

CITY OF RUTLAND, VERMONT
Board of Tax Abatement Minutes
November 13, 2017

MINUTES OF OPEN SESSION

Members present; Treasurer Wilton, Assessor Keefe, President Davis, Aldermen Notte, Humphrey, Ryan, Etti, Tommola, Larson, DePoy, and Donahue. Attorney Bloomer and Mayor Allaire were present briefly when the Board sought an opinion from Attorney Bloomer. Also present, City Clerk Heck and Rudy and Donna Hawes. Alderman Mattis was absent. Alderman Humphrey left the hearing at 6:00 PM and was not present during deliberative session.

Clerk Heck opened the meeting at 5:30 PM as the Mayor and Board President were both at another meeting. Clerk Heck explained the situation to all present and asked if they would like to elect another member to Chair the abatement. At that same time the Clerk's phone texted that both Alderman Notte and President Davis would be joining them in two minutes. The Board decided to recess for several minutes allowing both, Alderman Notte and President Davis to join the hearing. The meeting recessed at 5:35 PM.

President Davis called the meeting to order at 5:43 PM and stated that the Board had one request before them. President Davis asked Mr. Hawes if he had received the rules of procedure for the hearing. Mr. Hawes replied that he had. President Davis then asked if Mr. Hawes would present evidence and testimony. At first Mr. Hawes denied, but then was sworn in by the Clerk and proceeded to explain his request for the abatement. There was debate to the criteria chosen for appeal. Mr. Hawes was unsure of which statutory criteria to choose, but when asked by the chair noted Taxes upon real or personal property lost or destroyed during the Tax year. 24 V.S.A. 1535(a)(5) would be closest.

At the completion of the testimony a request was made by President Davis to move into deliberative session. This request was so moved and seconded (Notte, DePoy). **Motion passed.**

At 5:50 PM the Board of Tax Abatement moved into deliberative session.

At 6:15 PM the Board of Tax Abatement came out of deliberative session.

President Davis noted that the decision would be drafted by the Clerk/Attorney and mailed within 30 days.

A motion was made and seconded (Larson, Etti) to adjourn. **Motion passed.**

Respectfully submitted,
Henry A. Heck
Clerk, Board of Tax Abatement