

**TOWN OF SHELburne
BOARD OF ABATEMENT
MINUTES OF MEETING
February 6, 2017**

APPROVED – 6/12/17

MEMBERS PRESENT: Tom Little (Chair); Josh Dein, Peter Gadue, Lee Suskin, Jennifer Leopold, David Webster, Nancy Baker, George Schiavone, Colleen Parker, Jerry Storey, Jaime Heins, Randy Rowland, Mary Kehoe, Bill Deming, Rebecca Moore.

ADMINISTRATION: Diana Vachon, Town Clerk.

OTHERS PRESENT: None.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Tom Little called the meeting to order at 7:59 PM.

2. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Chair & Vice Chair

MOTION by David Webster, SECOND by George Schiavone, to nominate Tom Little as Chair of the Shelburne Board of Abatement.

MOTION by Nancy Baker, SECOND by Mary Kehoe, to nominate David Webster as Vice Chair of the Shelburne Board of Abatement.

There were no further nominations.

MOTION by Jennifer Leopold, SECOND by Jaime Heins, to close the nominations.

VOTING: unanimous; motion carried.

VOTING ON NOMINEES: unanimous; motions carried.

Tom Little is Chair of the Shelburne Board of Abatement. David Webster is Vice Chair of the Shelburne Board of Abatement.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES (2/8/16)

February 8, 2016

MOTION by Rebecca Moore, SECOND by George Schiavone, to approve the minutes of February 8, 2016 as written. VOTING: 8 ayes, 7 abstentions (Josh Dein, David Webster, Jerry Storey, Jaime Heins, Randy Rowland, Mary Kehoe, Bill Deming); motion carried.

Chair Little noted a quorum of the Board of Abatement is one more than half of the number of members on the board.

4. TAX ABATEMENTS

37 Nashville Road – Beane

The appellant was not present. A letter was submitted by the appellant, Carl Beane, dated October 14, 2016, requesting the taxes on his 1980 mobile home at 37 Nashville Road be abated. The letter states that he does not have the money to pay back or current taxes was

reviewed. The board members discussed the letter. The mobile home park owner, Richard Rooney, wants to dispose of Mr. Beane's mobile home.

Chair Little provided information on abatement of taxes from *The VLCT News*, March 2015. It was noted Mr. Beane owes current year and some back taxes on the mobile home, but does not own the land/lot. The tax bill and notice of the hearing were mailed to a post office box in Richmond, Vermont, but the appellant appears to no longer be living in the state. Chair Little outlined options for handling the abatement noting the following:

- The Board has not been provided with sufficient information on which to base a decision for abatement so the request could be denied.
- The Board has not been provided with sufficient information on which to base a decision for abatement so the hearing could be continued and request made for further information from Mr. Beane and the town with regard to how much is owed in taxes, when taxes were past paid, and whether the mobile home is a livable unit or uninhabitable.

Lee Suskin asked if the park owner can dispose of the mobile home. Chair Little said if Mr. Beane has not paid the lot fee then the park owner could put a lien on the mobile home and become the owner and therefore remove the unit from the lot. If the mobile home is sold the buyer would be required to pay delinquent and current taxes due. If the mobile home is foreclosed by the park owner then the park owner might inherit the back taxes as well.

Lee Suskin asked if the Rules of Procedure address how notices are sent: certified mail, First Class, personal service by a sheriff. Diana Vachon said the notice to Mr. Beane was sent by First Class mail to the post office box in Richmond. Chair Little said certified mail is not used to mail grievance appeals.

MOTION by George Schiavone, SECOND by Peter Gadue, to continue the hearing on the Carl J. Beane abatement request for 37 Nashville Road until a time to be determined. VOTING: unanimous; motion carried.

5. OTHER BUSINESS

Rules of Procedure

A subcommittee will be formed to review the Rules of Procedure for the Board of Abatement and provide comment. Research will be done to see if VLCT has a model.

6. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by Jennifer Leopold, SECOND by Jaime Heins, to adjourn the meeting. VOTING: unanimous; motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:23 PM.