

**BOARD OF ABATEMENT MEETING MINUTES**  
**JUNE 24, 2013**  
**RANDOLPH TOWN HALL**  
**CONFERENCE ROOM B**

**Present: Justices of the Peace:** Jim Sault, Richard Burstein, Ruth Lutz, Tom Harty, Martha Lawrence, Barbara Angell, Ellen Baker, and Sheila Jacobs  
**Selectboard:** Larry Richburg and Tom Schersten  
**Board of Listers:** Donald Sweetser  
**Town Clerk & Treasurer:** Joyce Mazzucco

The Board of Abatement meeting was called to order at 5:44 p.m. by Board Chair Richard Burstein when there were a sufficient number of board members present for a quorum.

The first order of business was the continuation of Kathleen Tortolano’s abatement hearing for property located at 2469 Vermont Route 14 North, Parcel #115028.000. Her request was made under 24 V.S.A § 1535(a)(3) “...taxes of persons who are unable to pay their taxes, interest and collection fees.” Ms. Tortolano was not present at the meeting. A discussion followed, with the following individuals participating in the discussion: Jim Sault, Joyce Mazzucco, Richard Burstein, Ruth Lutz, Don Sweetser, Ellen Baker and Barbara Angell. At the last meeting the Board had appointed Jim Sault and Don Sweetser to contact Ms. Tortolano in regards to obtaining additional information in support of her abatement request. Mr. Sault made at least six (6) attempts to contact Ms. Tortolano by going to her home. He also drove by the property multiple times trying to see if Ms. Tortolano was home. Joyce Mazzucco told the Board she had sent the meeting notice to Ms. Tortolano via regular mail instead of by certified mail because the last certified mailing was returned to the Town as unclaimed. Mr. Sweetser reported he checked with the local Baptist churches to see if they had any information to share about Ms. Tortolano since she referred to assistance she had received from the Baptist church in her appeal letter. Neither the Baptist Fellowship nor the East Randolph Baptist Church had any information to share. There was no further discussion. Mr. Sault made a motion to deny the abatement request of Ms. Tortolano. The motion was seconded by Sheila Jacobs. Mr. Burstein instructed the Board that an “Aye” vote would deny the abatement request and a “Nay” vote would defeat the motion. A voice vote was taken and the motion carried by majority vote with one abstention (Mr. Burstein). A written decision will be sent to Ms. Tortolano informing her that her request for an abatement of taxes was denied because of a lack of sufficient information and the Board’s inability to make contact with her.

There was no further business to consider. Jim Sault made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Ruth Lutz seconded the motion. A voice vote was taken and the motion carried by majority vote. The meeting adjourned at 5:50 p.m.

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_, Town Clerk  
Joyce L. Mazzucco