

# DRAFT

MINUTES  
OF  
THE TOWN OF RENNELAERVILLE TOWN BOARD  
PUBLIC HEARING  
TAX CAP OVERRIDE  
NOVEMBER 6, 2014

The Town Board of the Town of Rensselaerville held a Public Hearing on the 6<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2014 at 6:30 o'clock in the evening at the Rensselaerville Town Hall, 87 Barger Road, Medusa, NY. The meeting was convened by Supervisor Lounsbury and the roll was called with the following results:

PRESENT WERE: Attorney Dana Salazar \*  
Supervisor Valerie Lounsbury  
Councilman Robert Bolte  
Councilwoman Margaret Sedlmeir  
Councilman Gerald Wood\*\*  
Councilwoman Marion Cooke  
Town Clerk Victoria H. Kraker

\*Arrived at 6:36

\*\* Arrived at 6:32

Also present were a total of nine interested citizens as well as Highway Superintendent Randy Bates.

The purpose of the Public Hearing was to hear public comments on proposed Local Law No. 1 of 2014 – A Local Law Overriding the Real Property Tax Levy Limit for Fiscal Year 2015.

Supervisor Lounsbury read the proposed Local Law as follows:

Town Law No. 1 of 2014 of the Town of Rensselaerville

A Local Law Overriding the Real Property Tax Levy Limit for Fiscal Year 2015

BE IT ENACTED by the Town Board of the Town of Rensselaerville as follows:

Section 1. Legislative Authority

Chapter 97 of the Laws of 2011 of New York State, incorporated in Section 3-c of the General Municipal Law, established a 'tax cap' that generally limits the

amount of a municipality's real property tax levy for the upcoming fiscal year according to a formula set out in the statute, but the statute also authorizes local governments, pursuant to General Municipal Law §3-c(5), to override the tax levy limit for the upcoming fiscal year.

## Section 2. Override of Tax Levy Limit for Fiscal Year 2015

The real property tax levy limit set out in §3-c of the General Municipal Law is overridden, pursuant to New York General Municipal Law §3-c(5), for Fiscal Year 2015, and the Town may adopt a budget for Fiscal Year 2015 that incorporates a real property tax increase in excess of the otherwise applicable tax levy limit.

Section 3. This local law shall take effect immediately upon filing with the Secretary of State.

END LOCAL LAW

### **Public Comments:**

Diana Hinchcliff thanked all for the opportunity to be heard. She continued on to state that the projected tax levy based on the 2015 Preliminary budget will increase by 3.8% which will exceed the allowable tax cap. This means if it stays in place, next year taxpayers will not receive a tax rebate. In order for a government to participate in this program, the budget must be under the allowable 2% after all adjustments, and the government must repeal the Local Law or resolution to exceed the tax cap. As it stands right now, it appears that the Town will in fact exceed the tax cap.

Georgette Koenig: Social Security goes up by only 1.7%. A 3.8% increase in anyone's taxes could be devastating and then losing the tax credit relief on top of that could be even worse. We need to bring it back under the 2%.

### **End Public Comments**

Supervisor Lounsbury stated that the Town has worked very hard on the budget and have kept it as low as possible. For the past two years, it has been kept under the tax cap, but that can no longer be accomplished with the increases that are beyond the Town's control. Taxpayers will still be eligible for rebates at the County level.

Councilman Bolte expressed that it is impossible to keep the taxes down when so many want the roads salted pure white. The cost of salt is going up along with the price of stone. The money needs to come from somewhere.

**ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made by Councilman Bolte to close the Public Hearing at 6:39 PM; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilwoman Cooke.

*Motion carried: Ayes (5) Lounsbury, Bolte, Sedlmeir, Wood, and Cooke; Nays (0)*

**RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED;**

Victoria H. Kraker  
Town Clerk