

PUBLIC HEARING:

Schuylerville Central School Senior Exemption

The following Notice of Public Hearing was legally advertised in the Daily Gazette, The post Star and the Saratogian newspapers.

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Town Board of the Town of Wilton, New York, County of Saratoga, will hold a public hearing to adopt Local Law No. 2 of 2010.

SAID PROPOSED LOCAL LAW to be known as Schuylerville Central School Senior Citizen Exemption.

SAID PROPOSED LOCAL LAW would increase the maximum levels of income for real property exemptions for senior citizens, the sliding scale for the new limits are: 50% for income of less than \$29,000.00 to 5% for income to \$37,399.99 and the same scale would be applied to the disability exemption.

SAID PUBLIC HEARING will be held on Thursday, April 1, 2010 at 7:00 p.m., at the Wilton Town Hall located on 22 Traver Road in the Town at which time all persons will be given an opportunity to be heard.

BY RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN BOARD OF THE TOWN OF WILTON

At 7:03 p.m., Supervisor Johnson called the public hearing to order and asked the Town Clerk to read the public hearing aloud, she did so. Supervisor Johnson then explained that the Schuylerville School District adopted a new income level sliding scale for seniors. This really is just for the Town to conform with the Schuylerville School Districts income level. It does not affect us because there are no town taxes. He then asked if anyone in the audience would like to speak regarding this local law. No response. The Supervisor then closed the public hearing at 7:04 p.m..

REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING

Immediately following the public hearing, Supervisor Johnson called the Regular Town Board meeting to order at 7:04 p.m..

Pledge of Allegiance

Supervisor Johnson led the board and the audience in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Roll Call

Roll Call by the Town Clerk showed all board members present:

Arthur Johnson-Supervisor
Raymond O'Conor- Deputy Supervisor
Robert Rice-Councilman
Robert Pulsifer- Councilman
Charles Gerber- Councilman

Also present were Town Attorney Richard DeVall, Town Engineer Keith Manz and Town Planner Kate Maynard, Town Comptroller Jeffrey Reale was absent.

Proclamation (Commending Kyle Westcott)

Attaining Eagle Scout

Supervisor Johnson read the proclamation explaining that Kyle Westcott achieved his Eagle Scout Rank by raising funds and landscaping the Northumberland Veterans Memorial area located in the Northumberland Town Park. Refurbishing the area by creating a sub-base and then built a brick pathway using bricks with the names of the veterans on them, then landscaping the area with plants and bushes. Supervisor Johnson then presented Kyle Westcott with the Proclamation.

Approve Pending Minutes

Supervisor Johnson asked for a motion and a second to approve the pending minutes from the last meeting.

On a motion introduced by Deputy Supervisor O’Conor, the board adopted the following resolution:

RESOLUTION # 89

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, to approve the minutes from the March 4, 2010 meeting as typed without amendment.

The adoption of the resolution was seconded by Councilman Gerber, duly put to a vote, all in favor.

Exit 16 Linkage Study

Sandy Misiewicz

Supervisor Johnson asked Town Planner Kate Maynard to give a brief overview of her discussion at the last meeting.

Kate explained that back in October of 2009 the town put in for a grant application with Capital District Transportation Committee looking at the future for the exit 16 area. The linkage study will give the town a clear and concise view and plan specifically in terms of both land use and transportation. Kate then introduced Sandy Misiewicz who is the head of the linkage program. Ms. Misiewicz explained that she wanted to share what Capital District Transportation Committee does with regional planning for the Capital region and how that relates to the linkage program which is our Community Planning Assistance Program and talk a little about the Town’s proposal for the Ballard Road Exit 16 area. Ms. Misiewicz explained that CDTC is the Metropolitan Planning Organization for the Capital Region. CDTC is Federally funded and have an organization that represents 78 municipalities in the four county capital region area. The primary responsibility is to program the Federal Transportation dollars that come in and we do this through our policy board which consists of 25 members. Ms. Misiewicz then went over the proposal for the exit 16 area showing some examples of linkage studies already completed (Town of Malta and

Ballston Spa) area. She explained that the Town has applied for the linkage program grants to study the Ballard Road area and there is no secret that planning here has been a bit controversial of late and there was some concerns on a number of fronts about engaging with the town here on this linkage study for fear that there would not be staff support to carry it through. We are also dealing with a County Road and we wanted to ensure that Saratoga County was on board with the initiative before we pursued it any further. So at the request of CDTC Kate has shared with the Town Board a resolution for your consideration and hoping that the Town is interested in pursuing this study and you are serious about it that the Town will commit to a local match to it, I could bring the resolution back to CDTC for their consideration and our planning committee would then have to approve the study.

Supervisor Johnson stated that Exit 16 has always been our potential economic development zone, zoning is in place we have infrastructure, water and sewer in place and it is a County Road. This area is going to grow. He then asked Ms. Misiewicz if she saw a linkage study being appropriate for what we see planned for Ballard Road.

Ms. Misiewicz: Yes, the time to do a study like this is before the growth happens. You want to make sure you have a vision for this area. These plans help set the course for the future and the development that can occur in this area.

Councilman Pulsifer asked Ms. Misiewicz to explain funding, where it comes from and why.

Ms. Misiewicz stated that the way the program works is we split the funding from 75% Federal and 25% Local. So \$13,500 would be the Town's Local share. The Federal side comes from our Federally allocated planning funds from the Federal Highway Administration. By the Town putting that kind of money on the table it shows real commitment that is why they are not treated as grants. The \$40,000 would go for consultant fees.

Supervisor Johnson stated that this study was identified in the Town's traffic study update. This study would be funded through traffic mitigation fees that we have rather than through the Town's budget. He told the board we can do two things if you like what you see we can pass this tonight or if you need more time to contemplate on it we can wait. Kate and I are meeting with the County tomorrow to get their feedback.

Councilman Pulsifer stated he was not ready to act positively on the issue.

Councilman Rice asked if the County could be on the application with the Town as an interested party to show more compelling interest on a larger scale.

Ms. Misiewicz: You mean attached to this resolution? **Councilman Rice:** Right. **Ms. Misiewicz:** Yes, certainly.

Councilman Gerber: It would seem that it would make sense to get a read from the County and act on this at the next meeting as long as we are not losing some window of opportunity I certainly do not want to do that. He thought it was an important study and exit 16 is very important to the future of the Town and the wellbeing of the Town financially.

Deputy Supervisor O'Connor thanked Ms. Misiewicz for doing a great job putting together the presentation and answering everyone's questions. Between now and the next meeting, now that we have a draft of the resolution, if there are any changes or amendments we thought might be appropriate for that, we can contact you but, he thought it was critically important to do this.

NO ACTION TAKEN. (On for next month)

Friends of Grant Cottage

Lance Ingmire

Supervisor Johnson asked Mr. Ingmire the new President of Grants Cottage, to address the board. Mr. Ingmire showed a little video regarding the cottage. He then explained there are two structures there. Grant Cottage that we as the Friends can not touch it is controlled by the State of New York. The visitor

center was a garage owned by the Department of Corrections it has come into our use. There was about \$60 to \$80,000 between Grants and the Friends matched to try and convert this garage into a visitor center sadly the foundation is in disrepair he showed pictures of the center with water on the floor rendering it useless to us for any sort of display. Additionally the Cottage is also sadly in disrepair, paint peeling water in the basement there is very little the friends group can do other then bringing attention to the problem. He went on to say he has been bugging Albany. Commissioner Ash will be up at Grants Cottage on the 12th of April at 9:30. We have strategic long term plans. But the immediate need is the water problem. The State of New York Parks and Recreation Historic Preservation have begun a survey. We have water seeping up through the floor. He is getting estimates now, which is approximately \$20,000. The need right now is to get money. He wants to put the area back the way it was when Grant was there. His vision is to build a simple plank railroad station and have a rail car and out on the overlook using the trees that are blocking the overlook to build a gazebo like the one that was there when Grant was there. He would like to have a true visitor center.

On a motion introduced by Councilman Pulsifer, the board adopted the following resolution:

RESOLUTION # 90

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, to donate a one-time contribution of \$5,000 to the Friends of Grant Cottage for Capital improvements to the cottage and the visitor center and

FURTHER BE IT AMENDED, to do a budget transfer from Contingency 100-199.000-599.400 to Historical Property 100-752.000-599.400 in the amount of \$5,000.

The adoption of the resolution was seconded by Deputy Supervisor O’Conor, duly put to a vote, all in favor.

Schuylerville School (Local Law)

Senior Exemption (Sliding Scale)

Supervisor Johnson stated that the public hearing was held earlier on the Schuylerville School Senior Exemption sliding scale.

On a motion introduced by Deputy Supervisor O’Conor, the board adopted the following resolution:

RESOLUTION # 91

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, to adopt a Local Law for the Schuylerville School Senior Citizen Exemption Sliding Scale authorizing the increase in maximum

levels of annual income for real property exemptions for senior citizens:

Section I: This local Law shall be known as Local Law No. 2 of 2010. Real Property Tax Law No. 2 of 2010. Real Property Tax Exemption for Schuylerville Central School Senior Citizens.

Section II: Pursuant to section 467 (b) of the Real Property Tax Law, real property owned by one or more persons, each of whom is 65 years of age or over, or real property owned by a husband and wife, one of whom is 65 years of age or over, shall be exempt from taxation by the Town of Wilton to the extent indicated below provided that the income of the owner, or combined income of the owners, does not exceed the amounts indicated below:

<u>Annual Income</u>	<u>% of Assessed Value Exempt from Taxation</u>
Under \$15,000.00 Disability	50%
Up to \$29,000.00	50%
Greater than \$29,000.00 but less than \$29,999.99	45%
Greater than \$30,000.00 but less than \$30,999.99	40%
Greater than \$31,000.00 but less than \$31,999.99	35%
Greater than \$32,000.00 but less than \$32,899.99	30%
Greater than \$32,900.00 but less than \$33,799.99	25%
Greater than \$33,800.00 but less than \$34,699.99	20%
Greater than \$34,700.00 but less than \$35,599.99	15%
Greater than \$35,600.00 but less than \$36,499.99	10%
Greater than \$36,500.00 but less than \$37,399.99	5%

The same scale to be applied to disability exemption and allow for exemption for taxes if a child resides on the property and attends any public school.

Section III: This Local Law shall apply to Assessment rolls prepared after its effective date.

Section IV: This Local Law shall take effect immediately upon filing in the Office of the Secretary of State.

The adoption of the resolution was seconded by Councilman Rice, duly put to a vote, all in favor.

Citizens for Wilton

Supervisor Johnson asked Dennis Towers to address the board on this issue.

Mr. Towers explained the request for resolution submitted by the Citizens for Wilton. He stated that the items listed are basically protocol measures he then went over the items listed as follows:

Each council agenda should be finalized and posted publicly by the close of business on the Monday before the council meeting, the reason for that is so the group has time to look at things to get some knowledge about it.

Items not included on the agenda will not be discussed by the board, with exception of emergency actions.

Every meeting agenda will include a formal "Public Comments" section at the beginning of each meeting. In addition, the public may raise their hand to request comment on current agenda items as they are discussed, at the discretion of the Town Supervisor.

In addition he noticed that on the agenda the board is working on a public address system and the next step was about the live video or video webcast and broadcasting on public government access. Mr. Towers will get some quotes for the Town.

Supervisor Johnson stated he had some comments; First the PA system, recognizing the need for a PA system not just Town Board meetings but for the Planning and Zoning Boards as well. He had already appointed a committee Scott Kingsley, Mark Mykins and Jeff Reale who have been working on this and we are looking for a third bidder, so if you would get in touch with Mark Mykins and get that bid in that would be great. In regards to the public comment issue we have always had an informal procedure process if someone wanted to speak you raise your hand. We encourage public in-put. We could have a sign up at the beginning of the meeting for public comment. Supervisor Johnson stated that he would put together some rules of order like the County has to cover these kinds of things. He then thanked Mr. Towers for coming. **NO ACTION TAKEN.**

Appointment (Planning Board)

Alternate Member (Ron Slone)

Term to expire 12/31/10

On a motion introduced by Councilman Gerber, the board adopted the following resolution:

RESOLUTION # 92

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, to appoint Ron Slone as alternate member of the Planning Board to replace Brett Hebner, term to expire 12/31/10.

The adoption of the resolution was seconded by Councilman Rice, duly put to a vote, all in favor.

Park & Recreation Dept. (Presentation)

Steve Porto

Parks Director Steve Porto explained that he wanted to update everyone on the state of Park and the recreation programs. On the video presentation, he showed past and present photos of the Park and the changes that have taken place in the last four years. He went over the revenue increases and the new programs that are starting at the park. Also the on-going programs such as the summer program, soccer and the award programs. He also reminded the board about the Community Day Event which is July 10th, 2010. He explained the future programs that are under consideration; We have talked about the Alternative Fund Development Program, Flag Football, a new comers dance which invites people who

have just moved into town in the last couple of years, we have talked about camp Kermit, which is a pre-school half-day summer program, also a community first aid day CPR day which would allow residents to come to one of our gymnasiums and learn first aid and CPR at no charge and also a lacrosse program.

Mr. Towers asked how the Alternative Fund Program will work with the on-going Town funding.

Councilman Gerber stated that the vision, which is my vision, not the town boards at this point, envisioned a 501 C-3 Friends of Gavin Park generating revenue for the park from the community that will off-set and reduce the amount of general fund money that needs to go into Gavin Park.

NO ACTION TAKEN

Edie Road (Closure)

Canadian Pacific Railroad (Kirk)

Highway Superintendent stated that Edie Road will be closed May 5, 2010 for two days. Canadian Pacific is going to be doing work on the railroad crossing there will be signage but the road will be closed.

Supervisor Johnson suggested that maybe the Town should advertise to let the residents know about the closure. Maybe put it on the web-site.

Camp Saratoga Delegan Pond (Fishing Pond)

On a motion introduced by Councilman Gerber, the board adopted the following resolution:

RESOLUTION # 93

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, to approve the following resolution as presented:

Camp Saratoga Delegan Pond, Scout Pond, Fishing Program

The Town of Wilton Town Board, owners of property known as Camp Saratoga has stocked Scout Pond for resident fishing.

1. The stocking program is for the **Town of Wilton residents only.**
2. April 1st to June 1st, will be reserved for fishing by Town of Wilton resident **youths age 16 or under,** and may be assisted by an immediate adult family member.
3. The remainder of the trout fishing season will be open to Town residents to October 15th, the last day of trout season, for all persons over the age of 16 with a required, valid, New York State Fishing License.
4. Fishing limit is 2 per day.
5. Adults after June 1st (catch and release) is recommended.

6. **No live bait is permitted (worms and lures permitted).**

The adoption of the resolution was seconded by Councilman Rice, duly put to a vote, all in favor.

Wilton Youth Baseball

Mike Herman T-Ball program

Supervisor Johnson asked Mr. Herman to address the board.

Mr. Herman explained that they had just finished registration and they now have 330 kids (Wilton Residents) registered for baseball this year. There will be four divisions, 29 teams and a travel division made up of 6 teams to play a more competitive brand of baseball. There are 240 games scheduled to be played at Gavin Park. Mr. Herman also stated that as far as the T-Ball field goes that is something that was talked about before and the board was 100% behind us. We are not looking for any Town funds to fund that we think it is important for the growth of our organization.

Mr. Kirshe explained that at the last meeting the board had asked the Park Director, Highway Superintendent and the Town Engineer to look at the site where the T-Ball field would be, they had a meeting regarding drainage and water issues and all concerns were addressed.

Deputy Supervisor O'Connor had some concerns regarding the service road and the railroad tracks near the field and asked if the temporary fence would keep the kids contained.

Mr. Kirshe stated that there is no fence there now and kids are playing in those fields. The fence will contain them from the access to the road here (illustrating) on the photo.

Director Porto explained that he is concerned about inviting kids to that area where there are railroad tracks and not containing them and preventing them from going to the railroad tracks. We need to discuss that. He would also like to see a fence plan.

Mr. Kirshe apologized for not being prepared regarding the fencing. This is the first time it has come up.

Councilman Gerber explained that he would like to be able to let these guys do this what he wanted some assurance that it would meet the safety requirements.

Engineer Manz stated that if the board is happy with the project in philosophy then why not go with Director Porto's approval on location and the fencing plan and I will give him all my advice. After some discussion the board decided to do a resolution.

On a motion introduced by Councilman Gerber, the board adopted the following resolution:

RESOLUTION # 94

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, to approve Wilton Youth Baseball going forward to build a T-Ball Field after the Park Director, his staff and the Town Engineer is satisfied that the safety concerns and the location are adequate.

The adoption of the resolution was seconded by Councilman Pulsifer, duly put to a vote, all in favor.

Committee Reports (If Any)

Supervisor Johnson asked if anyone had any committee reports. He mentioned that the Elks annual Flag Day Parade is June 19th, 2010 at 12:00 p.m..

Councilman Pulsifer explained that he would like to get a follow up on the adjustment of the title of the Planner. He was looking to get a report from Keith on the changes that were to be implemented and what he has done to implement those changes.

Engineer Manz explained that it has been going well, Kate, myself and Lucy have met continuing forward streamlining and efficient processing that Kate put into effect as far as applicants going through the process, reducing the number of plans they need to submit because they will digitally entered into the computer file system. We will have internal meetings to make sure everyone is working together. The applicants will get one review letter.

Councilman Pulsifer asked Kate if that helps to streamline the issue.

Kate stated she did not think there was an issue to begin with to be honest.

Councilman Pulsifer stated that we decided there was an issue and he did not want to argue that again. He asked if the policy they set was implemented.

Kate went over what she had in a year ago.

Comptroller's Report
(Including Bills & Transfers)

February 2010 Cash Disbursements

Supervisor Johnson that the disbursements listed in the Comptrollers report were for informational purposes only.

Highway Department (Purchase Equipment)

On a motion introduced by Councilman Pulsifer, the board adopted the following resolution:

RESOLUTION # 95

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, to approve the purchase of a truck and take delivery after January 1, 2011. The balance will be funded in 2011.

The adoption of the resolution was seconded by Councilman Gerber, duly put to a vote, all in favor.

Revise Resolution #29 Official Depositories
TrustCo Bank

On a motion introduced by Councilman Gerber, the board adopted the following resolution:

RESOLUTION # 96

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, to revise Resolution #29 to remove TrustCo Bank as an Official Depository.

The adoption of the resolution was seconded by Councilman Rice, duly put to a vote, all in favor.

Deputy Supervisor O'Connor abstained from voting.

Audio for Board meeting Room

Supervisor Johnson explained that this item had been talked about earlier regarding the audio and the video installation for board meetings. Comptroller Reale thought it would be idea to set up a budget for that in the amount of \$5,000 to cover any expenses. There has been two bids submitted so far and we will get a third.

On a motion introduced by Deputy Supervisor O'Connor, the board adopted the following resolution:

RESOLUTION # 97

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, to set up a Capital Project Fund in the amount of \$5,000, for all the equipment and the set up and;

FURTHER BE IT AMENDED, to approve a budget transfer from Contingency 100-199.000-599.400 to the Buildings and Grounds Equipment account 100-162.000-599.200.

The adoption of the resolution was seconded by Councilman Rice duly put to a vote, all in favor.

Alcohol and Substance Abuse Prevention Council of Saratoga County

Supervisor Johnson explained that the board had received a letter from the Alcohol and Substance Abuse Prevention Council of Saratoga County. They are the agency that runs the Youth Court. The Town contracts with them each year in the amount of \$2,000 to be part of the Youth Court program. They contract with 16 municipalities at \$2,000 but are running short on funds due to a loss in State and other funding for this year.

On a motion introduced by Deputy Supervisor O’Conor, the board adopted the following resolution:

RESOLUTION # 98

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, to approve the request from the Alcohol and Substance Abuse Prevention Council of Saratoga County for additional money in the amount of \$1,000 for the Youth Court Program and;

FURTHER BE IT AMENDED, to approve a budget transfer from Contingency 100-199.000-599.400 to Youth Court 100-314.700-599.400.

The adoption of the resolution was seconded by Councilman Pulsifer, duly put to a vote, all in favor.

NYS OSC Annual Update Document (AUD)

Supervisor Johnson explained that the Town’s Annual Update Document has been filed with the NYS Office of State Comptroller. NO ACTION TAKEN.

Wilton Emergency Squad (PENFLEX)

Penflex Service Award Program

Supervisor Johnson explained that Comptroller Reale had completed his audit of PENFLEX Service Award Program for the 2009 year end. He has come up a list of those who qualify from the squad. This board has to approve that listing. The listing and the certified copy of the resolution has to be posted at the squad for 30 days if there are no changes then it is sent to PENFLEX, if changes are needed it will come back to the board.

On a motion introduced by Deputy Supervisor O’Conor, the board adopted the following resolution:

RESOLUTION # 99

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, to approve the PENFLEX Service Award Program list of all volunteer ambulance workers of the Wilton Emergency Squad.

The adoption of the resolution was seconded by Councilman Gerber, duly put to a vote, all in favor.

NOT ON COMPTROLLER'S REPORT

Park & Recreation Department (Tracey Kubis)

Supervisor Johnson explained that Tracey Kubis the Assistant Recreation Director has passed the Civil Service test for that position. We would like to make her permanent in that position.

On a motion introduced by Councilman Rice, the board adopted the following resolution:

RESOLUTION # 100

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, to appoint Tracey Kubis to the permanent position of Assistant Recreation Director from the Civil Service List.

The Adoption of the resolution was seconded by Councilman Gerber, with Steve Porto's approval, duly put to a vote, all in favor.

NOT ON AGENDA

Joann Klepetar explained that May is National Bike Month and on May 21st is bike to work day, so beware of bicyclers on that day. Anyone that is interested if you pass through Saratoga Springs a free breakfast at the ART Center from 6:30 till 9:00 is offered on the 21st. She was wondering if it would be possible to get some share the signs to be put up.

Supervisor Johnson asked Ms. Klepetar what Kirk said.

Ms. Klepetar: He said Town Board.

Supervisor Johnson stated it is absolutely his call.

Deputy Supervisor O'Connor explained that if it is a budgetary item it would be our call, but as far as whether it will be placed on a roadway or in the Town's right-of-way. It would be beyond his call if you are talking about roads other than Town roads.

Ms. Klepetar stated that the signs would need to be purchased.

Deputy Supervisor O’Conor explained than I would take it in two steps: Is it permissible and legal to put the signs up and that is the Highway Superintendents call and the decision about where they would go and the then the estimated cost.

Supervisor Johnson stated for her to get the Highway Superintendents approval and then come to the Town Board for funding to pay for them.

Councilman Pulsifer stated that as the Highway Liaison he would talk to Kirk.

Executive Session (Personnel Issue)

Supervisor Johnson explained that the board needed to adjourn to executive session to discuss a personnel issue.

On a motion introduced by Deputy Supervisor O’Conor and seconded by Councilman Gerber, the board adjourned to executive session at 10:04 p.m..

On a motion introduced by Councilman Gerber, and seconded by Deputy Supervisor O’Conor, the board reconvened the Regular Town Board meeting at 10:43 p.m..

NO ACTION TAKEN IN EXECUTIVE SESSION.

On a motion introduced by Deputy Supervisor O’Conor, and seconded by Councilman Rice the meeting was adjourned at 10:44 p.m..

Respectfully Submitted,

Carol Maynard, Town Clerk

Supervisor, Arthur Johnson

Councilman, Raymond O’Conor

Councilman, Charles Gerber

Councilman, Robert Pulsifer

Councilman, Robert Rice

