

November 10, 2011

The Town Board of the Town of Warwick held a Public Hearing for a Proposed Local Law to Exceed the Two Percent Property Tax Cap. Said public hearing was held on Thursday, November 10, 2011 at the Town Hall, 132 Kings Highway, Town of Warwick. Supervisor Sweeton opened the public hearing at 7:00 p.m.

ATTENDANCE: Supervisor Michael Sweeton
Councilman Floyd DeAngelo
Councilman Leonard DeBuck
Councilman James Gerstner
Councilman Mickey Shuback – Absent

Stephen Brown, Auditor
Town Attorney John Hicks - Absent

LEGAL NOTICE: The Clerk read the legal notice, which was duly published in the Warwick Valley Dispatch on November 2, 2011. (Copy of this legal notice is printed at the end of these minutes.)

Supervisor Sweeton – Logical question, why would you have to do this? Part of the Governors 2% levy cap regulations that if you are going to exceed it you need to do so by having a local law first and then a vote of 60% of the Board which would be three members. Most municipalities in Orange County did it basically because of the uncertainty of the calculation of the cap. We are pretty confident that we know what ours is, but in the event that there's something that we miss we want to make sure we have the ability to exceed it. That's all the basic reasons, but we'll talk about it when we get into the budget. There are cost drivers mandated to us from the State of New York that will be hard to bring in under the cap and that's a discussion the Board will have as we continue this next week in trying to finalize a budget. I will go into those as we get to the discussion of the budget in that hearing itself, so we are having that hearing tonight to pass that local law and I'll open it to the floor for public comment.

Ron Nowak – 14 Hazen Street, Greenwood Lake, NY 10925 – I think it's a little premature to discuss a local law allowing you to exceed the cap if you already have the details in the budget. I empathize with all the elected officials. I certainly don't agree with the tax cap. It's a political move and it's just going to make the economic situation in the State and local municipalities worse not better, but I think we should have the discussion on the budget to see where you guys are before.

Supervisor Sweeton – We can keep this hearing open through the next two which is fine.

Ron Nowak – It's just a suggestion.

Supervisor Sweeton – That’s fine. It’s just the order which we placed them in. We will keep this hearing open until the end of the hearing periods tonight and then we’ll act on that.

**ADJOURN PUBLIC HEARING: Motion Councilman DeAngelo, seconded Councilman Gerstner, that the public hearing be closed. Motion Carried (4 ayes, 0 nays & 1 absent Councilman Shuback absent) 7:52p.m.
11-10-11 cp**

Marjorie Quackenbush, Town Clerk