

**TOWN OF WEST RUTLAND
BOARD OF ABATEMENT HEARING
WEST RUTLAND TOWN HALL CONFERENCE ROOM
35 MARBLE STREET
TUESDAY MAY 26, 2026 AT 5:45 PM**

Present: Select Board: John Harvey, Bob Bach, Dave Webster, Chet Brown

Town Clerk/Treasurer: Deb Jasmin

Justice of The Peace: Paul Kulig, Marci Barrows, Luann Graves, Dave O'Rourke

Listers: Lisa Wright

Others: Jeffrey Dodds

Call to Order: John Harvey called the hearing to order at 5:45 pm

<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Parcel</u>	<u>Address</u>
05/26/26	5:45 pm	Jeffrey Dodds	735-234-10241	115 Westside Court

Deb Jasmin gave the oath to Jeffrey Dodds.

John Harvey asked the appellant to state the abatement category and give a description of the basis of the abatement request. Jeff states category #6 of the Abatement statute – Taxes or charges upon real or personal property lost or destroyed during the tax year. 24 V.S.A 1535(a)(5). Jeff states that he had an interior house fire causing excessive interior damage, making the house unable to be lived in. It will need an entire interior rebuild and siding redone. Estimated time of completion may be 1 to 2 years to be livable. Jeff brought pictures showing the damage and the insurance claim confirmation. Deb entered this into evidence as Exhibits A to E.

John asked if there were any questions from the Board. Deb Jasmin asked if the stand-alone garage was damaged. Jeff answered that it was not. Lisa Wright asked that dates of the current tax year be clarified. This Abatement request is for April 16, 2026 (date of fire) to June 30, 2026 (date of the end of the current tax year). This figures out to be 11 weeks.

No other questions from the Board. John Harvey closed the meeting and explained that the Board will enter deliberative session and will issue a written decision within 30 days of the hearing.

Motion made by Paul Kulig to enter into deliberative session, seconded by Bob Bach. All in favor. Board entered into deliberative session at 5:50 pm.

Motion made by Paul Kulig to exit deliberative session, seconded by Bob Bach. All in favor. Board exited deliberative session at 5:55 pm.

Motion made by Paul Kulig to adjourn hearing, seconded by Chet Brown. All in favor. Hearing adjourned at 5:55 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Deb Jasmin