



Full Board of Abatement of Taxes Meeting - Monday, March 21, 2016 - Contois Auditorium, City Hall - 3/21/2016

MINUTES SUBJECT TO CORRECTION BY BURLINGTON CITY COUNCIL. CHANGES, IF ANY, WILL BE RECORDED IN THE MINUTES OF THE NEXT MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL.

BURLINGTON FULL BOARD OF ABATEMENT

CONTOIS AUDITORIUM, CITY HALL

BURLINGTON, VERMONT

MINUTES OF MEETING

March 21, 2016

APPROVED

MEMBERS PRESENT: Jane Knodell (Council President) – Central District

David Hartnett – North District

Joan Shannon – South District

Selene Colburn, East District

Sharon Foley Bushor – Ward 1

Max Tracy – Ward 2

Sara Giannoni - Ward 3

Kurt Wright – Ward 4

William "Chip" Mason – Ward 5

Karen Paul – Ward 6

Tom Ayres – Ward 7

Adam Roof – Ward 8

ADMINISTRATION: Miro Weinberger, Mayor

Eileen Blackwood, City Attorney

Richard Haesler, Assistant City Attorney

Bob Rusten, CAO



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Rich Goodwin, ACAO

Jennifer Kaulius, Mayor's Office

Brian Lowe, Mayor's Office

John Vickery, City Assessor

Laura Wheelock, Public Works

Norm Baldwin, Public Works

Stephen Barraclough, BT

OTHERS PRESENT:

David Provost, BTAB

Rachel Watson, BHS student for START

Libby Branch, BHS student for START

Balkisa Abdikadir, BHS student for START

Halla Adam, BHS student for START

Rachel Horton, BHS student for START

James Schlosser, Ward 5 resident

1.0 CALL TO ORDER and AGENDA

Mayor Weinberger called the meeting to order at 7:50 PM on March 21, 2016.

1.01 Agenda

MOTION by Councilor Shannon, SECOND by Councilor Hartnett, to approve the agenda as presented.

AMENDMENT by Councilor Bushor, SECOND by Councilor Roof, to add Item 1.5 (Uncollectable Taxes) to the agenda.

VOTING ON THE MOTION AS AMENDED: unanimous; motion carried.



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1.5 Uncollectible Taxes

Councilor Bushor asked if the Board of Abatement is informed of whether there have been delinquencies for the past 15 years with a case, and if the action is taken as recommended will other people being delinquent with their taxes now have a process (e.g. is a precedent being set). John Vickery stated the issue of tax collection for mobile homes has not been before the Board of Tax Abatement. The Treasurer's Office has tried to collect, but has not been successful. If the owner of a property cannot be located or has passed away then the tax is uncollectible. If the city has made multiple attempts to collect and not been successful and the home does not have value then the taxes are deemed uncollectible. Councilor Shannon pointed out requests for tax abatement and tax sales come before the committee. Attempts to collect by the Treasurer's Office do not. Councilor Mason pointed out there is only one mobile home park in the city and in this scenario the city could not go after personal property. The new owners are willing to work with the city in terms of not allowing delinquencies to get to this level going forward.

2.0 CONSENT AGENDA

2.01 PROCEDURAL: Amend/Adopt Consent Agenda and Take Action(s) as Indicated

2.02 ABATE REQUEST: Martel/Toney, 40 Avenue B

2.03 ABATE REQUEST: Root, 47 Avenue C

2.04 ABATE REQUEST: Desorcie, 45 Avenue C

2.05 ABATE REQUEST: Feldman's Bagels, LLC, 660 Pine Street

2.06 ABATE REQUEST: Selfen/Marshall, 764 North Avenue

MOTION by Councilor Shannon, SECOND by Councilor Wright, to accept the consent agenda (Items 2.01-2.06), waive the reading, accept the communications, take the action(s) indicated and place the item(s) on file.

VOTING: unanimous; motion carried.

3.0 ADJOURNMENT

With no further business and without objection the meeting was adjourned at 7:57 PM.

RScty: MERiordan