

PUBLIC HEARING

LL2 of 2020: TO OVERRIDE THE TAX LEVY LIMIT ESTABLISHED IN GENERAL MUNICIPAL LAW §3- C

Town of Ulysses

September 22, 2020

Audio of the minutes are available on the website at ulysses.ny.us.
The meeting was held via videoconference on the Zoom platform.

OPENING THE HEARING:

Ms. Zahler (Supervisor) opened the hearing at 7pm and introduced board/staff members in attendance:

Board members- Richard Goldman, Michael Boggs, Katelin Olson, Marc Devokaitis

Town Clerk- Carissa Parlato

Second Deputy Supervisor/Budget Officer- Michelle Wright

OTHERS PRESENT: Linda Liddle, Mary Bouchard

Ms. Zahler stated that the purpose of the hearing is Local Law 2 of 2020: To Override the Tax Levy Limit Established In General Municipal Law §3-C.

She further noted that this local law allows the Town of Ulysses government to have authority to set the tax levy at a level it finds to be appropriate to provide the proper services that will keep residents safe and provide for a thriving community- otherwise stated as preserving the Health, Safety and Welfare of our community as dictated by the law.

She stated that during the budget season, from the end of September to the end of October, the Town of Ulysses board will be reviewing expenses and revenues, and if they should find that more funds need to be expended or put into reserves for future needs, this override gives the latitude to do so. The Town Board fully intends to stay within the cap if at all possible, but not all costs are in the board's control. For example last year, health care costs increased ~10%. The cost for Fire protection and EMS will increase nearly 11% of the tax levy. The town has no say in that decision; it is made solely by the Village of Trumansburg. It accounts for about 1/3 of the town's total tax levy.

Ms. Zahler went on to add that the draft law was included in the meeting materials and posted to the website. The legal notice of the hearing was published in the Ithaca Journal on Friday, September 11, 2020.

She said that the purpose of the public hearing is to afford the general public an opportunity to make statements and comments about the Local Law. Comments presented at this hearing will be taken into consideration by the Town Board when it considers action on the proposed Local Law, scheduled for later this evening.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Ms. Liddle noted that she did not have any comments.

Ms. Bouchard noted that this seems like something that is done every year.

Ms. Zahler noted that if an unexpected expense should arise, this law will give the board the option to override the tax cap, though they have no plans to do so at this time.

CLOSING THE HEARING:

Hearing no comments, Mr. Goldman made a motion to close the hearing at 7:09pm. This was seconded by Mr. Devokaitis and passed by all but Olson (who was una.

Respectfully submitted by Carissa Parlato on 10/6/20.