

Special meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Chester was held **April 3, 2006** at 7:00pm in the Town of Chester Municipal Center, Chestertown, NY.

Roll Call: Fred Monroe, Mike Packer, Frank Shaw, Edna Wells and Karen DuRose.

Purpose of the special meeting was to conduct a Public Hearing on Local Law #1 of 2006 and any other business that may come before the Town Board. The Local Law would provide for the maximum exemption allowable for the Alternative Veteran's Exemption from Real Property Taxation.

Clerk read notice of Public Hearing.

Supervisor Monroe opened the public hearing at 7:05 pm. No comments were received from the floor. Supervisor Monroe closed public hearing at 7:06 pm.

RESOLUTION #61: LOCAL LAW #1 OF 2006 PROVIDING FOR THE MAXIMUM EXEMPTION ALLOWABLE FOR THE ALTERNATIVE VETERAN'S EXEMPTION FROM THE REAL PROPERTY TAXATION.

Introduced by Mr. Shaw, 2nd by Mrs. Wells:

A Local Law providing for the maximum exemption allowable for the alternative veteran's exemption from Real Property Taxation.

Be it enacted by the Chester Town Board as follows:

Section 1. The purpose of this law is to provide for the maximum veterans exemption allowable pursuant to Section 458-a of the Real Property Tax Law of the State of New York.

Section 2. Pursuant to the provisions of subdivision 2(d) of Section 458-a of the Real Property Tax Law of the State of New York, the maximum veterans exemption allowable from real property taxes is established as follows:

A. Qualifying residential real property shall be exempt from taxation to the extent of fifteen percent (15%) of the assessed value of such property; provided however that such exemption shall not exceed the lesser of Twenty-Seven Thousand Dollars (\$27,000) or the product of Twenty-Seven Thousand Dollars (\$27,000) multiplied by the latest state equalization rate for the assessing unit.

B. In addition to the exemption provided by paragraph (a) of this subdivision, where the veteran served in a combat theatre or combat zone of operations, as documented by the award of a United States campaign ribbon or service medal, or the armed forces expeditionary medal, navy expeditionary medal, marine corps expeditionary medal, or global war on terrorism expeditionary medal, qualifying residential real property also shall be exempt from taxation to the extent of ten percent (10%) of the assessed value of such property; provided, however, that such exemption shall not exceed the lesser of Eighteen Thousand Dollars (\$18,000) or the product of Eighteen Thousand Dollars (\$18,000) multiplied by the latest state equalization rate for the assessing unit.

C. In addition to the exemptions provided by paragraphs (a) and (b) of this subdivision, where the veteran received a compensation rating from the United States Veterans Administration or the United States Department of Defense because of a service connected disability , qualifying residential real property shall be exempt from taxation to the extent of the product of the assessed value of such property multiplied by fifty percent (50%) of the veteran's disability rating, provided, however, that such exemption shall not exceed the lesser of Ninety Thousand Dollars (\$90,000) or the product of Ninety Thousand Dollars (\$90,000) multiplied by the latest state equalization rate for the assessing unit. For purposes of this paragraph, where a person has served in the active military, naval or air service during a period of war died in service of a service connected disability, such person shall be deemed to have been assigned a compensation rating of one hundred percent (100%).

Section 3. This Local Law shall take effect upon filing with the Secretary of State of the State of New York.

Frederick H Monroe - AYE Michael Packer - AYE
Frank Shaw - AYE Edna Wells - AYE Karen DuRose - AYE

Lifeguard applications - Town Board reviewed 4 applications. Discussion on the training schedule and agreement for the Town to pay for the training that is required for lifeguards (approximate cost \$200 to \$250 per applicant), and those hired will agree to work as a lifeguard in the Town of Chester for the 2006 summer season. Supervisor Monroe will draft the agreement. Sarah Emlaw will also be considered if a training session is available that she can attend.

RESOLUTION #62: APPROVE LIFEGUARD TRAINING FOR ELIZABETH AIKEN, RICHARD HANABURGH, AND DANIELLE MAHISTEDT.

Introduced by Mr. Shaw, 2nd by Mrs. Wells to approve lifeguard training for Elizabeth Aiken, Richard Hanaburgh, and Danielle Mahistedt with the condition that an agreement is signed stating they will be lifeguards for the Town of Chester for the year.

AYE 5 NO 0

Occupancy tax - Discussion on Supervisor contacting LA Group to prepare a preliminary plan and estimate cost for the creation of hiking and biking trails. Supervisor Monroe stated that there is a grant available (deadline is in May). He will also ask for a proposal from LA Group for the preparing of the grant application and a preliminary plan. Approximate cost \$2,000. Possibility that Occupancy tax funds can be used.

RESOLUTION #63: AUTHORIZE SUPERVISOR TO ADVERTISE FOR BIDS FOR REMOVAL OF MILFOIL.

Introduced by Mr.Shaw, 2nd by Mrs.Wells authorizing Supervisor Monroe to advertise for bids for removal of milfoil in Loon Lake. Bid opening May 9, 2006 at 7:30pm. AYE 5 NO 0

RESOLUTION #64: AUTHORIZE PAYMENT OF VOUCHER #111 TO NORTH COUNTRY TEEN THEATER GROUP.

Introduced by Mrs.Wells, 2nd by Mrs.DuRose authorizing payment of voucher #111, in the amount of \$994.33 to the North Country Teen Theater Group for Rights to Disney's Beauty and Beast. Code 7310.41.
Roll Call: Frederick Monroe - abstain Mike Packer - AYE
Frank Shaw - AYE Edna Wells - AYE Karen DuRose - AYE

RESOLUTION #65: APPROVE PROPOSED PROGRAMS OF STRATFORD ON HUDSON.

Introduced by Mrs.Wells, 2nd by Mr.Packer to approve proposed programs of Stratford on Hudson and the request for \$2,000 from 2006 Occupancy Tax Funds and the remaining amount of \$397.46 from 2005 Occupancy Tax Funds that was appropriated to Stratford on Hudson.
AYE 5 NO 0

RESOLUTION #66: APPROVE REQUEST OF JUDGE TO ATTEND JUSTICE COURT FINANCES CONFERENCE.

Introduced by Mr.Packer, 2nd by Mr.Shaw approve request of Town Justice, James McDermott, to attend Justice Court Finances Teleconference on April 11, 2006. All necessary expenses for same to be a lawful claim against the Town of Chester. AYE 5 NO 0

RESOLUTION #67: APPROVE REQUEST OF ASSESSOR AND TOWN CLERK TO ATTEND CONFERENCES.

Introduced by Mr.Shaw, 2nd by Mrs.Wells approving request of Town Assessor, Paul Maniacek, to attend the New York State Assessor Association Annual Seminar at Cornell University during the week of July 17th and the Annual Conference on Assessment Administration at Lake Placid the week of September 17th, 2006. All necessary expenses for same to be a lawful claim against the Town of Chester.
Approve request of Town Clerk to attend New York State Association of Tax Receives & Collectors 2006 Annual Training Seminar in Rochester, NY from June 10 - 14th, 2006. All necessary expenses for same to be a lawful claim against the Town of Chester. AYE 5 NO 0

Motion by Mr.Shaw, 2nd by Mrs.Wells the Town Board went into Executive Session at 7:30 pm to discuss Bargaining Unit Contract and MEO classification for Bret Hitchcock. Motion by Mr.Shaw, 2nd by Mrs.DuRose Regular Session resumed at 7:55pm. No action taken.

RESOLUTION #68: AUTHORIZE CHANGE IN CLASSIFICATION FOR BRET HITCHCOCK.

Introduced by Mrs.Wells, 2nd by Mr.Shaw authorizing change in job classification for Bret Hitchcock from laborer to MEO. AYE 5 NO 0

Motion by Mr.Monroe meeting was adjourned at 8:00pm.
