Board of Abatement Hearing

Tuesday December 3rd at 6:30PM

Attending: Martha Brough (minute taker for meeting), Holly Groschner, Stephen Devoto, Jane M Conner, Russ Pazdro, Kathy Chapman, KellyAnn Donahue, Dick Kelley, Amy Peberdy, Timo O'Dell, Anne Margolis, Carl Demrow, Allegra Shumway

Guests: Susan Fortunati, Robert Fortunati

Meeting called to order at 6:33PM

KellyAnn Donahue Chair of the Meeting: CD / AP moved nomination. All in favor. KAD called attendance for the record.

1. Meeting Minutes from 3.26.2024 BOA Meeting:

   HG had a question regarding item # 7 of the meeting and made an amendment to clarify the wording. SD seconded. All in favor / none opposed – AM & CD having been absent on 3.26.24, abstained.

2. KAD described the history of the two parcels in question and the fact that the Errors and Omissions Listers Form had been used to abate the taxes for these two burned parcels and had been signed off by the Selectboard.

   SF then explained that there was a statutory procedure (24 VSA Section 1535 A Criteria 5) for dealing with burned properties as the parcels had been whole and healthy at the time of the Grand List lodging and had not been either an error or an omission.

   She then clarified the amounts to be abated based on the number of days the properties had been whole (full assessed value and tax) and the number of days the properties had been compromised post fire (reduced assessed value and tax).

   HG conferred with the other members of the Selectboard to withdraw their approval of the original form, having not realized there was an alternative method to deal with these circumstances – their decision was unanimous.

3. RP made a motion / SD seconded, and it was unanimously decided to abate the taxes using the Abatement procedures.

4. CD made a motion / JMC seconded, and it was unanimously decided to abate the taxes for each parcel as follows:

Parcel # 064-00440 (burned on August 14th, 2024):

Original Taxbill based on full assessed value = $**1633.31** ÷ 365 days = $4.47 daily rate x 44 days (7.1.24 – 8.14.24) = $196.89

Revised Taxbill based on adjusted assessed value = $**872.76** ÷ 365 days = $2.39 daily rate x 321 days (8.18.24 – 6.30.24) = $767.55

Amount to be abated: $669.44

Parcel # 009-00176 (burned on August 18th, 2024):

Original Taxbill based on full assessed value = $**3204.28** ÷ 365 days = $8.78 daily rate x 48 days (7.1.24 – 8.17.24) = $421.38

Revised Taxbill based on adjusted assessed value = $**856.14** ÷365 days = $2.35 daily rate x 317 days (8.18.24-6.30.24) = $743.55

Amount to be abated: $2039.35

Meeting adjourned at 6:58PM CD / SD