

**WESTFIELD BOARD OF ABATEMENT HEARING**

**Agenda**

**November 18<sup>th</sup>, 2025 @ 5:00 p.m.**

**Westfield Town Office, 38 School Street**

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/2250879875?pwd=UjB5Zl1podkJEeEVlL3RYSTdTeWdDdz09&omn=87254043573>  
Meeting ID: 225 087 9875 Passcode: 169484 Join By Phone: +1 646 558 8656 US (New York)

---

1. **Call Meeting to Order – Jacques Couture, Chair:**
2. **Public Comment – 5 Minutes:**
3. **Additions and/or Deletions to the Agenda:**
4. **Board Re-Organization:**
  - a. **Elect Chair:**
  - b. **Elect Vice-Chair:**
  - c. **Review and Re-Adopt Board of Abatement Rules and Procedures: (emailed in advance)**
  - d. **Administer Oath to Board Members:**
5. **Hear Request for Abatement of Property Taxes:**
  - a. **Rogers, Jeanne – Parcel ID 09-019-08 – 1103 Buck Hill Road:**
    - i. **Administer Oath:**
  - b. **Daigle, Todd – Parcel ID 09-100-01 – 2134 VT Route 100:**
    - i. **Administer Oath:**
6. **Adjourn:**

## Town of Westfield Board of Abatement Hearing Notice

The Board of Abatement for the Town of Westfield will be meeting on the following dates and times in the Westfield Town Office.

Applicants should appear and be ready to present their evidence at the date and time set forth below. If an applicant (or representative of the applicant) fails to appear at the hearing, the abatement request will be decided on the basis of the information submitted in the abatement request form.

November 18th, 2025	Hearing Requested By
5:00 PM	Jeanne A. Rogers
5:30 PM	Todd Daigle

**GUIDANCE:** Pursuant to 24 V.S.A. § 1534, VLCT recommends that this combined notice and agenda for hearings of the Board of Abatement be provided at least 5 days prior to the hearing in all of the following ways:

- Mailed to the applicant(s);
- Given to each member of the Board, with at least one lister receiving personal notice;
- Posted in the town office and in at least two other public places in town;
- Posted to the town's website (if there is one); and
- Made available to any person upon request.

## WESTFIELD BOARD OF ABATEMENT HEARING

### Minutes

November 18<sup>th</sup>, 2025 – 5 p.m.

Westfield Town Office, 38 School Street

Meeting Recordings Available to View at <https://www.youtube.com/@TownofWestfieldVT>

**Town Officials Present:** Jacques Couture, Selectboard Chair; Richard Degre, Selectboard; Dennis Vincent, Selectboard; LaDonna Dunn, Town Clerk; Niki Dunn, Justice of the Peace; Lisa Deslandes, Treasurer; Mike Piper, Justice of the Peace; Danny Young, Lister; Shelley Martin, Lister; Karen Blais, Justice of the Peace

**Others Present:** Jeanne Rogers, Todd Daigle

---

1. **Call Meeting to Order – Jacques Couture, Chair:** Jacques Couture called the meeting to order at 5:02PM.

2. **Public Comment – 5 Minutes:** None

3. **Additions and/or Deletions to the Agenda:** None

4. **Board Re-Organization:**

- a. **Elect Chair:** LaDonna Dunn nominated Jacques Couture, Shelley Martin seconded the nomination. No other nominations. Motion passed.
- b. **Elect Vice-Chair:** Mike Piper nominated Karen Blais, Shelley Martin seconded. No other nominations. Motion passed.
- c. **Review and Re-Adopt Board of Abatement Rules and Procedures: (emailed in advance)** Jacques read through the hearing procedure. There were no questions about the procedure. LaDonna Dunn motioned to adopt the Board of Abatement Rules and Procedures, Shelley Martin seconded. Motion passed. Jacques signed.
- d. **Administer Oath to Board Members:** LaDonna read the oath aloud to all the board members and they signed to agree.

5. **Hear Request for Abatement of Property Taxes:**

- a. **Rogers, Jeanne – Parcel ID 09-019-08 – 1103 Buck Hill Road:**
  - i. **Administer Oath:** Jacques administered the oath to Jeanne Rogers; she verbally agreed to the oath.

Lisa Deslandes recused herself from voting as she is also the Delinquent Tax Collector.

The board was previously given and reviewed statements from the applicant regarding the reason for their abatement request.

Jeanne Rogers explained that she has a brain injury and she used to have a conservator until her husband started taking over to handle her accounts. He is now ill and has not been able to do this anymore. She has been trying for years to get someone to help her fill out the Homestead Declaration form to no avail. She eventually decided to pay the non-homestead tax rate and keep working on getting the homestead declaration filled out. When her husband brought the payment down to pay the taxes, he was told he was late and that they owed a penalty. She has never been late in the 25 years she has lived here. She did not realize that taxes were due on October 2<sup>nd</sup>, she thought that taxes were always due in the middle of October. She was shocked to find out that she was being charged \$500 for being a couple of days late. She has a problem reading forms and has been treated for her brain injury for years. She acknowledged that it was her fault for being late with the tax payment. She loves living in Westfield, but

when this happened, she thought about selling her home. She feels like she doesn't get a lot of services for her property tax payments as she didn't ever have any kids in the school system. Jeanne would like the board to abate the delinquent penalty portion of her property taxes as well as the interest on the penalty.

Mike Piper questioned if she filed income tax each year. Jeanne noted that she only gets social security, so she does not file income taxes.

Jacques noted that the town has made a good effort to post the due date for the taxes.

Shelley noted that the tax bills get sent out in July and she wondered what happened between July and the due date in October. Jeanne explained that her husband used to be on top of the bills and this year he dropped the ball as he is not doing well.

Mike questioned if Jeanne had filed the homestead declaration in previous years. She explained that she did not because she has not been able to find anyone to help her with the form.

Shelley questioned why if the bill came out in July and Jeanne had the money, which she noted that she did, why did her or her husband not come down between July and October to pay the taxes instead of waiting. Jeanne noted that her husband always opens the mail and takes care of these things. Due to her brain injury she is not able to understand things like this.

Shelley questioned if the person at NECKA who is going to help Jeanne with her Homestead Declaration told her she should be filing taxes. Jeanne explained that she used to have them done at H&R Block and they told her that she does not need to file taxes.

Jacques noted that for the purpose of the hearing they are only looking at whether to abate the penalties on the late tax payment. The board will notify Jeanne Rogers within 30 days of their decision.

The reason for the request is taxes or charges of persons who are unable to pay their taxes or charges, interest, and collection fees. 24 V.S.A. 1535(a)(3).

**b. Daigle, Todd – Parcel ID 09-100-01 – 2134 VT Route 100:**

- i. **Administer Oath:** Jacques read the oath to Todd Daigle and he verbally agreed to the oath.

Lisa Deslandes recused herself from voting as she is also the Delinquent Tax Collector.

The board was previously given and reviewed statements from the applicant regarding the reason for their abatement request.

The reason for the request is taxes or charges of persons who are unable to pay their taxes or charges, interest, and collection fees. 24 V.S.A. 1535(a)(3).

Todd Daigle is requesting the delinquent penalty be abated along with the interest on the penalty. He left for medical treatment on October 3<sup>rd</sup> and thought that the due date was the 10<sup>th</sup> of October.

Jacques noted that the board will go into deliberation at the end of the hearing and they have 30 days to issue a decision.

6. **Deliberative Session:** Mike Piper motioned to adjourn the hearings and enter deliberative session at 5:38PM, Richard Degre seconded. Motion passed.

Exited deliberative session at 6:00PM.

The board voted to abate the penalty on property taxes along with interest on the penalty for Jeanne Rogers by a vote of 6 to 3.

The board voted to abate the penalty on property taxes along with interest on the penalty for Todd Daigle by a vote of 6 to 3.

7. **Adjourn:** Mike Piper motioned to adjourn at 6:01PM, Shelley Martin seconded. Motion passed.

**OFFICIAL NOTICE**  
**Decision of the Westfield Board of Abatement of Taxes**

November 20, 2025

Ms. Jeanne A. Rogers  
1103 Buck Hill Road  
Westfield, VT 05874

Dear Ms. Rogers:

On November 18, 2025, the Westfield Board of Abatement of Taxes met to hear your request for the abatement of property taxes regarding the following property:

1103 Buck Hill Road  
Parcel ID 09-019-08

The request has been given careful consideration, with the following decision rendered on November 18, 2025.

**REQUEST GRANTED**

---

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Selectboard – Jacques Couture, Richard Degre, Dennis Vincent; Justices of the Peace – Mike Piper, Karen Blais, Niki Dunn; Listers – Danny Young, Shelley Martin; Town Treasurer – Lisa Deslandes; Town Clerk – LaDonna Dunn

**TAXPAYER(S) PRESENT:** Jeanne A. Rogers

**BOARD'S DECISION WITH REASONS:** It is the decision of the Westfield Board of Abatement of Taxes to grant the request for property tax abatement by granting a credit as follows:

- Late payment penalty of 8% in the amount of \$550.52 and interest on the penalty in the amount of \$4.85 **representing a total abatement of \$555.37**

This abatement of taxes is based on 24 V.S.A., §1535 (a)(3), taxes or charges of persons who are unable to pay their taxes or charges, interest, and collection fees.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to call.



Jacques Couture, Chair  
Board of Abatement



LaDonna Dunn, Town Clerk  
Clerk of the Board of Abatement

**OFFICIAL NOTICE**  
**Decision of the Westfield Board of Abatement of Taxes**

November 20, 2025

Mr. Todd Daigle  
2134 VT Route 100  
Westfield, VT 05874

Dear Mr. Daigle:

On November 18, 2025, the Westfield Board of Abatement of Taxes met to hear your request for the abatement of property taxes regarding the following property:

2134 VT Route 100  
Parcel ID 09-100-01

The request has been given careful consideration, with the following decision rendered on November 18, 2025.

**REQUEST GRANTED**

---

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Selectboard – Jacques Couture, Richard Degre, Dennis Vincent; Justices of the Peace – Mike Piper, Karen Blais, Niki Dunn; Listers – Danny Young, Shelley Martin; Town Treasurer – Lisa Deslandes; Town Clerk – LaDonna Dunn

**TAXPAYER(S) PRESENT:** Todd Daigle

**BOARD'S DECISION WITH REASONS:** It is the decision of the Westfield Board of Abatement of Taxes to grant the request for property tax abatement by granting a credit as follows:

- Late payment penalty of 8% in the amount of \$374.89 and interest on the penalty in the amount of \$3.47 **representing a total abatement of \$378.36.**

This abatement of taxes is based on 24 V.S.A., §1535 (a)(3), taxes or charges of persons who are unable to pay their taxes or charges, interest, and collection fees.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to call.



Jacques Couture, Chair  
Board of Abatement



LaDonna Dunn, Town Clerk  
Clerk of the Board of Abatement