

Minutes of the Geneseo Town Board Meeting

February 8, 2023

Members Present:

William Wadsworth, Town Supervisor
Matthew Griffo, Deputy Town Supervisor
Gary Mix, Councilmember
Robert Deming, Councilmember
Ellen M Zapf, RMC, Town Clerk

Also Present:

Edmund Russell, Town Attorney
Larry Levey, Highway Superintendent
Eddy Lee
Roger Smith
Ken Book

EXCUSED

Ron Maxwell, Councilmember

Meeting Opening:

Supervisor Wadsworth called the meeting to order at 4:30 PM and Councilmember Deming led the group in the pledge to the flag. Supervisor Wadsworth requested a moment of silence to be held for service men and women serving around the world.

I. New Business:

Approval of Minutes:

Councilmember Mix moved, and Councilmember Deming seconded the motion to approve the January 12, 2022, meeting minutes as presented. Motion carried with Wadsworth-aye, Deming-aye, Maxwell-absent, Mix-aye, and Griffo-aye. Nays: None.

Approval of Minutes:

Deputy Supervisor Griffo Moved, and Councilmember Mix seconded the motion to approve the January 25, 2022, meeting minutes as presented. Motion carried with Wadsworth-aye, Deming-aye, Maxwell-absent, Mix-aye, and Griffo-aye. Nays: None.

Approval of Vouchers

There was discussion regarding the Excellus voucher and as this was a pre-paid voucher Supervisor Wadsworth stated he would investigate the matter and let the Board know.

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Councilmember Deming moved, and Councilmember Mix seconded the motion to approve Abstract #2 and Vouchers 787 through 845 as they stand.

FUND	AMOUNT
GENERAL A VOUCHERS	\$39,014.23
GENERAL B VOUCHERS	\$3,967.26
HIGHWAY DA VOUCHERS	\$20,028.75
HIGHWAY DB VOUCHERS	\$9,664.74
SW6 CAPITAL FUNDS	0.00
SPECIAL LIGHTING DISTRICT VOUCHER (SL)	0.00
SEWER DISTRICT # 1 (SS1)	\$448.17
WATER OPERATING & MAINTENANCE VOUCHERS (SW0)	\$8,234.33
SPECIAL ITEMS (H6)	\$110.00
FIRE CONTRACTS (SF)	\$160,773.42
ENGINEERING (SW1)	\$3,750.00
TOTAL	\$245,990.90

Motion carried with Wadsworth-aye, Deming-aye, Maxwell-absent, Mix-aye, and Griffo-aye. Nays: None.

Open Public Hearings for Local Laws #1 of 2023, Senior Citizens Tax Exemptions:

Supervisor Wadsworth opened the public hearing for Local Law #1 of 2023 entitled Senior Citizens Tax Exemptions Law of the Town of Geneseo, New York at 4:45PM. He welcomed any comments from the public at that time.

Visitor Roger Smith addressed his concerns on the income criteria for the local law. Supervisor Wadsworth and the Board addressed his concerns and explained that the figures come from the State and local communities can accept the exemptions or not offer them to the constituents in their community.

Discussion – Community Concert Event in October

Iron Smoke Distillery was awarded a \$100,000.00 grant to sponsor a community event and they have chosen the Village of Geneseo as the event site. It will include various venues, including music, food, etc. They have hired a company out of Nashville, TN to coordinate the event. They may need more money to put on the event. The Village supports the event conceptionally and may provide services if needed.

NYSLARS Record of Activities

Supervisor Wadsworth provide the Board with a Record of Activities for their review. At the next meeting the Board will need to pass a resolution accepting the record and then provide it to New York State for Retirement purposes.

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II. Old Business:

Update on Short Term Rentals:

Councilmember Deming provided the Board with a document from the Town Planning Board outlining goals and input for short term rentals and is hoping to work with the Town Board on this subject. He hopes to have a full report at the next meeting.

Update on Website:

Councilmember Deming provide the Board with updated information on the website update which included two quotes from website management companies as well as website development requirements for the Town.

Shared Workshop Meeting:

Councilmember Mix talked about a shared workshop meeting with the Village Board to discuss issues that concern both parties. Summer recreation, website update, Route 20A, and Indian Meadows flooding are some of the issues he would like discussed. This needs to be regional and include the Town, Village, County, and State. It was suggested to create committees including members from each municipality stated previously and then meet with the board to discuss what plans the committees have come up with.

III. Informational Items:

- Code Office Report
- Town Clerk's Monthly Report – January
- Accounting – Going well and should be ready to close the books by the end of March and start anew for 2023.

Close Public Hearing for Local Law #1 of 2023

Deputy Supervisor Griffo moved, and Councilmember Deming seconded the motion to close the public hearing for Local Law #1 of 2023 entitled Senior Citizens Tax Exemptions Law of the Town of Geneseo, New York at 5:38PM. Motion carried with Wadsworth-aye, Deming-aye, Griffo-aye, Maxwell-absent, and Mix-aye. Nays: None.

Adopt Local Law #1 of 2023 Entitled Senior Citizens Tax Exemptions Law of the Town of Geneseo, New York

Deputy Supervisor Griffo moved, Councilmember Deming and seconded the motion to adopt Local Law #1 of 2023.

LOCAL LAW NO. 1 OF THE YEAR 2023 OF THE TOWN OF GENESEO

A local law to add a new Article to Chapter 96, "Taxation" of the Code of the Town of Geneseo, Livingston County, New York, which is to be known as "Senior Citizens Tax Exemption."

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TITLE.

This Local Law may be cited as the “Senior Citizens Tax Exemption Law of the Town of Geneseo, New York.”

AUTHORITY.

This Local Law is adopted pursuant to the authority granted by Real Property Tax Law § 467. All definitions, terms and conditions of such statute shall apply to this article.

INTENT.

This Local Law is authorized by § 467 of the Real Property Tax Law and any related amendments thereto wherein a town, after a public hearing, may enact a local law granting a fifty-percent tax exemption on real property owned by persons 65 years of age or over meeting the statutory qualifications.

EXEMPTION GRANTED.

Residential real property located in the Town of Geneseo and owned by one or more persons who has attained the age of 65 years of age and over, and whose income is limited as noted herein, and which said real property is used as the legal and primary residence of such person, shall be entitled to a partial exemption from taxation to the maximum extent of 50% of the assessed valuation.

REPEALER.

Any other local law, ordinance, or resolution inconsistent herewith is hereby repealed. This article expressly repeals and replaces any prior local law adopted by this Board establishing such exemption.

ELIGIBILITY FOR EXEMPTION.

- A. To be eligible for the full exemption authorized by Real Property Tax Law § 467 and implemented by this article, the maximum annual income of such person shall not exceed the annual income amount that is equal to the exemption schedule adopted by the Livingston County Board of Supervisors, as may be amended from time to time.
- B. The aforesaid schedule shall automatically apply and take effect upon its receipt from the County of Livingston by the Town Assessor, without public hearing.
- C. This section shall take effect immediately and shall remain in effect unless amended by local law.

ANNUAL APPLICATION REQUIRED.

- A. Each applicant for a partial tax exemption for real property of aged persons must file such application each year.
- B. Application for such exemption must be filed on or before the taxable status date of the Town, by the owner or all the owners of the property each year on forms prescribed by the New York State Department of Taxation and Finance Office and as made available by the Town of Geneseo.
- C. In the event that any of the questions on said application are not completed, the Assessor may deny said application.

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- D. An owner's income is to be reported on the basis of the latest preceding income tax year prior to the date of application; such income tax year is generally equivalent to the preceding calendar year.

PENALTIES FOR OFFENSES; DISQUALIFICATION FROM EXEMPTION.

Any conviction of having made any willful false statement in the application for such exemption shall be punishable by a fine of not more than \$100 and shall disqualify the applicant or applicants from further exemption for a period of five years.

SEVERABILITY.

Should any provision of this Local Law declared by the courts to be unconstitutional or invalid, such decision shall not affect the validity of this Local Law as a whole or any part thereof other than the part so decided to be unconstitutional or invalid.

EFFECTIVE DATE.

This Local Law shall be effective upon its adoption and filing with the Secretary of State.

Motion carried with Wadsworth-aye, Deming-aye, Griffio-aye, Maxwell-absent, and Mix-aye.
Nays: None.

IV. Adjournment:

Deputy Supervisor Griffio moved, and Councilmember Mix seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting at 4:45 PM. Wadsworth-aye, Deming-aye, Griffio-aye, Maxwell-absent, and Mix-aye.
Nays: None.

Ellen M Zapf, RMC
Town Clerk