

Town of Fowler Public Hearing for Local Law No. 1 of 2023 and Special Meeting Minutes held on January 30th, 2023 at 3:00 PM.

The Public Hearing for proposed Local Law No. 1 of 2023 and Special Meeting was held on the above date, with three board members present. Councilperson Cleveland and Councilperson Bishop were not in attendance. Also present were Assessor Chair Kathy Besaw, Assessor Timothy Thomas, and Gary Williams.

Supervisor Newvine called the meeting to order at 3:07 PM and asked for a motion to open the public hearing on proposed local law No. 1 of 2023.

At 3:08 PM a motion was made by Councilperson Andrews seconded by Councilperson Simmons to open the Public Hearing on proposed Local Law No. 1 of 2023, a local law repealing Local Law No. 1 for the year 1983 and Local Law No. 3 for the year 2020 and providing a partial exemption from taxation to persons sixty-five (65) years of age or older pursuant to the provisions of §467 of the Real Property Tax Law of the State of New York. All in Favor. MOTION CARRIED.

PROPOSED LOCAL LAW No. 1 of 2023 DISCUSSION

Assessor Chair Kathy Besaw reported that any senior citizen (65) sixty-five years or over in the Town of Fowler whose income was \$15,000 or less were eligible for 50% exemption on their taxes. She stated there were approximately 12 people in the Town of Fowler who fell under this category.

Supervisor Newvine asked who makes up the difference when these individuals get the 50% exemption from their taxes. Assessor Besaw responded the rest of the Town of Fowler taxpayers would make up the difference if the proposed local law was adopted. She reported that the exemptions for low-income senior citizens (65) sixty-five and over in the Town of Fowler would be figured on a sliding scale provided by the New York State Real Property tax sliding scale documented in the proposed local law.

At 3:22 PM Supervisor Newvine asked for a motion to close the public hearing. A motion was made by Councilperson Simmons seconded by Councilperson Andrews. All in Favor. MOTION CARRIED.

At 3:23 PM Supervisor Newvine asked for a motion to adopt Resolution # 5 of 2023 proposed Local Law No. 1 of 2023. A motion was made by Councilperson Simmons and seconded by Councilperson Andrews. All in Favor. MOTION CARRIED.

RESOLUTION # 5 of 2023

LOCAL LAW 1 OF 2023 SENIOR EXEMPTION FOR CITIZENS (65) SIXTY-FIVE YEARS OR OVER

Supervisor Newvine submitted Resolution #5 of 2023 a local law repealing Local Law No. 1 for the year 1983 and Local Law No. 3 for the year 2020 and providing a partial exemption from taxation to persons sixty-five (65) years of age or older pursuant to the provisions of §467 of the Real Property Tax Law of the State of New York, to the board for adoption.

A motion was made by Councilperson Simmons seconded by Councilperson Andrews to adopt Resolution #5 of 2023 . All in Favor. MOTION CARRIED.

AYES: 3 NEWVINE, SIMMONS, ANDREWS,

NAYS: 0

ABSENT: 2 BISHOP, CLEVELAND

Supervisor Newvine reported that Bookkeeper Finnie had prepared a new final budget transfer resolution for the year 2022 and the resolution passed at the December 28, 2022 Transfer meeting, Resolution #28 of 2022 would need to be rescinded. A motion was made by Councilperson Andrews seconded by Councilperson Simmons to rescind Resolution # 28 of 2022. All in Favor. MOTION CARRIED.

RESOLUTION # 4 of 2023
2022 FINAL BUDGET TRANSFERS

Supervisor Newvine submitted Resolution #4 of 2023 to the board for adoption. The Budget Transfers were described by Bookkeeper Barbara Finnie as transfers to get accounts out of the hole and make accounts even. The Budget Transfers from the General Fund totaled \$24,976.77 and balanced 24 accounts. The Budget Transfers from the Highway Fund totaled \$50,822.27 and went to balance 12 accounts.

A motion was made by Councilperson Andrews seconded by Councilperson Simmons to adopt Resolution #4 of 2023, Town of Fowler Final 2022, Budget Transfers. All in Favor. MOTION CARRIED.

AYES: 3 *NEWWINE, SIMMONS, ANDREWS,*

NAYS: 0

ABSENT: 2 *BISHOP, CLEVELAND*

Assessor Chair Besaw asked permission to publish an ad in the Gouverneur Tribune Press inviting Town of Fowler residents to come in so she can explain taxes to them. Supervisor Newvine stated that was a good idea.

With no further business, on a motion of Councilperson Andrews, seconded by Councilperson Simmons, the Special Meeting was adjourned at 3:27PM. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Tami Gale; Town Clerk