

Village of Leicester

September 25, 2023 Board of Trustees Special Meeting

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Briffa called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

PRESENT:

Mayor: Barry Briffa
Trustees: Don Jacobs, Tom Frantz, Dan Christiano, Ken Rizzo
Clerk-Treasurer: Deborah Beardsley
Deputy Clerk:
Fire Chief:
Highway Superintendent:
Water Operator:
Zoning/Code Enforcement:
Residents:

EXCUSED:

OPEN PUBLIC HEARING ON PROVIDING TAX EXEMPTION FROM REAL PROPERTY TAXES TO CERTAIN ELIGIBLE VOLUNTEER FIRE FIREFIGHTERS AND VOLUNTEER AMBULANCE WORKERS – Public Hearing opened on a Motion by Trustee Christiano, 2nd by Trustee Jacobs on proposed increase of late water penalties. [Motion Carried 4-0]

Clerk-Treasurer Beardsley presented the Board with an outline of the key points of the law which has a minimal impact on Village Taxes. The law does not come into effect until tax year 2025. Trustee Christiano stated that he spoke with Jim Kane and he was unaware that they have an income tax exemption for which Volunteer Firefighters qualify. His understanding is that Fire Department members can't take both exemptions and the income tax exemption is more beneficial. The Town and County have both approved the same law for their municipalities.

DISCUSSIONS:

Discussion of pros and cons in providing two-hour minimum pay per day worked for Village maintenance prior to 8 am as needed for snow removal for less busy Winter months. The many capabilities of the current individual and the subsequent cost savings for the Village far outweigh the minimal cost incurred. After discussion the issue is approved by the Board for snowy weather.

Town of Leicester lease of water system to Livingston County Water and Sewer Authority discussed. The issue is pending permissive referendum to be voted on by Town residents.

Public Hearing was held at the Town of Leicester Town Hall on September 19, 2023 regarding the Fire Department contract between the Town of Leicester and the Village of Leicester. The Town tabled the issue. Discussion regarding whether this is a liability issue without having a contract in place for the Village of Leicester Fire Department to cover Town incidents. Suggested to draw up a letter and place in Pennysaver /Shopper notifying residents of the lack of said contract which expires 1/1/2024. The new contract proposes a \$14,000 increase in Town funding. Trustee Christiano states that the Fire and EMS study results could potentially take until February to release the final results.

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Village updated the leaf pick up/maintenance guidelines and posted them on the Village website and Facebook pages, with an additional note regarding weight limits on the brown bags.

Trustee Jacobs advised that the lawnmower has an issue with leaking oil. Trustee Rizzo asked if gator was in good repair and it was stated that it was.

CLERKS REPORT:

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

CLOSE PUBLIC HEARING: Public Hearing closed on a Motion by Trustee Christiano, 2nd by Trustee Jacobs.
[Motion Carried 4-0]

Motion made by Trustee Christiano, 2nd by Trustee Jacobs to pass Local Law 2-2023 on Providing Tax Exemption From Real Property Taxes To Certain Eligible Volunteer Fire Firefighters And Volunteer Ambulance Workers.
[Motion Carried 4-0]

NEXT VILLAGE BOARD MEETING:

Board of Trustees Meeting October 16, 2023, at 6:30 pm at Village Hall.

ADJOURNMENT: Trustee Christiano motioned, 2nd by Trustee Frantz to adjourn the meeting at 6:40 pm.
[Motion Carried 4-0]

Respectfully Submitted,
Deborah Beardsley
Clerk-Treasurer
Village of Leicester