

**PUBLIC HEARING
LOCAL LAW 2 OF 2024
EXCEEDING NYS TAX CAP
OCTOBER 10, 2024**

PUBLIC HEARING FOR LOCAL LAW 2 OF 2024, WAS CALLED TO ORDER BY TOWN SUPERVISOR KETURI AT 7:00 PM.

ROLL CALL OF TOWN BOARD

HAROLD SHOEMAKER-COUNCILPERSON/DEPUTY SUPV.
FRED SWAYZE, JR.-COUNCILPERSON
CATHY LECLAIRE-COUNCILPERSON
ANDREW LARISON-COUNCILPERSON
GEORGE KETURI-SUPERVISOR

TOWN OFFICERS

BOB EASTWOOD-H'WAY SUPT.
SALLY WHITSON-ASSESSOR-EXC
DAWN ROSE-TOWN CLERK
BRANDON DECKER-CODE ENF
VACANT- TOWN HISTORIAN
HEATHER GABLE- WATER OPERATOR-EXC
DUSTIN ROSE-CEMETERY CURATOR AND
DOG CONTROL OFFCR.
DONNA REDSICKER-WATER CLERK
LEON TUTTLE-TOWN JUSTICE-EXC

OTHERS PRESENT: RICH LECLAIRE, JANET SAYRE, KAREN FRICK, REBECCA WRIGHT, DENEEN DILLER, GEORGE DILLER, SAM SAVON, JEREMIAH WHEELER, EMILY WHEELER, AND JEREMY KASTENHUBER.

KETURI READ LEGAL NOTICE (SEE FILE) ADVERTISED IN SEPTEMBER 14 2024, ISSUE OF MORNING TIMES AND SEPTEMBER 18, 2024 ISSUE OF NEWS CHRONICLE (FORMERLY RANDOM HARVEST).

COMMUNICATIONS FROM AUDIENCE:

MR. SAVON ASKED STATED RESIDENTS ON FIXED INCOMES FIND IT DIFFICULT TO ENDURE ANY INCREASE IN TAXES AND WHY ARE TAXES GOING UP. KETURI RESPONDED COSTS SUCH AS, FUEL, INSURANCE, ELECTRIC, ETC. CONTINUE TO CLIMB AND TOWN BOARD HAS KEPT BUDGET UNDER 2 % FOR SEVERAL YEARS. SHOEMAKER EXPLAINED THIS LOCAL LAW IS INTENDED TO INFORM PUBLIC REGARDING EXCEEDING 2% TAX CAP AND NO FINAL BUDGET HAS BEEN APPROVED.

MR. WHEELER EXPRESSED HIS DISSATISFACTION WITH TOWN'S BUDGET INCREASES AND FEELS REWORKING HIS ROAD SEVERAL TIMES IS NOT COST EFFICIENT. KETURI EXPLAINED HE'S BEEN WORKING ON BUDGET SINCE AUGUST AND UNDERSTANDS CONCERN.

MR. KASTENHUBER QUESTIONED MODE OF ADVERTISING MEETINGS AND SWAYZE, JR. HAS INDICATED ALL MODES OF NYS REQUIRED ADVERTISING WERE FOLLOWED (INCLUDING TOWN'S LED SIGN AND WEBSITE). MR. KASTENHUBER ASKED ABOUT SHARED SERVICES AND EASTWOOD INDICATED WE CURRENTLY PARTICIPATE IN SHARED SERVICES. HE EXPRESSED HIS DISSATISFACTION WITH UPCOMING REEVALUATION.

MS. FRICK NOTED TOWN HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT HAS AN ABUNDANCE OF EQUIPMENT FOR TOWN OUR SIZE. MS. FRICK STATED WATER DEPARTMENT SEEMS TO EMPLOY TOO MANY EMPLOYEES AT THIS TIME AND RAISES HAVE BEEN TOO MUCH IN PAST. MS. FRICK NOTED TOWN COULD ADVERTISE IN OWEGO

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PENNYSAVER FREE AND MORNING TIMES TOLD HER THAT THEY ONLY SELL 15 PAPERS IN VAN ETEN AND RECOMMENDED TOWN HAS FACEBOOK PAGE.

MS. WRIGHT ASKED IF TOWN WAS UTILIZING ALL EQUIPMENT AND NYS OGS. EASTWOOD SAID YES, TOWN UTILIZES EQUIPMENT AND OGS. MS. WRIGHT ASKED IF TOWN HAS PROCUREMENT POLICY; SHOEMAKER RESPONDED YES. MS. WRIGHT STATED BUILDING CODE OFFICER SHOULD BE WORKING ON HOMEOWNERS TO ADHERE TO KEEPING THEIR RESIDENCE IN COMPLIANCE WITH NYS BUILDING CODE LAWS.

ADJOURN AT 7:22 P.M. MOTION BY SWAYZE, JR. SECONDED BY LARISON. ALL AYE. CARRIED.