

**TOWN OF WASHINGTON
TOWN BOARD MEETING
December 14, 2017**

The Town Board of the Town of Washington held their regular meeting on December 14, 2017, at the Town of Washington Town Hall. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by Supervisor Gary Ciferri with the following present: Councilmen Stephen Turletes, Robert Audia, Al De Bonis and Michael E. Murphy, Town Clerk Mary Alex, Bookkeeper to the Supervisor Dana Sukow, Highway Superintendent Joseph Spagnola and Attorney for the Town Jeff Battistoni.

Supervisor Gary Ciferri opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

On a motion made by Councilman Audia and seconded by Councilman Murphy, the Town Board opened the Public Hearing on the Fire Contract with the Village of Millbrook. The vote was as follows:

Supervisor Ciferri:	Aye
Councilman Turletes:	Aye
Councilman Audia:	Aye
Councilman De Bonis:	Aye
Councilman Murphy:	Aye

On a motion made by Councilman De Bonis and seconded by Councilman Turletes, the Town Board opened the Public Hearing on the Fire Contract with the East Clinton Fire District. The vote was as follows:

Supervisor Ciferri:	Aye
Councilman Turletes:	Aye
Councilman Audia:	Aye
Councilman De Bonis:	Aye
Councilman Murphy:	Aye

On a motion made by Councilman Turletes and seconded by Councilman De Bonis, the Town Board opened the Public Hearing on Local Law No. 2 to remove the ten (10) year limitation of the Cold War Veterans exemption. The vote was as follows:

Supervisor Ciferri:	Aye
Councilman Turletes:	Aye
Councilman Audia:	Aye
Councilman De Bonis:	Aye
Councilman Murphy:	Aye

On a motion made by Councilman Murphy and seconded by Councilman Audia the Board moved to appoint Fletcher Coddington to the Zoning Board of Appeals for a position ending on December 31, 2021. The vote was as follows:

Supervisor Ciferri: Aye
Councilman Turletes: Aye
Councilman Audia: Aye
Councilman De Bonis: Aye
Councilman Murphy: Aye

On a motion made by Councilman Turletes and seconded by Councilman De Bonis the Board moved to reappoint Ronald Galente to the Board of Assessment Review for a period of five years. The vote was as follows:

Supervisor Ciferri: Aye
Councilman Turletes: Aye
Councilman Audia: Aye
Councilman De Bonis: Aye
Councilman Murphy: Aye

On a motion made by Councilman De Bonis and seconded by Councilman Murphy the Town Board moved to schedule the Annual Reorganizational Meeting for January 11, 2018, the same night as the regular Town Board meeting. The vote was as follows:

Supervisor Ciferri: Aye
Councilman Turletes: Aye
Councilman Audia: Aye
Councilman De Bonis: Aye
Councilman Murphy: Aye

On a motion made by Councilman Turletes and seconded by Councilman Turletes, the Board moved to engage the Dutchess County SPCA as the provider for Dog Housing/Boarding services for 2018 and to authorize Supervisor Ciferri to sign a contract with the Dutchess County SPCA. The vote was as follows:

Supervisor Ciferri: Aye
Councilman Turletes: Aye
Councilman Audia: Aye
Councilman De Bonis: Aye
Councilman Murphy: Aye

The daily boarding rate of \$45.00 per day and the core vaccine (rabies, distemper and bordatella) fees of \$60.00 is to be paid by the owner of the dog or the person adopting the dog, unless the dog is not claimed ad then the Town will be responsible for the fees.

The Board briefly discussed the Planning Board vacancy and the need for a consultant.

Bookkeeper Sukow reported the following:

- T/O Washington v. Tice – Small Claims matter, Judgement for the Town for \$3,000
- Outstanding billing statements sent to landfill permit holders carrying balances in excess of 30 day; notice included that permits will be suspended by 1/1/18 for failure to bring balance current
- 2nd notice sent to 2 landfill permit holders stating permits to suspend on 1/1/18 and small claims action to be filed with the Town Court on 1/15/18 if balances not brought current \$1355.40 & \$255.48
- Town Justices have formally stated that books are ready for auditing; 2016 & 2017 audits need to be performed. Mr. Ted Eglit has submitted a proposal which would be \$500/justice per year. Mr. Eglit comes highly recommended and his list of clients include the Town of Pleasant Valley and the Town of Stanfordville. The Town Board requested that Ms. Sukow contact Jack Cina at D’Arcangelo for an additional proposal.
- Quarterly mortgage tax check received from County for \$64911.98
- 2013 Bond Anticipation Note – Truck/Highway Department has been paid in full and has been removed from the Bonds Outstanding schedule for 20118
- CD #8182 is due to mature on 12/19/17 and the current balance is \$119,968.84 and included in that number is interest of \$104.65 which has been posted;
- CD #8179 is due to mature in March. Current balance is at \$119,282.25 and it will mature at \$119,352.04;
- Application completed for Census 2020, LUCA
- New York Life Financial Services representatives provided a presentation offering life insurance to Town employees – there is no expense to the Town and the policy is “simplified whole life”. We are currently awaiting a quote from Marshall & Sterling to see if they have access to similar coverage;

On a motion made by Councilman Audia and seconded by Councilman Turletes, the following Resolution was offered:

Standard Work Day and Reporting Resolution for Elected and Appointed Officials

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town of Washington/30312 hereby establishes the following standard work days for these titles and will report the officials to the New York State Local Retirement System based on their record of activities; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the New York State and Local Retirement System use these hours for a period of three years.

Title & Name	Standard Workday Hours	Registration Number	Term begin & end date	Record of Activities Results
Town Justice Elizabeth Shequine	6	6895	1/1/15 – 12/31/19	5.53

Councilman Michael Murphy	6	5428	1/1/16 – 12/31/17	1.86
Councilman Stephen Turletes	6	4254	1/1/13 – 12/31/17	6.33
Town Clerk Mary Alex	6	1510	1/1/15-12/31/19	30
Highway Superintendent Joseph Spagnola	6	3735	1/1/15-12/31/19	30

The vote was as follows:

Supervisor Ciferri: Aye
Councilman Turletes: Aye
Councilman Audia: Aye
Councilman De Bonis: Aye
Councilman Murphy: Aye

On a motion made by Councilman De Bonis and seconded by Councilman Audia, the Board moved to accept the proposal by Rae D’Achille to provide municipal accounting services at an in-office rate of \$75.00 per hour to ensure the Town’s accounting records meet State Comptroller guidelines. The vote was as follows:

Supervisor Ciferri: Aye
Councilman Turletes: Aye
Councilman Audia: Aye
Councilman De Bonis: Aye
Councilman Murphy: Aye

Highway Superintendent Spagnola discussed with the Town Board the idea of hiring a part time on call employee to assist the department during storms. Funding would be available in the SNOW OT PS line of the budget. The Board encouraged him to proceed.

Highway Superintendent Spagnola spoke about capital improvements. He advised that the salt shed is being installed. The technology has improved in twenty years, and the crew has been instructed on the maintenance and care of the facility. Lyme Energy has installed the new lights at the highway garage.

Town Clerk Alex reported that the minutes from November 9th and 20th have been filed, as have the monthly reports filed from Building Department, Town Clerk and Recreation.

Town Clerk Alex provided the Board with the NYS Family Medical Leave Act information. As a municipality, the Town has the choice whether or not to provide the benefit. The Town Board opted out, but has the ability to opt in at a future date.

As there were no comments on the Fire Contract with the Village of Millbrook, on a motion made by Councilman Audia and seconded by Councilman De Bonis the Board moved to close the Public Hearing for Millbrook Fire Contract. The vote was as follows:

Supervisor Ciferri:	Aye
Councilman Turletes:	Aye
Councilman Audia:	Aye
Councilman De Bonis:	Aye
Councilman Murphy:	Aye

On a motion made by Councilman Audia and seconded by Councilman De Bonis the Board moved to authorize Supervisor Ciferri to enter into an agreement with the Village of Millbrook Fire and Rescue Services in exchange for compensation in the amount of \$425,580.00. The vote was as follows:

Supervisor Ciferri:	Aye
Councilman Turletes:	Aye
Councilman Audia:	Aye
Councilman De Bonis:	Aye
Councilman Murphy:	Aye

As there were no comments on the Fire Contract with the East Clinton Fire District, on a motion made by Councilman Turletes and seconded by Councilman Audia the Board moved to close the Public Hearing for the East Clinton Fire Contract. The vote was as follows:

Supervisor Ciferri:	Aye
Councilman Turletes:	Aye
Councilman Audia:	Aye
Councilman De Bonis:	Aye
Councilman Murphy:	Aye

On a motion made by Councilman Turletes and seconded by Councilman De Bonis the Board moved to authorize Supervisor Ciferri to enter into an agreement with the East Clinton Fire District for Fire and Rescue Services in exchange for compensation in the amount of \$2,500.00. The vote was as follows:

Supervisor Ciferri:	Aye
Councilman Turletes:	Aye
Councilman Audia:	Aye
Councilman De Bonis:	Aye
Councilman Murphy:	Aye

On a motion made by Councilman Turletes and seconded by Councilman De Bonis the Board moved to close the Public Hearing on Local Law No. 2 of 2017 to remove the ten (10) year limitation of the Cold War Veterans exemption. The vote was as follows:

Supervisor Ciferri:	Aye
Councilman Turletes:	Aye
Councilman Audia:	Aye

Councilman De Bonis: Aye
Councilman Murphy: Aye

RESOLUTION

Supervisor Ciferri, offered the following Resolution, which was seconded by Councilperson Audia, who moved its adoption:

WHEREAS, a local law was introduced entitled A LOCAL LAW OF THE TOWN OF WASHINGTON, DUTCHESS COUNTY, NEW YORK, a local law amending Local Law No. 1 of the Year 2008, to remove the ten (10) year limitation of the Cold War Veterans exemption;

WHEREAS, a public hearing in relation to said local law was held on December 14, 2017, at 7:00 p.m. Prevailing Time; and

WHEREAS, notice of said public hearing was given pursuant to the terms and provisions of the Municipal Home Rule Law of the State of New York; and

WHEREAS, said local law has been on the desks of the members of the Town Board of the Town of Washington for at least seven (7) days, exclusive of Sunday;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the following local law is hereby enacted:

TOWN OF WASHINGTON LOCAL LAW NO. 2 OF THE YEAR 2017

Section 1. Local Law No. 1 of the Year 2008 is hereby amended to provide that the exemption authorized previously shall apply to qualifying owners of qualifying real property for

as long as they remain qualifying owners, without regard to such ten (10) year limitation.

Section 2. The remainder of Local Law No. 1 of the Year 2008 remains the same, to wit:

EXEMPTION FOR COLD WAR VETERANS

1. Purpose

The purpose of this article is to adopt the Exemption for Cold War Veterans allowable pursuant to §458-b of the Real Property Tax Law.

2. Statutory authorization; exemption

Pursuant to the provisions of Subdivisions (2) (a) and (2) (b) of §458-b of the Real Property Tax Law of the State of New York, the Cold War Veterans exemption from real property taxes allowable pursuant to §458-b of the Real Property Tax Law is established as follows:

A. Qualifying residential real property shall be exempt from taxation to the extent of 15% of the assessed value of such property: provided, however, that such exemption shall not exceed the lesser of \$12,000 or the product of \$12,000 multiplied by the latest state equalization rate for the Town of Washington.

B. In addition to the exemptions provided by Subsection A of this section, where the Cold War veteran received a compensation rating from the United States Veterans Affairs or from the United States Department of Defense because of a service-connected disability, qualifying residential real property shall be exempt from taxation to the extent of the product of the assessed value of such property multiplied by 50% of the Cold War veteran's disability rating; provided, however, that such exemption shall not exceed the lesser of \$40,000 or the product of \$40,000 multiplied by the latest state equalization rate for the Town of Washington.

Section 3. This local law shall take effect immediately upon filing with this state's Secretary of State.

RESOLVED that the Town Clerk shall file a certified original of this local law in the office of the Town Clerk and one (1) certified copy in the Office of the Secretary of State, State of New York, such certified copy to have attached thereto a certificate executed by the attorney for the Town of Washington that it contains the correct text and that all proper proceedings have been had or taken for the enactment of this local law.

The foregoing resolution was duly put to a vote which resulted as follows:

Supervisor Ciferri:	Aye
Councilman Turletes:	Aye
Councilman Audia:	Aye
Councilman De Bonis:	Aye
Councilman Murphy:	Aye

As liaison to the Recreation Department, Councilman Turletes reported that Winter Soccer has commenced. The adult program is being held at the Dutchess Day School and the children's program at the Village Hall. Santa Night and Gingerbread Night were both successful. Kerri Weller has completed her term on the Recreation Commission, and at her request the Board will appoint a new Commission member in January.

Councilman Audia advised that the front entrance project is moving forward. Mr. Ferrari believes the door will be installed in January. The lift is in place, however there are a few things that must be adjusted before the installation is complete.

Councilman De Bonis said the December Planning Board meeting was rescheduled for January to ensure that all of the Guardian Angel Day Care application materials have all been submitted.

A Solar Committee meeting has been scheduled for January 4th. Mr. De Maggio has moved and is no longer on the committee. Jeff Feigelson has volunteered to serve on the committee.

Councilman De Bonis has requested that the Board revisit the zoning amendments for signs and the local law pertaining to dogs. Town Clerk Alex sent the Board members the draft sign ordinance from several years back for their review. This is the right time to reach out to the Building Inspector and Planning and Zoning Board members for input related to zoning amendments with a meeting scheduled for the spring.

The Town Board has received information from people interested in serving on the Planning Board. A replacement for Jim Shequine will be selected in January.

Town Clerk Alex has been in contact with Mr. Wilson for information required to replace him as a consultant for the Planning Board.

At the suggestion of Councilman Murphy, he and Councilman Audia will serve as Budget and Finance liaisons. This will provide the Board with greater oversight and understanding of the different department needs and projects. It will also enable the Town Board to increase their knowledge throughout the year and for budgetary decisions.

Councilman Murphy has spoken with Ms. Edson and a local contractor regarding the turning dock at the park. More information will be presented in January.

On a motion made by Councilman Turletes and seconded by Councilman Audia the claims were accepted as presented. The vote was as follows:

Supervisor Ciferri:	Aye
Councilman Turletes:	Aye
Councilman Audia:	Aye
Councilman De Bonis:	Aye
Councilman Murphy:	Aye

There being no other business, on a motion made by Councilman Audia and Councilman Murphy, the meeting was closed at 10:30 PM. The vote was as follows:

Supervisor Ciferri:	Aye
Councilman Turletes:	Aye
Councilman Audia:	Aye
Councilman De Bonis:	Aye
Councilman Murphy:	Aye

Mary Alex, Town Clerk