

JOHNSON BOARD OF ABATEMENT MEETING MINUTES
JOHNSON MUNICIPAL BUILDING
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2018

Present:

Board of Abatement Members: Mike Dunham, Kyle Nuse, Eric Osgood, Janice Gearhart, Nat Kinney, Helen McElroy, Martha Leonard, Mary Sladyk, Rosemary Audibert

Others: Tyrone Traver

Note: All votes taken are unanimous unless otherwise noted.

The meeting started at 7:00 pm.

Rosemary swore in the Board of Abatement members. Eric swore in Tyrone Traver.

The first abatement request was for a property owned by Lori Wilcox. Kevin Dumas has power of attorney. Lori is no longer at the residence. Rosemary said the total owed in taxes and interest is \$1300.06.

Eric asked Tyrone to provide input. Tyrone said he has talked to Kevin Dumas about purchasing the trailer. Kevin suggested that Tyrone could try to get the taxes reduced and pay Kevin something for his time and then the trailer could be transferred to Tyrone. Ken Harvey told Tyrone he would be satisfied if Tyrone paid a couple of months of back dues. If Tyrone can pay the taxes and get Kevin and Ken to sign off then he can get the trailer transferred to his name. It is in rough shape. He plans to gut it and replace the drywall.

Rosemary asked if the trailer will stay in Johnson or be moved to another town. Tyrone said he owns property in Elmore. He plans to bring the trailer to that property to do renovations and then he is thinking of moving it to Morrisville.

Mike asked, Kevin Dumas wants you to buy this trailer from him?

Tyrone said he had offered to pay the taxes, satisfy Ken Harvey and give Kevin around \$300 for his time doing the paperwork in exchange for the trailer.

Mike asked, so you want to pay the taxes?

Tyrone said yes, if we can come to an arrangement. He will pay the taxes and Kevin has indicated he would sign off on it; then he could go to Ken.

Mike asked if he is looking to pay the taxes in full or looking for some kind of payment plan.

Tyrone said he would pay in full if it's reasonable. He is trying to get it reduced to a reasonable amount.

A Board of Abatement member asked if he had a figure in mind he thought was reasonable.

Tyrone suggested \$500.

Nat asked if Tyrone is walking away if the board does not abate the taxes. Tyrone said he doesn't know. Is there going to be a tax sale on this? He was thinking maybe he could come and bid a low amount for it at a tax sale.

Rosemary said in that case he couldn't get it for another year.

Mike asked the treasurer's opinion. Eric asked, the taxes are not collectable, right? Rosemary said not from Lori. She would recommend abating the interest and penalties but keeping the same amount of tax due. That would bring the amount owed down to \$990.

Tyrone said he would agree if the board could shave a couple of hundred off that amount. Mike suggested \$900.

Tyrone said if you look you can find trailers like this for a couple of thousand dollars. But often they are in the north country and you have to pay a little extra for trucking. A lot of money and effort is going to have to go into this. If he has to pay \$900 it's almost not worth it.

Mike said, so he is looking at about \$800 then.

Tyrone said \$800 would be the highest he could do. He feels \$500 would have been very fair. If \$800 is as much as the board can do he would consider it.

Mike said we have to be fair to the other taxpayers. Another Board of Abatement member said we have to be fair to the town.

Mike moved to abate \$500.06 of the amount owed on the Lori Wilcox property, bringing the total owed down to \$800 and the motion was seconded and passed.

Eric said the town wants to abate the taxes on the Jewett property, now that the town owns it. The sale happened after April 1, so tax bills had already been sent out. Rosemary said we are abating anything owed from July 1 onward. The total amount to abate is \$2662.80.

Mike moved to abate \$2662.80 for the former Jewett property now owned by the town and the motion was seconded and passed.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:15.