

**Stillwater Town Board**  
**Business Meeting/Public Hearing**  
Local Law-Veterans Exemptions  
**March 21, 2013      7:00 PM**  
**Stillwater Town Hall**

**Present:**      **Councilman Ken Petronis**  
                         **Councilman Artie Baker**  
                         **Supervisor Ed Kinowski**

**Also Present:** **Sue Cunningham, Town Clerk**  
                         **Mark Minick, Supt of Highways**  
                         **James Trainor, Attorney for the Town**

**Absent:**        **Councilwoman Lisa Bruno**  
                         **Councilwoman Virginia Whitman**

Supervisor Kinowski called the meeting to order and led everyone in the Pledge to the Flag.

Sue Cunningham, Town Clerk took the roll call.

**Public Hearing**      **Proposed Local Law-Veterans Exemption**

**Purpose:** The proposed Local Law would authorize a partial exemption from real property taxation for owner occupied residential real property owned by qualified veterans of the Cold War.

Supervisor Kinowski gave a brief summary of the proposed Local Law.

**Public Input**

John B inquired as to who was considered a qualifying veteran, questioned rates and length of exemption.

Colleen Adamac, Assessor explained the veteran had to have an honorable discharge and supply his DD214, went over the rates and the exemption ended when the vet was deceased unless he had a surviving spouse which she would receive unless she sold or remarried.

Tony B how this effected someone who already received an exemption?

The Assessor explained they would change over to the new rates unless they fall under eligible funds. If that is the case their exemption will remain the same.

John V commented on the rates.

The Assessor also commented that this law applies to the Town only and the Village has the right to adopt the same proposed Local Law.

With everyone having the right to comment Supervisor Kinowski closed the public hearing at 7:20 pm.

**Adoption of Minutes: Motion** by Councilman Petronis and seconded by Councilman Baker to adopt the minutes of February 21, 2013. **Motion carried.**

**Agenda Items**

**(Resolutions #19--#26)**

**Resolution #19            Adopting Local Law 1 of 2013, a Local Law Enacting an Alternative Veterans Exemption and/or raising the Maximum Exemptions for Qualifying Veterans**

Introduced by: \_\_\_\_\_ Supervisor \_\_\_\_\_

WHEREAS, pursuant to Resolution No. 12 of 2013, the Town Board conducted a Public Hearing on March 21, 2013 to consider amending Local Laws 1-1982 and 4-2007, and adding Article IV to Chapter 183 of the Stillwater Town Code allowing certain exemptions from real property taxation for qualifying veterans; and

WHEREAS, comments from the public were solicited at the Public Hearing;

WHEREAS, the Town Board wishes to revise the maximum exemptions allowable pursuant to said local and state laws;

Now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, Local Law 1 of 2013, a Local Law amending Local Law 1 of 1982 and Local Law 4 of 2007, and adding Article IV to Chapter 183 of the Stillwater Town Code, to revise the maximum exemptions from real property taxation available to qualifying veterans is hereby adopted; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Town Clerk is directed to file a copy of the adopted Local Law with the New York State Secretary of State forthwith; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Town Clerk shall appropriately post and publish Notice of Adoption of this Resolution and Local Law as required by the New York State Town Law.

**Motion** by Councilman Petronis and seconded by Councilman Baker to adopt Resolution #19 of 2013.

A roll call vote was taken on Resolution #19 of 2013 as follows:

Supervisor Kinowski	YES
Councilman Baker	YES
Councilman Petronis	YES
Councilwoman Whitman	ABSENT
Councilwoman Bruno	ABSENT

**Motion carried.** Resolution #19 of 2013 was adopted unanimously.

**Resolution #20            Purchase Property From Saratoga County**

Introduced by: \_\_\_\_\_ Supervisor \_\_\_\_\_

WHEREAS, Saratoga County has listed for foreclosure 6.25 acres of vacant land located on Liberty Street (SBL: 253.-2-32.1) for non-payment of back taxes; and

WHEREAS, the Town desires to purchase the property for the amount of back taxes plus penalties and interest to enhance the Champlain Canal Trail System within the Town of Stillwater for public use;

Now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Supervisor is hereby authorized to purchase 6.25 acres of vacant land located on Liberty Street (SBL: 253.-2-32.1) from the County of Saratoga in the approximate amount of \$3,300.00 in accordance with the Saratoga County E&A Committee Policies and Procedures Manual.

**Motion** by Councilman Petronis and seconded by Councilman Baker to adopt Resolution #20 of 2013.

A roll call vote was taken on Resolution #20 of 2013 as follows:

Supervisor Kinowski	YES
Councilman Baker	YES
Councilman Petronis	YES
Councilwoman Whitman	ABSENT
Councilwoman Bruno	ABSENT

**Motion carried.** Resolution #20 of 2013 was adopted unanimously.

**Resolution #21                      Adopting the Town’s  
New Employee Personnel Manual**

Introduced by: Supervisor \_\_\_\_\_

WHEREAS, in order to make the Town’s personnel policy more uniform for Town employees the Town has created a new personnel policy entitled *Town of Stillwater Employee Personnel Manual Second Edition*; and

WHEREAS, the appropriate reviews have been obtained from the Saratoga County Personnel Department;

Now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the new employee manual entitled *Town of Stillwater Employee Personnel Manual Second Edition* is hereby adopted.

**Motion** by Councilman Petronis and seconded by Councilman Baker to adopt Resolution #21 of 2013.

A roll call vote was taken on Resolution #21 of 2013 as follows:

Supervisor Kinowski	YES
Councilman Baker	YES
Councilman Petronis	YES
Councilwoman Whitman	ABSENT
Councilwoman Bruno	ABSENT

**Motion carried.** Resolution #21 of 2013 was adopted unanimously.

**Resolution #22                      Sponsor Stillwater Family Day 2013**

Introduced by: Supervisor \_\_\_\_\_

WHEREAS, the Town of Stillwater, in order to promote community relations and in keeping with historical tradition, has sponsored an annual Family Day, and

WHEREAS, the Town Board has decided to be this years Family Day Committee and will meet as required to plan and execute this event using authorized funds under the General Municipal Law thresholds;

Now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Town Board has authorized funding for the Stillwater Family Day event for an amount not to exceed \$12,000.00.

**Motion** by Councilman Petronis and seconded by Councilman Baker to adopt Resolution #22 of 2013.

A roll call vote was taken on Resolution #22 of 2013 as follows:

Supervisor Kinowski	YES
Councilman Baker	YES
Councilman Petronis	YES
Councilwoman Whitman	ABSENT
Councilwoman Bruno	ABSENT

**Motion carried.** Resolution #22 of 2013 was adopted unanimously.

**Resolution #23**                      **Allocating Funds for the Town-wide Cleanup**

Introduced by: Supervisor

WHEREAS, the Town will conduct its annual Town-wide cleanup on April 27, 2013 and October 27, 2013;

Now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Town Supervisor is hereby authorized to disburse funds allocated for Town-wide Cleanup as provided for in the Town Budget for 2013.

**Motion** by Councilman Petronis and seconded by Councilman Baker to adopt Resolution #23 of 2013.

A roll call vote was taken on Resolution #23 of 2013 as follows:

Supervisor Kinowski	YES
Councilman Baker	YES
Councilman Petronis	YES
Councilwoman Whitman	ABSENT
Councilwoman Bruno	ABSENT

**Motion carried.** Resolution #23 of 2013 was adopted unanimously.

**Resolution #24**                      **Authorizing a Disbursement  
For Town Day at the Races**

Introduced by: Councilwoman Whitman

WHEREAS, the Town will be conducting its annual “Day at the Races” at the Saratoga Racetrack on Sunday, August 18, 2013; and

WHEREAS, a deposit is needed with the proposed contract in order to reserve space at the track that day;

Now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Supervisor is hereby authorized to sign a contract with the New York Racing Authority (NYRA) for the Town’s annual “Day at the Races” on Sunday, August 18, 2013 at the Saratoga Racetrack; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Supervisor is further authorized to send a deposit to NYRA in the amount of \$1,000.00, which amount represents 25 tickets at \$36.00 per ticket, in accordance with the terms of the signed Agreement.

**Motion** by Councilman Petronis and seconded by Councilman Baker to adopt Resolution #24 of 2013.

A roll call vote was taken on Resolution #24 of 2013 as follows:

Supervisor Kinowski	YES
Councilman Baker	YES
Councilman Petronis	YES
Councilwoman Whitman	ABSENT
Councilwoman Bruno	ABSENT

**Motion carried.** Resolution #24 of 2013 was adopted unanimously.

**Resolution #25                      Authorizing the Purchase of a Town Sign**

Introduced by:   Councilman Baker  

WHEREAS, the Town desires to install a sign at the new Town Hall; and

WHEREAS, competitive bidding is not required as the monetary threshold of General Municipal Law of §103 has not been reached; and

WHEREAS, the cost to fabricate and install the new sign is Ten Thousand Five Hundred Eighteen Dollars (\$10,518.00);

Now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, the Town Board hereby authorizes the purchase of new a sign which includes the fabrication and installation at the new Town Hall entrance at a cost not to exceed Ten Thousand Five Hundred Eighteen Dollars (\$10,518.00); and be it further,

RESOLVED, that the entrance sign shall be installed, and the old signs are to be removed, by the Town Highway Department.

**Motion** by Councilman Petronis and seconded by Councilman Baker to adopt Resolution #25 of 2013.

A roll call vote was taken on Resolution #25 of 2013 as follows:

Supervisor Kinowski	YES
Councilman Baker	YES
Councilman Petronis	YES
Councilwoman Whitman	ABSENT
Councilwoman Bruno	ABSENT

**Motion carried.** Resolution #25 of 2013 was adopted unanimously.

**Resolution #26                      Adopting Changes to The Election Polling Locations**

Introduced by:   Supervisor  

WHEREAS, the Town Clerk has identified a need to change the locations of Election Polling places within the Town; and

WHEREAS, changes have been made to the Election Polling places for Districts No. 2, 4, 6 & 7 pursuant to the attached list;

Now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the attached list for new Election Polling Places for the Town of Stillwater is hereby adopted.

**Motion** by Councilman Petronis and seconded by Councilman Baker to adopt Resolution #26 of 2013.

A roll call vote was taken on Resolution #26 of 2013 as follows:

Supervisor Kinowski	YES
Councilman Baker	YES
Councilman Petronis	YES
Councilwoman Whitman	ABSENT
Councilwoman Bruno	ABSENT

**Motion carried.** Resolution #26 of 2013 was adopted unanimously.

**Communications**

Supervisor Kinowski announced that the Town of Stillwater has been recently the recipient of grants from the Hudson Valley Greenway, NYS Department of State and the Canal District Transportation Council.

**Public Input**

Tony B questioned the purchase of the new Town Sign and Village approvals. Supervisor Kinowski stated that this was just to approve purchasing a sign and Village regulations will be followed.

Marty D questioned the District 4 polling place. Supervisor Kinowski stated that it would be held at the Henry F Lefko American Legion, across the street from the present Town Hall.

Coke C questioned where Liberty Street was and the questioned the surcharge fee when paying taxes with a credit card. Supervisor Kinowski explained where Liberty Street was. Town Clerk explained that credit card surcharge fees have to be paid by the resident using card because taxpayer dollars can not be used to pick up the fees for ones that pay by credit card.

John Basile, Village Trustee spoke on the Village sign in regard to comments pertaining to GE & EPA.

John V. commented on the veteran & low income exemptions.

Marty D inquired as to when the Town Offices would be moving to the new Town Hall. Supervisor Kinowski stated that he was unsure of the move date.

**Audited Claims**

**Motion** by Councilman Petronis and seconded by Councilman Baker to pay the audited claims.

General	#88--#114	\$15780.46
Town Outside	#40--#47	\$5924.27
Highway	#128--#153	\$13843.06
Capital Projects	#3--#9	\$14525.01
Water	#18--#19	\$660.00

**Motion carried.**

**Adjournment: Motion** by Councilman Baker and seconded by Councilman Petronis to adjourn into executive session at 8:00 pm for contract and personnel matters. **Motion carried.** (Note: The Town Board will not resume the regular schedule meeting).

Respectfully submitted by

Sue Cunningham  
Stillwater Town Clerk