

The Newfield Town Board convened a public hearing on Thursday, November 7, 2013 at the Newfield Town Hall, 166 Main Street, Newfield New York for the purpose of allowing the public comment and opinion on the proposed Local Law No. 3 to permit an **Override Vote of the New York State Tax Cap Law**.

Present were: Supervisor Driscoll, Councilperson Trask, Councilperson James, and Councilperson Laughlin, with 11 resident attendees. Councilperson Powers was absent.

Supervisor Driscoll opened the Public Hearing at 7:00. He explained the purpose of the Public Hearing and then invited the public to speak.

Karin Eisenberg: asked if the Town would be definitely going above the tax cap or was it just protection in case it needed to go above. Supervisor Driscoll replied that Tax Cap Law Override provides two things: it provides for an actual increase if the Board chooses to increase the budget over the tax cap, it also allows that the Board to adopt a budget at the tax cap, but protects the Town if there were errors found afterwards.

There being no other public comment on the proposed law to permit the Override Vote of the New York State Tax Cap Law Supervisor Driscoll moved to close and adjourn the public hearing at 7:15 p.m.

The Newfield Town Board convened a public hearing on Thursday, November 7, 2013 at the Newfield Town Hall, 166 Main Street, Newfield New York for the purpose of allowing the public comment and opinion on the proposed **2014 Newfield Town Budget**.

Present were: Supervisor Driscoll, Councilperson Trask, Councilperson James, and Councilperson Laughlin, with 11 resident attendees. Councilperson Powers was absent.

Supervisor Driscoll opened the Public Hearing at 7:15. He explained the purpose of the Public Hearing and then invited the public to speak.

Karin Eisenberg: representing the Newfield Public Library Board, thanked the Newfield Town Board Members for all the support in the past. She spoke of how vital the Newfield Library is to the Newfield Community and the important service it provides to the community. She equated the Library as being an experience, as a place for people to meet, computer use, internet access and participate in programs; it being more than just a place for people to sign out books or DVDs. All of those services are provided for free. Mrs. Eisenberg stated that in order for the Newfield Public Library to grow as the community would like, it needs money in order to continue providing its services. She asked the Board to thoughtfully consider an increase over what had been given last year. Mrs. Eisenberg introduced the new library director, Tammy Kubinec. Ms. Kubinec also spoke about the vital service the Newfield Public Library provides to the Newfield Community. She encouraged the Board to continue to support the Library. The funds the Newfield Public Library request from the Town are used for operating expenses. The additional program funds come from grants.

Councilperson Trask asked what the overall Library budget was. Mrs. Eisenberg gave the Board the budget amounts, school ballot/tax revenue, and the expected disbursements.

Jeff Hart asked why the entire Library budget couldn't come from the school referendum. Mrs. Eisenberg explained that in years past the Library received funds from the County and the Town. It now receives funds from the School tax as well. She also explained that if the Library were to "change its boundaries", it would need to go through a process to then become a School District Library. The Library would then need to have Trustees and vote on its budget. She gave Groton as an example of a School District Library. She stated that it is a long labor intensive and expensive process.

Gundy Lee: asked if the Newfield Public Library were to become a School District Library would it still belong to the Finger Lakes Library Systems. Mrs. Eisenberg responded that it would only affect the Library Charter.

Councilperson Trask spoke to Mrs. Eisenberg conveying that the Town Board felt an obligation to support the Newfield Public Library as it is part of the Town. He also assured her the Library had received a modest increase in their request. He also added that if the Library were to become a School District Library, the Town would still continue to support it.

Supervisor Driscoll added that he proposed the increase to 21,000.00. While it does not restore it to where the Library would like it today, it is what the Town can do today in an incidental approach.

There being no other public comment on the proposed Town of Newfield 2014 Budget, Supervisor Driscoll moved to close and adjourn the public hearing at 7:34 p.m.