

August 21, 2013
Alexander Town Board Special Meeting
Alexander Town Hall 6:30 p.m.

Present: Supervisor Joseph Higley
Town Board: Roy Haller III, David Miller, William Schmieder, William Hirsch
Highway Supt. Thomas Lowe
Town Clerk: Laura Schmieder
Guests: Eric Wagner; Jackie Lowe, Marshall Merle, Ryan Hinz-Alexander Fire Dept.

Supervisor Higley called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence for our military serving around the world.

Jackie Lowe and Marshall Merle spoke to the Town Board on behalf of the Alexander Fire Department. Jackie distributed a printout of the firematic expenses for 2012 and 2013 to date. Their expenses, due to State mandates, have climbed higher every year and they are asking the Town for their monetary support. One item discussed is the exempt status of the Fire Department. If they could change to a 5013c status, they would have better chances at receiving grant monies. It was suggested that they contact our local public officials (Hawley, Ranzenhofer, Collins) to see if there is something that they could do to help in this regard.

Supervisor Higley presented the first printout of the 2014 budget. He added the numbers of those items that are already determined, i.e., State Retirement costs, health insurance costs, etc. and he added a 2% wage increase in all of the non-union salary lines. Due to rising costs, he is suggesting that the Town adopt a Local Law to override the 2% tax cap and in order to do that, we will need to hold a public hearing.

RES. NO. 54: SET PUBIC HEARING TO OVERRIDE 2% TAX CAP

WHEREAS, all Board Members, having due notice of said meeting, and that pursuant to Article 7, §104 of the Public Officers Law, said meeting was open to the general public and due and proper notice of the time and place whereof was given as required by law; and

WHEREAS, Chapter 97 of the Laws of 2011 – “The Property Tax Cap” adds a new section 3-c to the General Municipal Law that provides that the amount of real property taxes that may be levied by or on behalf of any local government shall not exceed two percent (2%); and

WHEREAS, in order to adopt a budget that requires a tax levy that is greater than the tax levy limit for the coming fiscal year, only if the Town Board first enacts, by a vote of sixty percent (60%) of the total voting power, a local law to override such limit for such coming fiscal year only; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board of the Town of Alexander finds it in the best interest of the Town to hold a public hearing to consider the adoption of said local law.

NOW ON MOTION OF Supervisor Joseph Higley which has been duly seconded by Councilperson Roy Haller III, be it

RESOLVED, the Town Board of the Town of Alexander will hold a public hearing on the proposed adoption of said local law on the 18th day of September 2013 at 6:30 pm, at which time all interested parties and citizens for or against the proposed law will be heard.

Ayes – 5 Higley, Haller, Miller, Schmieder, Hirsch

Nays – 0

Carried

Discussion:

There was discussion in regard to the Highway Barn Roof. Tom was asked to talk to Just Barns to see if they can do the project as it was bid, knowing that the aluminized roof coating is currently on the barn roof, and would the warranty still apply.

On motion by Councilperson Miller, seconded by Councilperson Hirsch and carried, the meeting adjourned at 9:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Laura Schmieder
Town Clerk