

**TOWN OF DERBY, VERMONT
BOARD OF CIVIL AUTHORITY
TAX ABATEMENT HEARING MINUTES
September 30, 2024**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Elizabeth Bumps, Karen Jenne-Chair, Clerk-Faye Morin, Lindsay Brainard, Brad Shattuck, Doug Spates, Grant Spates, Brian Smith, Sharron Greenwood, Allyson Howell, Al Loukes & Peggy Kelley

OTHERS PRESENT: Listers: Mark Linton, Mike Marsh & Nancy Moore

CALLED TO ORDER: Karen Jenne called the meeting to order at 5:00 PM.

TAX ABATEMENT:

Karen said that we need to add to the agenda - Reorganize the Board of BCA. Elizabeth Bumps made a motion to appoint Karen Jenne to remain Chair for the BCA, Lindsay Brainard seconded. Karen "Swore In" the Board of Civil Authority members and Listers.

Karen explained that the Listers have a vote in this meeting. Peggy Kelley is here to observe the meeting.

AGAPE MINISTRIES NMSDC010F5-C 2853 US RT 5

Karen noted that there was no one here to represent the Ministry therefore she will read their report. The ministry is not appealing the assessment but the fact that there is an error in the manifest.

The ministry checked off the box "Taxes in which there is manifest error" on the abate form it was their own error, the box "Religious Society" was left unchecked.

Listers – Nancy Moore stated that the Listers went and did a site visit and found no signs of religious activities or services. They rented out the rooms to snowmobilers and family members.

Doug Spates made a motion to deny the request on the manifest error seconded by Nancy Moore. All in favor; motion passed.

CHARLES ALEXANDER LYBCH003E2-T 166 ORRWOOD DR

Faye Morin stated that Charles Alexander could not make the meeting, and he suggested October 14th, or 16th for the meeting to take place which was not convenient for the Clerks office since taxes are due on the 15th. Charles Alexander is not abating the assessment he is not willing to pay the education tax increase.

He will only pay a 3% increase from the previous years' education tax and no higher.

Mr. Alexander was not present he was travelling to Texas.

Karen said that he didn't have to be present for the meeting that she will read his report.

Charles Alexander checked off the box "Taxes or charges of persons who are unable to pay their taxes, charges, interest and / or collection fees" box on the abatement form.

Mr. Alexander states on his form that the education rate went up 12% and he is only willing to pay a 3% increase. He feels that the State of Vermont has no right to increase property taxes by 12% and the Town of Derby must insist that this increase is both unexpected and should be illegal. He states that he simply can't afford the increase.

Karen stated that the education tax increase is statewide, and the Town has no control of the rate. If the Town adjusted any of the education rate, they would still have to cover the cost of the education tax themselves.

Grant Spates moved to deny the abatement of taxes, Allyson Howell seconded. All in favor, motion passed.

Karen said the minutes from the August 19th meeting needs to be approved. Doug Spates moved to approve the minutes of the August 19th meeting as written, Al Loukes seconded, motion passed.

Brian Smith made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 5:30 p.m. Grant Spates seconded. All in favor; Meeting Adjourned.

Faye Morin

BCA Clerk

Unofficial until approved by board