

A Public Hearing on the proposed Local Law #1-2005 was held on Thursday, February 10, 2005, at 6:30 p.m. at the Brighton Town Hall, Paul Smiths, NY, with the following:

PRESENT: Supervisor Robert Tebbutt

Council Members: David Knapp, John Quenell, Steve Tucker, and Lydia Wright

ABSENT: None

OTHERS PRESENT: Elaine Sater - Town Clerk

RESIDENTS: There were no residents present.

The Public Hearing was Called to Order by Supervisor Robert Tebbutt at 6:30 p.m. The purpose of the hearing is to allow for public comment on proposed Local Law #1-2005 to provide for increasing the Real Property Tax Exemption for Veterans and Other Qualifying Individuals Residing in the Town of Brighton .

Notice of the Public Hearing was faxed to the Adirondack Daily Enterprise on Monday, January 31, 2005, and published on February 3rd. Notices were posted on the Town Clerk's Sign Board, at the three post offices and at local businesses in the Town on February 1, 2005. The Town Clerk read the notice.

Supervisor Robert Tebbutt turned the public hearing over to Council Member John Quenell. John Quenell read the law and made comments on the law.

Local Law #1-2005, A local law increasing the Real Property Tax Exemption for Veterans and Other Qualifying Individuals Residing in the town of Brighton.

SECTION I. MAXIMUM EXEMPTION FROM REAL PROPERTY TAXES.

Pursuant to Subdivision 2(d)(ii) of Section 458-a of the Real Property Tax Law, the maximum allowable exemptions from real property taxes provided for veterans and other qualifying individuals residing in the Town of Brighton under paragraphs (a), (b), and (c) of subdivision 2 of that section shall be increased. to:

1. In the case of paragraph (a), twenty-seven thousand dollars (\$27,000);
2. In the case of paragraph (b), eighteen thousand dollars (\$18,000); and
3. In the case of paragraph (c), ninety thousand dollars (\$90,000).

SECTION II. EFFECTIVE DATE:

This local law shall take effect when it is filed with the Secretary of State, but the exemptions provided herein shall not be available until the proper taxable year, pursuant to Section 458-a of the Real Property Tax Law.

Comments from John Quenell:

In the existing law for paragraph (a) the present limit is 15% of the assessed value not to exceed \$12,000. In paragraph (b) the present limit is \$8,000 and in paragraph (c) the present limit is \$40,000 and it is based on disability not assessment. A veteran would max out at \$80,000 assessed value under the present limits. Under the new maximum limits a veteran would max out at \$180,000 assessed value. This law would take effect for the school taxes in 2006. The assessor encourages the Board to adopt this law because the county already has and it will make it easier to calculate exemptions for assessments if both town and county use the same limits.

The Board waited ten minutes to see if anyone showed up for the Hearing.

Council Member David Knapp asked how veterans knew that this exemption was available to them. No one knew the answer for this question.

Two residents entered the hearing.

There were no comments or questions from the public.

Motion made to Adjourn the Public Hearing by Supervisor Robert Tebbutt at 6:48 p.m., second by John Quenell, Aye 5.