

**NOVEMBER 9, 2011
PUBLIC HEARING**

Local Law #1 of 2011-2% Tax Cap Override

6:30 P.M.

Present: Supervisor Post
Deputy Supervisor Underhill
Councilman Lang
Councilwoman Michalak

Absent: Councilman Gerace

Others Present: Town Clerk Morasco
Robert Zeagler
Mary Martha Zoll
Hezekiah Webster

Supervisor called the Public Hearing to order at 6:32 P.M. and the Supervisor presented the notice as published in the Daily News.

Robert Zeagler asked for an explanation on what the Local Law was about and why it is being presented.

Supervisor Post explained that this will exempt us from the 2% tax cap. The 2012 Proposed Budget maintains a zero tax rate. The budget is higher due to proposed highway equipment purchases and proposing to loan Town dollars to self for Ag Park Infrastructure. We have special districts, such as Fire Districts and water and sewer districts under this tax cap. We have no voice for the State mandates. The Town's contributions to the NYS retirement have increased as well as health insurance premiums. If the Town were to exceed the 2%, the State will fine the Town. It has been recommended by the Town's auditor and legal counsel to pass the Local Law to override the cap. The language in the tax cap bill is unclear and Albany has not been able to give municipalities clear answers. This proposed law allows us to set the tax rate to maintain the revenue side of the budget and to protect our community. It is the safest thing to do to avoid any financial imposition from New York State.

Mr. Zeagler requested the Town Board pass a resolution and/or send a strong worded letter to NYS, urging Mandate relief. The Supervisor stated that the Town Board will take this into consideration.

Mary Martha Zoll and Hezekiah Webster arrived at 6:50 P.M. and requested an explanation of this proposed Local Law. Supervisor Post reiterated what was explained to Mr. Zeagler.

Supervisor Post declared the Public Hearing closed at 7:29 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Teresa M. Morasco
Town Clerk