

Minutes of the Town Board Worksession held at Town Hall on June 18, 2012 at 7:30PM

Present: John Burke, Supervisor
Timothy Arone and Marilyn Prestia, Councilpersons
Absent: Frank Palermo and James Skoufis, Councilperson (*each arrived late, at different times*)
Also Present: Robert Weyant, Highway Superintendent; Alfred Fusco, Engineer for the Town; Frances Huang, Deputy Town Clerk; Laura Breslin, Sole Assessor; Maria Hunter, Village Planning Board

1. Discussion – Medical Tax Deduction for Senior Citizens:

Assessor Breslin stated she was asked by Councilman Skoufis to investigate this exemption for senior citizens that involves deducting out-of-pocket medical/prescription costs from the total amount of **all** income earned. Each taxing entity has different maximum income levels and the income calculation includes all individuals that reside in the home. The resident would need to submit all receipts for medical expenses that would need to be calculated and verified so the amount could then be deducted from the income total. She noted that Woodbury currently has 64 seniors receiving a senior exemption, which she expects will increase should the Town opt into this exemption. She stressed that the workload for her staff would increase greatly due to the amount of documentation that would need to be sorted through and verified per applicant. Currently only Newburgh and Blooming Grove offer this exemption type. Unlike the STAR exemption which is subsidized by the State, the other taxpayers of the Town would assume the cost of the tax relief the senior receives. Assessor Breslin noted that there was no way to estimate the exact cost this would incur to the other taxpayers because she would have no way of knowing the medical costs of all eligible individuals. After a lengthy discussion, it was determined that Assessor Breslin will conduct more research into the issue and Supervisor Burke noted the topic will be discussed again at a future meeting. *Councilman Skoufis joined the meeting during this discussion.*

2. Discussion – Replacement of Roselawn/Adrienne Bridge:

Engineer Fusco stated the bridge has deteriorated due to age, storm damage and vehicle accidents. The project is ready to be bid pending a few changes to the specifications as suggested by Superintendent Weyant and some he saw that need to be addressed. Roselawn Road will be detoured since it will be closed during construction, which the signage the contractor will be responsible for. He noted the aesthetics of the bridge will be kept as much as possible and that it would be reinforced for the expected future impacts from vehicles. The timeline for the project was discussed (bid date, contract signing, construction completion) and Supervisor Burke asked if a penalty could be imposed if the deadline is not met. The specifications require the work to be completed within 60 days of the contract signing and there is language in the specifications that address a penalty for failing to finish in this timeframe. Engineer Fusco noted the contractor can request an extension due to specific reasons usually weather related. He also noted that a performance bond will be required to be posted that will be held for one year after the work is completed in case of any defect. The Board then discussed in detail the parameters of the work involved.

Executive Session:

Motion was offered by Trustee Arone, seconded by Trustee Prestia, to enter into an executive session pursuant to Article 7 of the Public Officers Law to discuss one item of personnel relating to the employment of a Police Chief. *Councilman Palermo joined the meeting during executive session.*

ADOPTED AYES 4 Burke, Arone, Prestia, Skoufis
 NOES 0

With no further business to discuss, a motion was offered by Councilman Arone, seconded by Councilwoman Prestia, to end the executive session and adjourn the meeting at 9:25PM.

ADOPTED AYES 5 Burke, Arone, Palermo, Prestia, Skoufis
 NOES 0

Desiree Potvin, Town Clerk