 Perch Pond Road.

The Chair heard testimony from Jason Rasco. He stated that he didn't realize his taxes weren't in escrow. He talked about hardship: financial, personal and family, his divorce, a car accident in December 2022, and his subsequent resignation as school principal. He stated that he was having trouble refinancing because the dwelling was considered a summer home. He was also seeking help from Legal Aid. Lois Trenn asked if he received letters from the Delinquent tax collector, Barbara Burlett. He said he received the letters, but did not reach out to Mrs. Burlett. He asked for more time to pay. Mr. Rasco was informed that it is not up to the abatement board to approve a payment schedule: that matter is in the Tax collectors hand. Barbara Burlett let Mr. Rasco know that he will have one year to pay the taxes in full, plus interest, after the sale. Mr. Rasco stated he was not aware of this.

Adjournment

Board entered deliberative session by a motion from John Hill 6:50 pm, seconded by Jerod Glover. The meeting adjourned at 6:57 pm on a motion from Lynn Bowen with a second from Eric Shaw.

Respectfully Submitted,

Heidi Chandler, Clerk