

CITY OF RUTLAND, VERMONT
Board of Tax Abatement
February 10, 2025

Minutes of Open Session

Members present: Mayor Doenges; Aldermen McClure, Savage, McCann, and Barbagallo. Treasurer Markowski, Assessor Langlois, Linda Heald, Clerk Kapusta, Attorney LaChance, Kelsie Boudreau and Gail Wells.

Chair Doenges called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM.

Chair Doenges then asked those giving testimony to be sworn in by the Clerk. Alexandra Gonzalez and Kelsie Boudreau were sworn in.

Chair Doenges opened the meeting and moved to start with Alexandra Gonzalez's abatement request.

Alexandra Gonzalez (Linda Senesky, property owner) – 21 ½ Marble Avenue

Chair Doenges introduced the request for Alexandra Gonzalez. Chair Doenges asked if any member of the Board of Tax Abatement would be testifying if there were any conflicts of interest or ex-parte communications, Chair Doenges stated that he knows Ms. Gonzalez from a local health club. Chair Doenges read the statutory criteria checked by Ms. Gonzalez for her request for abatement, Taxes or Charges of persons who are unable to pay their taxes, water charges, sewer charges, interest, and/or collection fees, 24 V.S.A. § 1535(a)(3).

Ms. Gonzalez testified that the property in question belongs to her mother, but she has lived there since 2002. Ms. Gonzalez stated that she found out there was a silent leak in a toilet that had been going on for several months. There was no evidence of a leak, no puddle of water anywhere. Ms. Gonzalez did not receive any notice from the City that there was a leak, and she was not aware of the online site to check her water use. Since this incident Ms. Gonzalez has signed up to receive text messages from Rutland City Public Works. Ms. Gonzalez is asking for relief on the current bill and the next bill.

There was a brief discussion and question from the Board.

Kelsie Boudreau from the Department of Public Works (DPW) read a memo to the record.

There was a brief discussion and questions from the Board.

Chair Doenges explained to Ms. Gonzalez that the Board would close the hearing and that they would move into deliberative session and the Board would make a decision on their request. That decision would be mailed within thirty (30) days.

At 5:56 PM Chair Doenges closed the open hearing for 21 ½ Marble Avenue.

At 5:57 PM the Board moved into deliberative session. So moved by Alderwoman McClure and Alderwoman Savage. Motion passed.

At 7:36 PM the Board came out of deliberative session.

At 6:05 PM Chair Doenges noted he would entertain a motion to adjourn. So moved by Alderwoman McClure and Alderman McCann. Motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Tracy L. Kapusta
Clerk, Board of Tax Abatement