

Town of Athens
Board of Abatement Meeting
May 18, 2023 6:30pm at the Town Office

In attendance: Sandi Capponcelli, Carol Bingham, David Bemis, Harold Noyes, Hannah Regier, Janet Perry, Darlene Wyman, Denise Randall, Steve Oakes, Amber Stevens, Bonny Cody, Evan Goldsmith

Called to order at 6:30

Discuss Paul and Judy Bemis property

Bonny Cody asks if the BOA can help them out and make it a bit easier to pay off the delinquent taxes. They didn't know that Sheila, Bonny's sister, wasn't paying the taxes while she was living in the house. When Darlene was delinquent tax collector, she had begun the tax sale process on the property, but Bonny and Evan had started paying \$500/month so the tax sale was canceled.

The property is still under Paul and Judy Bemis who are both deceased. Bonny says there is an issue that her brother, who has unpaid federal taxes, is living in another house their parents owned. He hasn't wanted to go through probate because he is afraid he might lose the house to pay off his taxes.

The BOA discusses the need for opening an estate for the property so Bonny and Evan have an ownership interest in the property. David doesn't think the BOA can hear the case if the owners aren't the ones asking for abatement.

Hannah says that she is trying to get everyone to have a written agreement for paying off their delinquent taxes in a timely manner and \$500/month isn't enough for that to happen. Evan has signed an agreement to pay \$1000/month. It would still take over a year at \$1000/month to pay off the taxes.

Evan explains that he does have assets that he could sell, but he is in the middle of a divorce and his assets are frozen.

Sandi asks if Bonny and Evan could start the probate process now and open an estate where Bonny is the executor. Once that has been done, the BOA could hear their case again. Meanwhile they will need to continue paying \$1000 a month.

Further Business

Hannah asks to set the date for the BCA to do its biennial checklist purge. July 20th at 6:30 is set as the time.

Denise makes a motion to adjourn. Sandi seconds. All in favor. Adjourned at 6:51

Respectfully submitted,
Hannah Regier, Town Clerk