**Village Of Chaumont**

**Minutes of Public Hearing**

**Resolution Local Law to Opt Out of RPTL 487**

**Proposed Budget Work Session #2**

**February 24, 2022**

**6:00 PM**

**Location of Meeting:**

Village Office

12175 State Route 12E

Chaumont, New York 13622

**Present at Meeting:** Valerie Rust, James Morrow, Jose Sosa, Dori-Ann Froelich, Karen Fitzgerald, Erin Fulton (Michael Nichols, absent)

The Public Hearing of the Village of Chaumont was called to order at 6:00 PM on February 24, 2022 at the Village Office by Mayor Valerie Rust.

**Local Law to Opt Out of RPTL 487**

Deputy Mayor Morrow asked the question during the Public Hearing of how this resolution will affect the snowmobile trail. Mayor Rust said she does not believe it will affect the trail at all, as opting out will only impact potential projects in the future, and will not impact projects that have already begun. If no notice has been provided by [Norbut Solar Farm/Convergent] triggering the 60-day window, then the Village may still demand a PILOT. Mayor Rust still has not seen proof of documentation that they did provide notice.

Deputy Clerk Fitzgerald stated that the Village has the option to enact this local law to eliminate the tax exemption otherwise provided by RPTL 487. As it was Attorney Burrows’ understanding that the Village wished to exercise this right, he provided documentation and a resolution to be enacted this evening. Tonight, after the Public Hearing, the VBT will have a resolution to enact a local law to opt out of RPTL 487.

Deputy Mayor Morrow closed the Public Hearing at 6:30 PM.

The Proposed Budget Work Session was called to order at 6:30 PM on February 24, 2022 at the Village Office by Mayor Valerie Rust.

**Proposed Budget Work Session**

The Board of Trustees went through the proposed 2022-2023 budget, specifically the General Fund, item by item. The Water and Sewer fund(s) will be discussed in the next meeting. Mayor Rust informed the board that our insurance claim for the WWTP RBC repair was unfortunately denied. Trustee Morrow attended the DANC Regional Waterline meeting earlier in the week and mentioned a possibility that the Village’s COVID/ARPA funds could potentially be used to cover our WWTP RBC repair if necessary, based on regulations he heard. Clerk Fulton and Deputy Clerk Fitzgerald will look further into this to solidify our options. Greg Ingerson is currently looking into a labor quote. Mayor Rust said if she has to raise the Sewer fee to cover this, she will lower the water fees to even out resident payments.

Trustee Froelich brought up an increase in the National Grid electric bill. Clerk Fulton will call National Grid to find our percentage increase for the 2022-2023 fiscal year, as this will increase our payment for street lighting considerably.

Another Water Fund issue was brought up by Deputy Clerk Fitzgerald, that our current meter-reading software isn’t compatible with our new MXUs. We have a quote from Sensus for $2,400/annually to update our software and give us the capability to link these new MXUs into the system. If under “shared services,” we used the Town's hardware to activate the Village’s new MXUs, they could then be read under the Town’s frequency and report on a separate sheet of “non-route reads” which would be specific to the Village. This would be a considerable savings for our bottom line. Deputy Clerk Fitzgerald will bring up this proposed shared service to the Town Water Board.

The Village Board of Trustees will be advertising new Village Office Hours in the next LymeLight newsletter in April. The website has also been updated and will be a good resource for our residents going forward.

The Village’s third budget work session will be at 6:00 PM on March 15, 2022, preceding the regular scheduled Village Board of Trustees meeting at 6:30 PM.

**Resolution No. 32 Local Law to Opt Out of RPTL 487**

The Resolution to enact a local law to opt out of NY RPTL 487 was offered by Mayor Valerie Rust and seconded by Board Member, Dori-Ann Froelich, and upon roll call vote of the Board was duly adopted as follows:

Valerie Rust, Mayor: YES

James Morrow, Deputy Mayor: YES

Dori-Ann Froelich, Trustee: YES

Jose Sosa, Trustee: YES

Michael Nichols, Trustee: Absent

**Resolution No. 32 ADOPTED.**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:00 PM by Mayor Rust.

Respectfully Submitted

Erin Fulton

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Village Clerk/Treasurer