

Preliminary Minutes
Town of Plymouth, Vermont
Board of Abatement Hearings

The Board of Abatement of the Town of Plymouth, Vermont, notified and warned, met in the Meeting Room at the Municipal Building at 68 Town Office Road, in said Town on Tuesday, August 27, 2024, at 5:00 pm.

BOA Members Present:

Justice of the Peace: Karen Evans
Select Board: Rick Kaminski Jay Kullman
Listers: Michael Coleman, Natash Bochkov
Town Clerk: Angela Kissell
Treasurer: Cherry Nicoll

Appellants and/or Guests: Thomas Gianola, Henry Shipman, and Cheryl Shipman

Abatement Hearing(s):

Pursuant to Title 24 V.S.A. § 1535, the following hearing(s) took place to consider the abatement of real estate and personal property taxes assessed.

1. Call Meeting to Order:
 - a. Karen Evans called the meeting to order at 5:01 pm.
2. Consideration of Any Changes, Additions, or Removals to Agenda:
 - a. None
3. Board of Abatement Hearing(s):

Parcel ID: 000270 – Echo Lake Resort, Inc. – 2 Dublin Road, Plymouth - Commercial

Karen Evans opened by stating the name of the Appellant, property address, and parcel ID number. Karen read the Oath to the Appellant. Appellant, Thomas Gianola acknowledged, yes. Karen also asked if any Board Members had any conflicts. None were acknowledged. Karen asked Appellant if he received the Abatement paperwork and if he understood it. He acknowledged, yes. Karen also asked the Appellant to state the reason for his abatement request. Appellant stated that he was unable to pay his property taxes with the increased amount. He also added that the last 18 months have been difficult with the flood, excessive amounts of expenses for repairs as well as a lull in weddings scheduled. Tom provided a Profit & Loss for 2023 as well as a Profit & Loss through July of 2024 (both in file). He did add that he received approximately \$44,000.00 combined from the Governor and Ludlow Chamber. Angela Kissell asked Thomas Gianola what he was looking for from the Board. He stated that he would like us to lower his property taxes to what they were last year which equated to an amount of \$4,954.00 +/- . Jay Kullman added that most of the increase was due to the education tax. Karen Evans asked if anyone had any more questions or comments. Nobody had any additional to add. **Hearing was closed at 5:17 PM.**

Parcel ID: 000929 – Shipman, Henry & Cheryl – 7867 Route 100 – Residential

Karen Evans opened the next hearing at 5:19 by stating the name of the Appellant(s), property address, and parcel ID number. Karen Evans read the Oath to Henry and Cheryl Shipman and both acknowledged, yes. Karen asked the Appellants if they received the Abatement form and if they understood it. They acknowledged, yes. Henry Shipman began by saying he believes that the errors have been made in the Listers Office. He handed the Board a handwritten, multi-page document (in file) that outlined his findings. He did acknowledge that a grievance letter was sent to him which gave him the opportunity to come in and appeal his value with the Listers; however, he admitted, based on his oversight, he missed the deadline. He went on to read through his document on values and how they felt there was not a logical explanation as how values were determined. As Mr. Shipman explained his concerns on the process and value, Karen Evans injected that this error was not for the Board to Abatement to hear. She stated several times that the Board couldn't help them. Mr. Shipman asked to at least be heard as that is why he was there and led to believe we would hear him. Mr. Shipman expressed his concern and frustration about the Hearing. Karen Evans stated that the hearing was being closed. Asked if the Board had anything more to add. There was nothing. **Hearing was closed at 5:44 PM.**

The Board went into deliberation at 5:49pm.

The Board came out of deliberation at 6:22 pm.

5. Adjournment:

- a. Rick Kaminski made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:22 pm. Angela Kissell seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Angela Kissell
Town Clerk
Board of Abatement

Board of Abatement

Karen Evans

Shawn Bemis

Rick Kaminski

Jay Kullman

Cherry Nicoll

Angela Kissell

Michael Coleman

Natasha Bochkov

Keith Cappellini