

Minutes of the BOA  
Monday, May 20, 2024  
28 North Main Street and via zoom

**Attendance:** Kane Sweeney, Roger Clapp, Alyssa Johnson, Ian Shea, Mike Bard, Tom Leitz, Karen Petrovic, Geri Dillon, Linda Gravell, Liz Schlegel Stevens, Bob Butler, Alec Tuscany

**Public Attendance:** ORCA Media

**ZOOM:** Jack Exe, Jim Adams, Katrina VanTyne, Amanda McKay, ORCA Media

L. Schlegel called the meeting to order at 6:30pm

**Approve Agenda: R. Clapp moved to approve the agenda as written. L. Gravell seconded the motion; a vote was held and passed unanimously.**

**Public:** none

L. Schlegel opened the discussion by stating the name and parcel ID of the property as Jack Exe and Sally Ashak, 40 Union Street parcel ID 958-0040-V

L. Schlegel administered the oath to J. Exe "Under the pains and penalties of perjury, do you solemnly swear that the evidence you give in the cause under consideration shall be the whole truth and nothing but the truth?" to which J. Exe agreed.

L. Schlegel asked if any board members have any ex parte communication, there being none the hearing proceeded.

J. Exe confirmed he is requesting abatement based on Taxes or charges upon real or personal property lost or destroyed during the tax year. J. Exe and S. Ashak have owned the property since 2011, they went through Irene as well as the July 2023 and December 2023 floods. The water and electric have been turned off. The property is vacant. Owners have applied for a FEMA buyout which has been approved by the Select Board.

M. Bard asked about the rental of the property following Irene, the property was rented until the July 2023 flood. R. Clapp asked if the expectations of the request for abatement. J. Exe stated he is asking for as much as the BOA is willing to grant him. J. Exe confirmed with the board he will be required to reapply for abatement in 2024.

The board entered Deliberative Session to discuss the request.

L. Gravell asked what a FEMA buyout is which L. Schlegel explained. There could be a long delay in the buyout process as the applicant waits for State and Federal approval.

R. Clapp stated this request seems very similar to previous requests reminding the board of the process used in previous hearing. **R. Clapp moved to abate taxes proportional to the time the house was rendered unoccupiable following the July 10, 2023 flood. K. Sweeney seconded the motion.** This refund will go directly to the property owner. **A vote was held and passed unanimously.**

**K. Sweeney made a motion to adjourn which was seconded by M. Bard and passed unanimously.**