

**TOWN OF SHARON
BOARD OF ABATEMENT MINUTES
HEARINGS OF JUNE 9TH, 2021
FOR FOSTER AND JONES/DURKEE**

The Board of Abatement met by Zoom on June 9th to consider 2 separate requests for property tax abatement.

Board of Abatement Members Present:

Listers: Galen Mudgett, Jr., Helen Barrett, Ken Wright

Selectboard: Joe Ronan, Kevin Gish, Mary Gavin

Justices of the Peace: John Lanza and Mary Ayer

Treasurer: Margaret Raymond

Town Clerk: Catherine Sartor

Hearing for Eric and Donna Foster

Appellants: Eric and Donna Foster

The meeting was called to order at 6:30PM via Zoom video.

Motion was made and seconded to elect Mary Gavin as Chair of the board. Motion was carried unanimously.

All board members were read the Oath by Town Clerk, Catherine Sartor, and all members acknowledged by name.

Appellants, Eric and Donna foster were sworn in.

The Chair asked if the board had any conflict of interest, or ex parte communication. All answered no.

The meeting was called to consider a tax abatement request from Eric and Donna Foster at 185 Church St. Sharon Vt. Parcel ID R07709L, Residential home, valued at \$215,400.00. Extensive loss due to a house fire on February 26, 2021.

Mr. Foster explained that the house fire destroyed the roof sheathing, attic, and the entire inside of the home was destroyed from water damage. They asked if they were still liable for the full tax amount. They hope to be back into the home after rebuilding, sometime in November.

Chair Mary Gavin asked if any one on the board had questions.

Kevin Gish: Are you planning to rebuild on the same foundation? The Fosters: yes

Ken Wright: Did you lose mechanics? The Fosters stated that they lost heat pumps, solar, all electrical, pex tubing, copper piping, all waste lines, water lines. Water pumps, septic and well are intact.

Ken Wright: Any surroundings lost? Trees, yard etc? The Fosters: no.

The Fosters explained that they are living in temporary housing on an adjacent lot but hooked up to their home's septic and well. They also need to replace all doors, windows, appliances, cabinets, flooring, and bathrooms.

Mary Gavin: So, there is just the frame left? Fosters: Yes

Communicated to the Fosters that the Board of Abatement would deliberate and would issue a decision within 30 days.

Adjourned the hearing 6:49PM.

On a motion, which was seconded, the Board went into deliberative session at 6:50PM. The motion passed unanimously. Rules of procedure were followed throughout. Motion to re-enter public meetings @ 7pm.

Board voted unanimously to abate \$1,679.63 in taxes for FY 2021.

Durkee/Jones

The Delinquent Tax Collector was sworn in by Town Clerk Catherine Sartor.

Chair asked the Board for any Conflict of Interest or ex parte communication, all stated no.

The meeting was requested by the Delinquent Tax Collector, Ken Wright in representation of the town, for Sandy Durkee and Doug Jones property located at 3500 Fay Brook Rd. Parcel #R17340.R2, valued at \$13,500.00.

For five fiscal years, their taxes were about \$600 per year. There is \$1095.15 in taxes that are delinquent. They stopped paying and moved out of the mobile home due to its condition.

Total owed to date is \$2465.05. This includes interest and penalties.

\$1095.15 taxes

\$ 1282.29 interest

\$ 87.61 penalties.

Galen: The property is no longer there. The single wide mobile home was declared unlivable in 2016 and the trailer was moved in October of 2020 by a potential buyer.

Ken: as the Delinquent Tax Collector, I feel that the collateral is gone.

Mary Gavin: Do we have any questions from the Board? And can we have a definition of an Unlanded Mobile Home?

Ken: For example, a mobile home in a registered mobile home park. The home is owned someone different than the land below it.

Galen: Mobile homes are issued Bill of Sales, like a car.

Mary Gavin: Do you assign a value each year?

Ken: Yes, they depreciate faster.

Helen: Having a mobile home in one name and the land that it sits on in both names is this case. This mobile home is in Both Sandy Durkee and Doug Jones's name; however, the land is in Doug's name alone.

Ken: The Board of Abatement can release the Delinquent Tax Collector going after funds. The appellants have been very good about speaking with me and communicating.

John: The land is there, and do they pay on the land?

Ken: Yes, they pay on the land, we are abating the nonexistent mobile home.

Motion was made to enter deliberative session 7:19pm, which was seconded and passed unanimously.

Kevin motioned to abate past total \$2465.05 including tax, interest, and penalties.

John second the motion, all in favor. The motion was passed.

Meeting Adjourned.