

**MEETING MINUTES  
of the Village of Windsor, N.Y.  
107 Main Street  
Windsor, NY 13865  
August 1, 2024**

<b>Present:</b>	Mayor:	Ronald G. Harting
	Trustee	Edward C. McLean
		John R. McNulty
		James W. Miller
		Thomas M. Skinner
	Treasurer:	Patricia L. Harting
	Clerk:	Courtney J. Decker
	Streets & Water Supt:	David M. Decker
	Code Enforcement:	Richard Osborne
	Grant Writer:	Steven Contento - Absent
	Attendees:	4

**Call to Order:**      **Time:** 7:00 P.M.  
                                 **By:** Mayor Ron Harting

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Welcome**

**Public Hearing at 7:02 p.m.** – “A Local Law #2-2024, enacting a property tax exemption for volunteer firefighters and ambulance workers pursuant to section 466-a of the real property tax law.”

**Resolution # 9 - 2024**

**VILLAGE OF WINDSOR**

**A RESOLUTION APPROVING LOCAL LAW # 2-2024**

At a regular meeting of the Village Board of the Village of Windsor, held at the Community House, 107 Main Street, Windsor, New York on the 1st day of August 2024, the following resolution was offered and seconded:

**WHEREAS**, the Village of Windsor scheduled a public hearing for August 1, 2024, at 7:02 p.m. for Local Law No. 2 of the Year 2024 entitled “A LOCAL LAW ENACTING A PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTION FOR VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS AND AMBULANCE WORKERS PURSUANT TO SECTION 466-a OF THE REAL PROPERTY TAX LAW”; and

**WHEREAS**, notice of said public hearing was duly advertised in the official newspaper of the Village and posted on the Village Clerk’s signboard; and

**WHEREAS**, said public hearing was duly held at the Community House, 107 Main Street, Windsor, New York on the 1st day of August 2024 at 7:02 p.m. and all parties in attendance were permitted an opportunity to speak on behalf of or in opposition to said proposed Local Law, or any part thereof; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to the State Environmental Quality Review Act, it has been determined by the Village Board that adoption of the proposed Local Law constitutes a Type II Action as defined under 6 NYCRR 617.5(c)(26) and (33); and

**WHEREAS**, the Village Board, after due deliberation, finds it is in the best interest of the Village to adopt said Local Law.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Village Board of the Village of Windsor hereby adopts Local Law No. 2 of 2024 entitled “A LOCAL LAW ENACTING A PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTION FOR VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS AND AMBULANCE WORKERS PURSUANT TO SECTION 466-a OF THE REAL PROPERTY TAX LAW”, a copy of which is attached hereto and made a part hereof; and it is further

**RESOLVED** that the Village Clerk be and hereby is directed to enter said Local Law in the minutes of this meeting, and to give due notice of the adoption of said Local Law to the Secretary of State; and it is further

**RESOLVED** that this resolution will take effect immediately upon filing with the Department of State.

**Offered by:** Thomas M. Skinner  
**2<sup>nd</sup> by:** Edward C. McLean  
**Vote:** AYE - Mayor Ronald G. Harting  
AYE - Trustee Edward C. McLean  
ABSTAINED - Trustee John R. McNulty  
AYE - Trustee James W. Miller  
AYE - Trustee Thomas M. Skinner

**VILLAGE OF WINDSOR  
LOCAL LAW # 2 - 2024**

A LOCAL LAW ENACTING A PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTION FOR VOLUNTEER  
FIREFIGHTERS AND AMBULANCE WORKERS PURSUANT TO SECTION 466-a OF THE  
REAL PROPERTY TAX LAW

Be it enacted by the Board of Trustees of the Village of Windsor as follows:

Section 1. Grant of Exemption

An exemption of 10% of assessed value of property owned by an enrolled member as set forth below, or such enrolled member and their spouse, is hereby granted from taxation with respect to the real property taxes of the Village of Windsor, as long as eligibility requirements are met.

Section 2. Eligibility Requirements

Such exemption shall be granted to an enrolled member of an incorporated volunteer fire company, fire department, or incorporated voluntary ambulance service provided that:

- A. The property is owned by the volunteer firefighter or volunteer ambulance worker;
- B. The property is the primary residence of the volunteer firefighter or volunteer ambulance worker;
- C. The property is used exclusively for residential purposes;
- D. The volunteer firefighter or volunteer ambulance worker resides in the Village of Windsor and the Village of Windsor is served by such incorporated volunteer fire company or fire department or incorporated voluntary ambulance service;
- E. The volunteer firefighter or volunteer ambulance worker is certified by the authority having jurisdiction as an enrolled member of such an incorporated volunteer fire company, fire department, or incorporated voluntary ambulance service; and
- F. The volunteer firefighter or volunteer ambulance worker meets the minimum service requirement established by the Village of Windsor, which is hereby established as five (5) years.

Section 3. Application

A volunteer firefighter or volunteer ambulance worker must annually, on or before the applicable taxable status date, file an application for such property tax exemption with the assessor responsible for preparing the assessment roll for the Village of Windsor, on a form as prescribed by the New York State Commissioner of Taxation and Finance. The Village of Windsor must maintain written guidelines, available upon request, as to the requirements of an enrolled volunteer member relating to this exemption.

Section 4. Certification

The Village Board must annually file with the assessor, prior to the applicable taxable status date, a list of the active volunteer members who are certified to meet the minimum service requirement. Such list must provide, as of the applicable taxable status date, the number of years of service served by each such enrolled member and such enrolled member's address of residence.

Section 5. Reporting Requirements By Volunteer Fire Company, Fire Department, and Incorporated Voluntary Ambulance Service

Any incorporated volunteer fire company, fire department, or incorporated volunteer ambulance service which has enrolled members who are eligible for this exemption shall file with the Village Board reports for active membership, training and call responses on or before June 30 and December 31 of each year.

Section 6. No Diminution of Benefits

An applicant who is receiving any benefit pursuant to Article 4 of the Real Property Tax Law as of the effective date of this Local Law shall not have any of those benefits diminished because of this Local Law.

Section 7. Grant of Lifetime Exemption

Any eligible enrolled member who accrues more than 20 years of active volunteer service (as certified by the authority having jurisdiction) shall be granted the 10% exemption as authorized by this Local Law for the remainder of his or her life as long as his or her primary residence is located within the Village of Windsor.

Section 8. Un-remarried Spouse of Enrolled Member Killed in the Line of Duty

The un-remarried surviving spouse of a deceased enrolled member killed in the line of duty, as certified by the authority having jurisdiction, is qualified to continue to receive an exemption, as long as the deceased volunteer had been an enrolled member for at least five (5) years and had been receiving the exemption at the time of his or her death.

Section 9. Un-remarried Spouse of Deceased Enrolled Member

The un-remarried surviving spouse of a deceased enrolled member, as certified by the authority having jurisdiction, is qualified to continue to receive an exemption, as long as the deceased volunteer had been an enrolled member for at least 20 years and the deceased volunteer and un-remarried spouse had been receiving the exemption at the time of his or her death.

Section 10. Separability

The provisions of this Local Law are separable and if any provision, clause, sentence, subsection, word, or part thereof is held illegal, invalid, unconstitutional, or inapplicable to any

person or circumstance, such illegality, invalidity or unconstitutionality, or inapplicability shall not affect or impair any of the remaining provisions, clauses, sentences, subsections, words, or parts of this local law or their application to other persons or circumstances. It is hereby declared to be the legislative intent that this Local Law would have been adopted if such illegal, invalid, or unconstitutional provision, clause, sentence, subsection, word, or part had not been included therein, and as if such person or circumstance, to which this Local Law or part thereof is held inapplicable, had been specifically exempt therefrom.

Section 11. Effective Date

This Local Law shall take effect immediately upon filing in the office of the Secretary of State in accordance with Municipal Home Rule Law Section 27.

**Public Comment** – Resident Seward inquired about the tree down in the creek, she was concerned with all the heavy rain that we have had and are supposed to be getting that the fallen tree could cause flooding to the residents of Grove Street. Supt. Decker said that they would take care of it and try to get it cut up into more manageable chunks.

**Sue Symonette, Windsor Farmer’s Market** – Sue wanted to come and say thank you for the Village allowing the Farmer’s Market to use the Community House. She also went over some of what she has been able to do as well as what she looks to do in the future, as the new manager of the Farmer’s Market. Some of the initiatives include having SNAP available, looking into potential grants with Cornell Co-operative, working / helping Human Development with food drives, new signs and in the future will look to get involved with some State programs. She did mention that they are struggling to get local produce vendors to participate regularly but they would be willing to offer free space to draw in local produce vendors.

**Grant Writer Report, Steve Contento not present** – A report was presented. 1.) Inquiry initiated to EPA Community Assistance Partnership. 2.) Ongoing grants are Clean Energy Communities Grant, two actions approved but the grant is on hold due to the extensive requirements requested by NYSERDA; NY Homes & Community Renewal Grant, details are being reviewed; NYS Environmental Facilities Green Grant, details being reviewed for future approach; no new updates on the NYS Fire Station Construction Grant.

**Code Enforcement Report, Rich Osborne present** - A report was presented. 1.) Continued inspections on open building permits as needed 2.) The month started out slow, but there has been a definite increase in activity. 3.) Issued two stop work orders: one at 144 Main Street, the second at 57 Chestnut Street. Both properties had been abandoned / empty for quite some time, they were both purchased to repair and flip. Met with the new owner at 144 Main Street and he filed for two building permits. Also, met with the new owners of

57 Chestnut Street and explained that the work for this property is involved and we will need some sort of blueprint before they will be allowed to move forward, the structure of the property is in very rough shape. 4.) Issued a building permit for a small bathroom addition to 8 Maple Street. 5.) Have had to explain and/or try to interpret some of the present zoning laws to several residents. They either disagree or do not understand that as the Code Enforcement Officer, it is the job to enforce the zoning codes that are currently in the Village Code Book. If they do not agree and/or understand, they will need to schedule a hearing with the appropriate board. The Village may want to address some of the codes that are currently in the code book, which continue to be questioned. 6.) Have been issuing property maintenance issues as they come up. 134 Main Street was also purchased, the new owner has stopped in and will be getting a dumpster and the appropriate permits when he starts renovating. Mayor Harting stated that new owners will be responsible to correct previous violations but not the fines associated with them. 7.) Trustee McLean inquired about the generator on Grove Street. Rich stated that the resident had moved and enclosed it, it is now much quieter and there have been no complaints lately. Also, checked that there is no back-feeding of power at the residence. 8.) Trustee McNulty inquired what could be done about the burning stump at 29 Grove Street, that the smell is horrible. Rich said that it is controlled and they have put a lid on it. They also got rid of the ducks and chickens, which was a previous violation.

**Attorney's Report** – A report was given, no comments made, or discussion had.

**Streets Report, David Decker, present** - A report was presented. 1.) Have been working on getting prices on the new flagpole that a tree took down at the Community House. Two quotes were given to the board to look over. A brief discussion was had, and the board decided to go with the quote from Alexander Mitchell & Son for \$4,400.00. This is just for the flagpole not the installation, material or labor. Dave will be calling to check costs and/or order the materials needed to install the flagpole.

**Motion:** to purchase 45-foot flagpole from Alexander Mitchell & Son Inc. for \$4,400.00

**By:** James W. Miller  
**2<sup>nd</sup>:** John R. McNulty  
**Vote:** AYE – All

2.) When we got the go ahead from our insurance company, we had the fallen tree removed from the Community House. We used CCR to remove the tree, since the Twon was already using their chipper so we could not borrow it. CCR also cut down some dead limbs on the Village Green at no charge. Initially, CCR gave us a quote to clean up and cut down the rest of the tree. At the time we just had him do the removal, per the board's request, we will get a quote to see how much it would be to take down the rest of the tree. 3.) Poles are in on the softball field, conduit is in the ground, topsoil and seed

are down. We may end up having to reseed / hay the field again, weather will play a huge factor. 4.) We used some of the soil we dug up and put it around the little league field. We will have to wait for the WYSR to purchase topsoil and then we can grade it for them. 5.) The lighting and conduit were done at the Community House and looked amazing ... and then the tree fell. Thankfully, no damage was done to the lighting or the monument. 6.) With all the storms that we have had, a few trees came down, all minor for the most part. 7.) We have been catching up on all the weed whacking this month, we will be doing the park next week so it will look nice for the CornFest at the end of the month. 8.) The dirt pile is finally being moved from behind the pumphouse and back up to the high school to raise their sidewalk. They are also redoing the parking lots at the high school, so they will be stock piling crusher run at the shop. Whatever they do not use for the project, they will leave for us. 9.) Filled out a few lawn violations that will be taken care of in the next few days.

**Water Report, David Decker present** - A report was presented. 1.) We had another water leak on the two-inch line on Red Harvest, the line feeds the houses outside the Village. There are now two repair clamps on that line within three or four feet of each other. 2.) The meter calibration was done and accepted by the SRBC; we are good for another five years. 3.) The final grant for measuring the well depths was submitted and accepted by the SRBC.

**Treasurer's Report, Patricia Harting present** - A report was presented. 1.) Patti also made mention of appropriation account A7110.1 being negative, that will be getting replenished from the DASNY grant. 2.) Prep for water rate increase. Per previous discussions and resolutions, it was agreed to consistently raise water rates, every two years to keep up with the rising costs to treat the Village water. The board briefly discussed the rising costs and what percentage would make the most sense at this time, 3% was decided to try and stay even with our costs.

**Motion:** to increase water rates by 3% by resolution at next month's meeting.

**By:** Ronald G. Harting  
**2<sup>nd</sup>:** Edward C. McLean  
**Vote:** AYE - All present

**Motion:** to accept the Treasurer's Report

**By:** John R. McNulty  
**2<sup>nd</sup>:** James W. Miller  
**Vote:** AYE - All present

**Motion:** to pay bills as authorized by vouchers signed by board members for \$37,661.41

**By:** Thomas M. Skinner

**2<sup>nd</sup>:** James W. Miller

**Vote:** AYE – All present

**Clerk's Report, Courtney Decker present** - A report was presented. 1.) Prepped and mailed out the water bills for August billing. 2.) Corky Mott called and requested, on behalf of the Garden Club, to be able to purchase mums again for the barrel planters around the Village.

**Motion:** to purchase Mums for the barrel planters around the Village for the Garden Group

**By:** James W. Miller

**2<sup>nd</sup>:** Edward C. McLean

**Vote** AYE

3.) The library ladies asked if we could get new blinds for upstairs in the library. Sue gave me measurements and how many blinds for each size window, it would be approximately \$200.00.

**Motion:** to purchase blinds for the library

**By:** John R. McNulty

**2<sup>nd</sup>:** James W. Miller

**Vote** AYE

**Motion:** to accept the Meeting Minutes of July 2, 2024.

**By:** John R. McNulty

**2<sup>nd</sup>:** James W. Miller

**Vote** AYE

**Mayor's Report** - 1.) Mayor Harting attended the ribbon cutting ceremony for the new Town Garage. He said that it is very nice, and asked Rich what was left for the project to be complete. Rich said that other than a few reports it is all done. 2.) We are still looking into different AED options, getting prices and seeing which version would work best for the Village.

**Motion:** to adjourn at 8:25 p.m.

**By:** John R. McNulty

**2<sup>nd</sup>:** James W. Miller

**Vote:** AYE – All present

**Respectfully Submitted,**

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**Courtney Decker, Village Clerk**