

Draft/Unapproved Minutes

BOARD OF ABATEMENT MEETING

MARCH 19, 2026-6:00 p.m.

In person at Westminster, VT Town Hall

Present: Jeannette Staley, Sarah Waldo, Craig Allen, Peggy O'Toole, John Ewald, Paul Banik, Jason Perry, Matt Conklin, Nancy Dalzell, Real Bazin, Millie Barry, and Susan Roman

Absent: K. Sheldon Beebe, Adrienne Major, Stephen Major, Susan Harlow, Chuck Lawrence, Elizabeth Harlow

1. **Call to Order:** Millie Barry (town clerk) called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. This meeting was recorded.
2. **Reorganization of Board of Abatement:** Ms. Barry called for nominations for Chair of the Board of Abatement. Peggy O'Toole nominated Sarah Waldo, Nancy Dalzell seconded, motion carried by unanimous voice vote. Sarah Waldo called for nominations for Vice Chair. Craig Allen nominated Susan Harlow, Matt Conklin seconded, motion carried by unanimous voice vote.
3. **Acceptance of Minutes:** July 30, 2025 - Craig Allen motioned to approve the minutes as printed. Peggy O'Toole seconded the motion. Mr. Allen noted his name was not listed as attending the July 30, 2025 meeting. The minutes will be corrected. Motion to accept corrected minutes carried by unanimous voice vote. Jason Perry, Real Bazin and Paul Banik abstained from vote due to absence.
4. **Larry Porter – VT Civil Court Findings of Fact** – Sarah Waldo read from the VT Superior Court order case number 22-CV-01381. Larry Porter (believed to be deceased) was the owner of record of 1957 Travelo mobile home bearing serial number 2178094 located in Shady Pines mobile home park. From personal knowledge, Mr. Allen confirmed Mr. Porter was deceased. The Court determined the mobile home had been abandoned, was unusable and is unsaleable turning the mobile home over to HFI (Housing Foundation Inc.). Property taxes 2020/2021-\$124.59, 2021/2022-\$119.38, 2022/2023- \$110.08, total amount \$354.05 owed to the Town of Westminster have been cleared by the Court. Craig Allen questioned #11 of the Court Order and amount due Town of \$167.26 in unpaid property taxes. Ms. Barry noted the original document, received by the town clerk's office on May, 22, 2022, in error was not recorded upon receipt. The order was recorded November 21, 2025. Jason Perry motioned to abate \$354.05 for the Larry Porter mobile home, Craig Allen seconded, motioned carried by voice vote. (Staley, Waldo, Allen, O'Toole, Banik, Perry, Conklin, Dalzell, Bazin, Barry, Roman) John Ewald abstained from vote.
5. **Ralph Barber, Sr. (deceased)- VT Civil Court Finding of Fact:** Ms. Waldo read from VT Superior Court order 26-CV-00646. Ralph Barber, Sr. is the record owner of a 1965 Marlette AK mobile home, serial #50458-D located in lot 76 of the Shady Pines mobile home park.

Mitchell Barber and Janet Lockhart previously occupied the home without authorization, and illegally. The Court finds that the mobile home has been abandoned, is uninhabitable, and will be transferred to HFI in 'as is' condition, free of all liens including taxes in the amount of \$341.52 to the Town of Westminster. Jason Perry motioned to abate taxes for 2024/2025 \$164.35 and 2025/2026 \$177.17. Craig Allen questioned \$26.86 additional from line 10 in the Court order of \$314.66 believing additional amount was penalty and interest. Nancy Dalzell seconded, motion carried by voice vote (Staley, Waldo, Allen, O'Toole, Banik, Perry, Conklin, Dalzell, Bazin, Barry, Roman) John Ewald abstained from vote.

6. Other Business: None
7. Adjournment: Craig Allen motioned to adjourn at 6:15 p.m., Jason Perry seconded, motion approved by unanimous voice vote.

Chair

Date

Minutes by Millie Barry

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