

**6:45 PM Public Hearing on Local Law 1 of 2020 Establishing a New Schedule of Real Property Tax Exemptions for Persons Sixty-Five (65) Years of Age or Over and Persons with Disabilities and Limited Incomes**

**TOWN OF NEW BALTIMORE, COUNTY OF GREENE  
WORK MEETING**

**JANUARY 27, 2020  
AGENDA**

*Please turn off all cell phones and electronic devices.*

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Reports**

Supervisor

County Legislator

Town Clerk

- Board of Elections Certification
- January 13, 2020 Town Board Regular Meeting Minutes

Tax Collector

Historian

Agriculture/AgFest Liaison (Chair Boehlke/Member Irving)

Animal Control (Chair Irving/Member Ruso)

- Greene County Public Health 2020 Rabies Clinic Schedule

Assessment (Chair VanEtten/Member Ruso)

- Resolution to Adopt Local Law 1 of 2020 Establishing a New Schedule of Real Property Tax Exemptions for Persons Sixty-Five (65) Years of Age or Over and Persons with Disabilities and Limited Incomes

Audit and Control Committee (Chair Ruso/Member Downes)

- Resolution to Approve Annual Review of Accounts for Tax Collector and Town Clerk

Buildings & Grounds/Recycling (Chair Irving/Member Boehlke)

Building Inspector/Code Enforcement (Chair Downes/Member Ruso)

Fire, EMS & Law Enforcement (Chair Dellisanti/Member Downes)

Grants/Promotions/Economic Development (Chair VanEtten/Member Ruso)

Greene County Planning Board (Boehlke)

Highway (Chair Ruso/Member Downes)

Insurance (Chair Ruso/Member Downes)

Personnel (Chair Ruso/Member VanEtten)

Planning Board/Zoning Board of Appeals (Chair Boehlke/Member Irving)

Seniors (Chair VanEtten/Member Downes)

Technology/Website (Chair Downes/Member Boehlke)

Town Courts Liaison (Chair VanEtten/Member Ruso)

- Resolution to Place Advertisement for Town Justice

Veterans and Memorials (Chair VanEtten/Member Irving)

Wastewater Treatment (Chair Irving/Member Boehlke)

Youth, Parks and Recreation (Chair VanEtten/Member Boehlke)

**Public Comment Period/Community Events**

- February 5, 2020 Zoning Board of Appeals Meeting at 7:30 PM if Needed
- February 10, 2020 Town Board Regular Meeting at 7 PM
- February 13, 2020 Planning Board Meeting at 7 PM
- February 17, 2020 Town Hall Closed in Observance of Presidents' Day
- February 24, 2020 Town Board Work Meeting at 7 PM
- March 1, 2020 Veterans Committee Luncheon at Cornell Hook & Ladder Fire Company at 12 Noon
- March 25, 2020 Greene County Public Health Rabies Clinic at Medway-Grapeville Firehouse 6-8 PM

**Audit of Claims**

## Adjournment

### \*\*\*\* Agenda Subject to Change\*\*\*\*

#### GUIDELINES FOR PUBLIC CONDUCT DURING TOWN BOARD MEETINGS

1. The Supervisor shall preside at the meetings of the Town Board. In the absence of the Supervisor, the Deputy Supervisor shall be the acting Supervisor. In the event both the Supervisor and the Deputy Supervisor are absent, the other members shall designate one of their members to act as temporary chairman. A majority of the Board shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business, but a lesser number may adjourn.
2. Town residents who wish to speak shall fill out a card at the entrances of the meeting room listing their name, contact information, and the subject matter in which they would like to speak. These cards will be collected prior to the beginning of the Town Board meeting and given to the Town Supervisor or Deputy Supervisor in the absence of the Supervisor.
3. Speakers must be recognized by the presiding officer and then proceed to the lectern and state their name and address. They must limit their remarks on official town business to up to three minutes on a given topic and may not yield any remaining time to another speaker. They must address their remarks to the Board as a body and not to any member thereof and not to other members of the audience in the form of a debate.
4. Speakers should present their remarks in a courteous manner and may not make disparaging remarks or personal comments about public officials, town residents, or others. All speakers will observe the commonly accepted rules of courtesy, decorum, dignity, and good taste with no cursing, swearing, clapping, booing, finger pointing, bullying, whispering, or talking that disrupts the proceedings of the business of the Town Board.
5. Any speaker who disregards the directives of the presiding officer in enforcing the rules, disturbs the peace at a meeting, makes impertinent or slanderous remarks, or generally conducts themselves in an inappropriate manner shall be barred from further participation and will forfeit any balance of time remaining for their comments.
6. After a final warning, if a speaker willfully refuses to step down, the Town Supervisor shall contact the appropriate authorities to remove the speaker from the meeting room and to restore order.
7. The Town Supervisor, or in their absence the Deputy Supervisor, shall ensure compliance with these rules.

**This policy will be amended by Majority vote of the Town Board.**

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**OPENING OF REGULAR MEETING**

Supervisor Ruso opened the meeting at 7:00 PM and the Pledge of Allegiance was said. Also attending Councilmembers Briody, Downes, Irving, and VanEtten; County Legislator Linger; Town Clerk Finke; Highway Superintendent VanWormer; and 3 members of the public who signed the attendance book. Absent: Deputy Supervisor Dellisanti and Tax Collector Jordan

***Supervisor***

The monthly financial reports for the month of December have been forwarded to all Board members. This is the one for the final of the year. Has everyone had a chance to review them? I would like to make a Motion to accept the December financial reports, seconded by Councilmember Downes

**Supervisor Ruso:** I will add that based upon the information there, I will be filing my formal AUD, Supervisor's report to the Department of State, but I have until the end of February for that, February 29, so you'll have a more final report at that time.

AYES: Ruso, Boehlke, Downes, Irving, VanEtten

NAYS:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

**Motion Carried**

***County Legislator Pat Linger***

I would like to begin 2020 by welcoming new Town Board member Bill Boehlke, and congratulating Chuck Irving, Supervisor Jeff Ruso, and Highway Superintendent Alan VanWormer on their re-elections as well. We held our Organizational Meeting on January 6, where I appointed a new Chair of Public Safety. Tom Hobart from Coxsackie will be the Chair, replacing Bill Lawrence of Cairo. We also approved the Times Union as the newspaper for printing of all official notices. We have scheduled a Public Hearing on the review of Agricultural District # 124 for February 19 at 6:25pm in the Legislative Chambers. As you are aware, GC Public Health schedules rabies clinics each year around the County. This year, there will be a clinic held at the Medway-Grapeville Fire House on March 25 from 6-8pm. This is a free clinic, but donations are encouraged to help offset the cost. Other clinics are available with the schedule posted on our website under the Public Health tab. We have accepted several grants for 2020 this month. We received \$114,000 from Homeland Security to be used for Emergency Services and the Sheriff's department. We have received \$150,000 to form a joint Greene-Ulster Technical Rescue Team. Two teams currently exist independently, using equipment owned by the Greene County side. This will put training and equipment in both counties as they work together. We have tried for several years to figure out a solution NYS would approve of to the dangerous area of Rt. 145 at the Cairo-Durham High School entrance. We received \$50,000 from NYSDOT for new speed detection and reduction equipment to be placed in that area and this should help slow the traffic in a limited sight area and help to hopefully avoid the serious accidents that have occurred there over the years. An issue with the Property Tax bills was brought to my attention by the Town Supervisor. I have been working on this with the Attorney, Real Property Services Director, County Treasurer, and County Administrator to try to figure it out. When the attorney returns from vacation, we'll schedule a meeting with the Supervisor. The NYS plastic bag ban approved in last year's budget goes into effect on March 1<sup>st</sup> of this year. While counties were given the authority to assess a fee of up to 5 cents per bag, GC has opted NOT to assess this fee. The law states we would only receive 40 percent of the fee, and the State would receive 60 percent. We believe imposing this would hurt those who can least afford it the most, to the States benefit. Albany County and Ulster County have both imposed the fee. On March 31<sup>st</sup> of this year, the County will pay out \$9,831,537 in unpaid taxes to make villages and school districts whole. This is a slight decrease from last year, and the funds are set aside so no bonding will be needed. The single biggest revenue source for Greene County is sales tax. It's also a source we have very little control over and budget conservatively for. At the end of 2019, our sales tax collections exceeded budgeted revenues by over \$3.4 million dollars. Tourism is up 8.5% over last year, and we have over 16,000 private sector jobs in Greene County, the highest number of jobs on record. We have scheduled workshops for the next few months to assess the year-end closeout, Highway, Buildings & Grounds, and then the 2021 budget. This month we actually just added another public hearing on the demolition of the old jail for February. This month, we approved the contract with our nurses' union as well. Last week, I was invited to attend a

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Legislative Forum hosted by the GC Chamber of Commerce. I was joined by Congressman Delgado and Assemblyman Tague. As I listened to the other panel members giving their respective 2020 Federal and State priorities, I was glad to see GC is ahead of the game with boots on the ground already working on many of the same issues. One of the goals I've had since my election to this board is to be more proactive and not always finding solutions out of necessity. We are succeeding at this. Last week, the IDA announced an agreement with CMH on purchasing property off 23B in Catskill to build a medical complex. This will be a joint venture with Albany Medical Center and Northeastern Oncology and Hematology. While there are still many details to be worked out, this complex will sit on approximately 4 acres, and include a cancer treatment facility, among other medical offices. These are clean, high-paying jobs coming to Greene County. We have five hotel proposals in different stages right now as well. Mr. Cat in Catskill is under construction, Aaron Flach has announced a project on South River St in Coxsackie that has received some grant funding already, another smaller restaurant/hotel developer is in negotiations on Reed St. in Coxsackie, the former Catskill Country Club is in the approval phase of a larger hotel project, and the IDA is very close to signing with a hotel developer on the former Quality Inn property next to the Catskill Thruway interchange. The County took ownership of that parcel last year and signed an agreement with the IDA to develop it. There are still some acquisitions to finalize with the thruway, but the result should be four individual parcels. A new 75-room hotel will sit on one with potentially a restaurant and retail on the other three. The deal for the hotel will be structured so GC is repaid for any taxes owed and costs incurred to date, and any profit then will be split with the IDA. County taxpayers will be made whole first. We also have a \$50,000 grant from Assemblyman Tague to help offset the cost of building a new roadway into the new parcels. This project is quite involved, as it will encompass the new cashless tolling, the park and ride entrance, and our travel and tourism center. I do expect this will be an exciting year for Greene County and appreciate the opportunity to serve as Legislator for the Town, as well as the Chairman for the Board. I also expect to work closely with the Town Board and Highway Superintendent as I have done since 2016.

**Eilleen Vosburgh:** I read an article in the *Daily Mail* actually from Hudson Valley 360 and it talked about the cut, that they had cut ties with the *Daily Mail* and made the *Times Union* the County's official paper. It went on to say you know the *Daily Mail* had important legal notices that people in our County would want to see and it also gave them significant revenue, but the issue was that it doesn't seem that the *Times Union* comes down to our area. They said that the *Daily Mail* printed more than 1,000 local stories, staff-driven press releases, assorted briefs and announcements in 2019 where the *Times Union* printed only 34 stores and I'd like to know what that decision was based on?

**County Legislator Linger:** That was a decision by the Board. There's not really an official paper for the County, there's a paper to publish official notices. So that's what was changed. We have five newspapers actually that circulate actually in Greene County. The *Daily Mail* has been the paper that we published our official notices in for a long time. There was a push to move it to somebody else to spread the wealth around here. We did some circulation numbers for the *Times Union*, the *Daily Mail*, and the *Daily Freeman*. The *Times Union* actually has almost 9,000 papers here in Greene County on the weekend, far exceeding what the *Daily Mail* has. But, basically that was a vote of the Board. So I think ten Legislators voted in favor of changing that, three voted against, and one was absent.

**Eilleen Vosburgh:** But truly the *Times Union* really doesn't come down here.

**County Legislator Linger:** There were two articles in the *Times Union* yesterday from Greene County.

**Eilleen Vosburgh:** Okay, but they did their study. It was 34. The *Daily Mail* gives much more coverage.

**County Legislator Linger:** And I'm sure they still will. It won't preclude the *Daily Mail* from doing their job or publishing a paper here or doing stories here. It doesn't preclude that. All this does is move our official notices to a larger market.

**Councilmember VanEtten:** I think probably you would have to go to a County meeting to debate this.

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**Supervisor Ruso:** From what I remember hearing, there were a couple things about -- we've endured it a little here because we still have the *Daily Mail* -- but contractors, the big contractors, when we put our notices in for paving, haven't been finding the *Daily Mail* so we don't get as many bidders. Now that was just an observation that one of the contractors said to me 'I didn't even know about it. I thought I'd see it in the *Times Union*.' That was last year. I don't know it that relates to...

**County Legislator Linger:** Right, most of your bidders that look in the paper for bid proposals, will check the *Times Union*. Some of those also check the *Daily Mail*, but not all of those who check the *Daily Mail* are checking the *Times Union*.

**Supervisor Ruso:** That's only one contractor said it to me, I don't know if that's the issue elsewhere.

**County Legislator Linger:** I had the same.

**Eilleen Vosburgh:** I can understand that point, but truly the *Daily Mail* is -- people count on that for the information and what about the Legislature's Buy in Greene County? Now we're sending that money outside for that.

**Councilmember VanEtten:** Actually the circulation of the *Daily Mail* in New Baltimore is very low.

**Councilmember Downes:** Very low.

**County Legislator Linger:** It's very small and...

**Eilleen Vosburgh:** You'd be surprised how many people contacted me about this situation.

**Councilmember VanEtten:** Oh, really, nobody contacted us.

**Town Clerk Finke:** Doesn't deal with us.

**Councilmember VanEtten:** Yeah, it doesn't deal with us.

**County Legislator Linger:** The other issue that we had and we were getting complaints as Legislators were people who were subscribing to the *Daily Mail* not getting delivery. Some of those folks were refunded their money. The checks bounced. That's a problem.

**Councilmember VanEtten:** Have you, as Legislators, had a lot of people contact you about this change?

**County Legislator Linger:** I have not personally. This was discussions that were had. Actually they started last year and the *Daily Mail* has not been very responsive to either myself or the County Administrator when we've called. So all of it goes into the decision-making and then there's a vote by 14 people and whatever the majority votes to do on that is where we go.

**Supervisor Ruso:** Okay, if I can move onto a different topic. I'm always curious about health care issues and I'm trying to envision the location of the oncology treatment center?

**County Legislator Linger:** Do you know where Anthony's Restaurant is?

**Supervisor Ruso:** Yes.

**County Legislator Linger:** Directly across the street.

**Supervisor Ruso:** Okay, now I know.

**County Legislator Linger:** So it's on the West side of 23B.

**Supervisor Ruso:** Okay, that helps. Thank you.

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**Ellie Alfeld:** Two questions for you. Has the outfit that has proposed this medical center, you said four acres, do they have a lease on any adjoining land because if it's very successful as New York Oncology Hematology is in all the surrounding upstate areas, I would think they might be in need of more land? So do they have any ideas or plans for any extensions if it is successful?

**County Legislator Linger:** I don't know the answer to that for sure. It's an IDA project. It is IDA-controlled property, but when I talked to Rene two weeks or so ago about it with the Executive Director for the IDA, they were signing on for four acres. Beyond that I don't know and there's not other than the cancer treatment center, there's not a lot of details yet that have been worked out only that's is gonna be a partnership with CMH, Albany Med, and AOH.

**Ellie Alfeld:** I did see that in the paper. Second thing mention the papers as Eilleen was. I contacted the *Times Union* over two years ago for the lack of coverage that we get in Greene County.

**County Legislator Linger:** I have as well.

**Ellie Alfeld:** And I hope their response to you was not what it was to me and they said 'there's no interest in Greene County and that's why we don't have cover. You have your own paper to cover your area.' Well, that would be good except for the fact that as a resident in New Baltimore I feel like we're almost in no man's land. The *Times Union* doesn't want us. Greene County, Catskill, and further south sometimes I wonder if they even know we're up here or that they consider us southern Albany still. But we have to have some more input as to what goes on in this Town as per even this Public Hearing tonight which impacts what we have and that is a number of seniors. We gotta get the word out and we've gotta get a newspaper that's gonna put our projects on...

**Supervisor Ruso:** This was published in the *Daily Mail*. This meeting.

**Councilmember VanEtten:** And we have no control over who comes and who doesn't.

**Ellie Alfeld:** And I realize that, however, we also know that and I agree with you, I've talked to people that have had complaints against the paper and got their monies back because of lack of delivery. So I just think that somewhere along the line we've got to get better coverage from somebody whether it's the *Times Union*. I don't care if it's Westerlo newspapers. Sometimes they produce more information.

**Councilmember Boehlke:** What's boiling down to us is supply and demand-type of thing, Ellie, truthfully because so many people now are just getting their news off the internet. Papers are falling out of favor I mean and it's not just in this area. I mean you take the *New York Times* and the *Washington Post*. I mean that's where it's going. They're bleeding.

**Councilmember Downes:** But by putting what Pat and the County is doing, putting those notices into the *Times Union* is only going to be a benefit for the taxpayers of Greene County because you're going to get more people interested, they can do it for cheaper money. They're not even talking about something happened at the Legislature and somebody's reporting on it. So it makes a lot of sense for us to go to a larger newspaper so we benefit.

**Ellie Alfeld:** Oh, I realize.

**County Legislator Linger:** And we don't know how this will play out over the year. If it doesn't work out, then there's nothing saying that at next year's Organizational Meeting we go back to the *Daily Mail*. This was a decision that was made by the Board for this year to see how it works for us.

**Eilleen Vosburgh:** So how will you gauge that depending upon how much per article?

**Councilmember Downes:** It's not articles. It's not articles.

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**County Legislator Linger:** I don't if it will be articles, it will be gauged more on what bids we're putting out and what kind of response we get back. Do we have more people showing up at public meetings because more people saw the announcement. Those sort of things and public hearings.

**Councilmember VanEtten:** So they're trying something different.

**County Legislator Linger:** It's something that we've done for years with one paper and was just time to move to something else and try something that was different.

**Eilleen Vosburgh:** But how can you compare 1,000 articles versus 34? Do you expect to have I mean articles are important.

**County Legislator Linger:** True enough, but I can...

**Councilmember Downes:** We're not taking articles out of the *Daily Mail*. They can come, they can report. They're talking about bids and that type of thing. They're talking about business to do in Greene County. They're not talking about stopping articles. If the *Daily Mail* wants to come in and do an article, they can do it. That has nothing to do with they tell the *Daily Mail* they're going to put our bids and stuff in the *Daily Mail*. That has nothing to do with articles. Articles are about what is going on. Bids are money that type of thing if we're selling properties. So we want what's best for the...

**County Legislator Linger:** I've also corrected many articles right here in my report that have gone out that were just not true at all, were just negative reporting and our tax money is going to fund that newspaper and they're not being responsible enough to report factual information. So I've corrected many articles right here in my report in the three years that I've been there. So if we don't see a difference over the next year, that vote comes up again next year.

***Town Clerk Barb Finke***

3 Building Permits \$979, 4 CO Searches \$60, 1 EZPass Tag \$25, 1 Hunting/Fishing License \$0.28, 13 Dog Licenses \$78, 4 Late Dog Licenses \$20, 1 Park Rental \$25, 10 Photocopies \$2.50, State, County & Local Revenues \$1,207.50, to New York State Agriculture and Markets for Spay/Neuter Program \$13, to New York State Department of Environmental Conservation \$4.72, Total to Supervisor \$1,189.78 One FOIL was received in December and is awaiting payment. I attended the annual Christmas Party and meeting of the Columbia-Greene Town Clerks Association at Kozel's on December 4.

Board of Elections Certification 'Dear Commissioner Bogardus and Commissioner Metzler:  
RE: General Elections 2020 The elected office in the Town of New Baltimore where the term will expire on December 31, 2020, is currently vacant, and the Town Board will make an appointment to fill the vacancy for the remaining one-year term.

- Town Justice, currently vacant, formerly Thomas Meacham, who resigned December 31, 2019.

Please contact me at (518)756-6671, Ext. 5 if you need any further information.'

**ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

The January 13, 2020 Town Board Regular Meeting submitted by Town Clerk Finke, Moved by Supervisor Ruso and was seconded by Councilmember VanEtten. The adoption of the foregoing Motion was duly put to a vote and vote was as follows:

AYES: Ruso, Boehlke, Downes, Irving, VanEtten

NAYS:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

**Motion Carried**

***Tax Collector***

No Report

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***Historian Ted Hilscher***

In the last quarter of 2019: On October 26 led a driving tour of significant early barns – one in Coxsackie, three in New Baltimore – for the Dutch Barn Preservation Society, Hudson Valley Vernacular Association and numerous town of New Baltimore residents. There were 25 or so on the tour. Researched and wrote an article for the town newsletter on “The Hamlet of Hannacroix.” Continued with preservation of Vanderzee Hay Press which was installed, with a barn rising up around it, at the Bronck House. My recent contributions included painting new barn siding, and delivery of the original flooring from 1870 which surrounded the hay press in the Vanderzee barn. Responded to inquiries and had numerous conversations of short duration on New Baltimore History In 2020, I will be giving the following talks (so far): February 8 – Onteora Chapter of the DAR – Little Red School House, Jefferson Heights, *Early New Baltimore History*. February 23 – New Baltimore Town Hall 4 PM. *The Hudson River School and the Birth of the Environmental Movement*. Free and Open to the public. April 4 – Saugerties Historical Society, Saugerties Library – *Barns of the Hudson Valley and Catskill Mountains*.

***Agriculture and AgFest***

No Report

***Animal Control Officer***

**2020 Rabies Clinic Schedule**

Date	Time	Location
March 25, 2020	6-8 pm	Medway-Grapeville Firehouse Route 51, New Baltimore
April 22, 2020	6-8 pm	Lexington Firehouse Route 42, Lexington
May 20, 2020	6-8 pm	Leeds Firehouse Old Route 23B, Leeds
June 10, 2020	6-8 pm	Earlton Firehouse Route 81, Earlton
August 19, 2020	6-8 pm	Cairo Firehouse Railroad Ave, Cairo
September 9, 2020	6-8 pm	Freehold Firehouse Route 32, Freehold
October 21, 2020	6-8 pm	Hensonville Firehouse Route 296, Hensonville

Public Health Law requires all **cats, dogs and ferrets** to be vaccinated for rabies starting at 12 weeks old (3 months). **Bring record of pet’s PREVIOUS vaccination to receive a 3-year certificate. If no record is presented, pet will be given a 1-year certificate.**

Dogs should be on a leash, Cats and ferrets in a carrier. Please call ahead for ferrets. If you are feeding a stray cat or dog, please be sure to bring for vaccination. Please call Greene County Public Health Department at (518) 719-3600 for more information on rabies. Clinics are **FREE** However, donations will be accepted to defray program cost. Requested donation: \$5 per animal.

*Assessment*

**TOWN OF NEW BALTIMORE, COUNTY OF GREENE**

**RESOLUTION 46-2020  
JANUARY 27, 2020**

**RESOLUTION TO ADOPT LOCAL LAW 1 OF 2020 ESTABLISHING  
A NEW SCHEDULE OF REAL PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTIONS  
FOR PERSONS SIXTY-FIVE (65) YEARS OF AGE OR OVER  
AND PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES AND LIMITED INCOMES**

*WHEREAS* the Town Board of the Town of New Baltimore held a Public Hearing on January 27, 2020 regarding proposed Local Law 1 of 2020, a local law to establish a new schedule of real property tax exemptions for persons sixty-five (65) years of age or over and persons with disabilities and limited incomes, at which time the public was given an opportunity to speak regarding this proposed local law.

*NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED* that the Town Board of the Town of New Baltimore does hereby adopt Local Law 1 of 2020 Establishing a New Schedule of Real Property Tax Exemptions for Persons Sixty-Five (65) Years of Age or Over and Persons with Disabilities and Limited Incomes.

**LOCAL LAW #1 OF 2020**

**A LOCAL LAW TO ESTABLISH A NEW SCHEDULE OF REAL PROPERTY TAX  
EXEMPTIONS FOR PERSONS SIXTY-FIVE (65) YEARS OF AGE OR OVER AND  
PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES AND LIMITED INCOMES**

*BE IT ENACTED* by the Town Board of the Town of New Baltimore, as follows:

SECTION 1. This Local Law is adopted pursuant to the authority of Real Property Tax §459© and §467. All definitions, terms and conditions of such statute shall apply to this Local Law and are incorporated herein.

SECTION 2. Local Law #1 of 2019 is HEREBY REPEALED.

SECTION 3. The Town Board of the Town of New Baltimore does hereby establish the following sliding scale of property tax exemptions for real property owned by persons sixty-five (65) years of age or over and for real property owned by a person with a disability whose income is limited by such disability, and used as the legal residence of such person, based on the income limits set forth below:

<u>Maximum Income Limit</u>	<u>Property Tax Exemption</u>
\$29,000.00	50%
\$29,000.01-\$29,999.99	45%
\$30,000.00-\$30,999.99	40%
\$31,000.00-\$31,999.99	35%
\$32,000.00-\$32,899.99	30%
\$32,900.00-\$33,799.99	25%
\$33,800.00-\$34,699.99	20%
\$34,700.00-\$35,599.99	15%
\$35,600.00-\$36,499.99	10%
\$36,500.00-\$37,399.99	5%

SECTION 4. Any person who qualifies for a property tax exemption as a person with a disability shall not be eligible for a property tax exemption as a person who is sixty-five (65) years of age or over.

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SECTION 5. The maximum income limit set forth in Section 3 above shall be offset by medical and prescription drug expenses actually paid which are not reimbursed or paid for by insurance.

SECTION 6. This Local Law shall take effect immediately upon its filing in the Office of the Secretary of State.

Motion by Councilmember VanEtten seconded by Supervisor Ruso

AYES: Ruso, Boehlke, Downes, Irving, VanEtten

NAYS:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

**Motion Carried**

***Audit and Control***

**TOWN OF NEW BALTIMORE, COUNTY OF GREENE**

**RESOLUTION 47-2020**  
**JANUARY 27, 2020**

**RESOLUTION TO APPROVE ANNUAL REVIEW OF ACCOUNTS  
FOR TAX COLLECTOR AND TOWN CLERK**

**WHEREAS** Town Law Section 123 requires each town officer or employee who has received or disbursed any monies to produce all supporting books, records, receipts, warrants, vouchers and cancelled checks as authorized y Section 29 of the General Municipal Law.

**WHEREAS** Councilmember Kelly Downes, Member of the Audit and Budget Committee, completed the Annual Review or the financial records of the Tax Collector and Town Clerk on Saturday, January 25, 2020.

**RESOLVED** the Town Board accepts the Annual Review for said departments for the period of January 1, 2019 to December 31, 2019.

Motion by Supervisor Ruso seconded by Councilmember VanEtten

**Supervisor Ruso:** There are two more that have yet to be done, that's for my own and as well as for the Town Courts.

AYES: Ruso, Boehlke, Downes, Irving, VanEtten

NAYS:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

**Motion Carried**

***Buildings and Grounds/Recycling Coordinator Kirk Trombley***

December 24, 2019 to January 27, 2020 60 Gallon Bags of Plastic (No Hard Plastics) 15, 20 Bundles of Magazines and Phone Books, 75 Bags and Bundles of Newspapers, 77 Boxes and Bundles of Cardboard, 1 Stove on January 18, 2020.

***Building Inspector/Code Enforcement Officer Allan Jourdin***

Summarization of Building Inspector/Code Enforcement Officer activities for December, 2019, is as follows: Building Inspections: 16 Certificate of Occupancy Search Requests: 4 Commercial Site Fire Inspections: 1 New Building Permit Applications Received: 3 New Building Permit Applications Awaiting Permit Issuance: 5 Open Building Permits: 105 Application Fees for December, 2019: \$979.00 Total Fees for Year to Date: \$ 26,092.42

***Greene County EMS Representative Nick Dellisanti***

The regular monthly meeting was held on Tuesday, January 21, 2020. There were 8 EMS calls in December for a total of 90 for the year 2019. We had 102 calls for all of 2018.

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**Supervisor Ruso:** About a 10 percent decrease; I hope that means good things.

***Highway Superintendent Alan VanWormer***

Highway Report December 23, 2019 to January 27, 2020 Washed trucks, Patched holes with winter mix, Picked up load of fresh winter mix from Peckham, Moved large snow bank at Honey Hollow Road and Rt. 26 due to visibility issues, Put salt on large icy spot on High Bridge Road Cut bent tree limbs along roads, Monday Dec. 30 heavy sleet storm in the 2:30 pm plowed and sanded all roads, Repaired hydraulic hose on 2013 International unit #7, Checked air pressure in tires on 1985 Oshkosh unit #3, Replaced radio and antenna on 1993 International, Picked up 6 pails of cat litter dumped on Medway Earlton Road, Had hose reel installed for pressure washer Mixed magic minus additive with road salt, Checked and repaired oil leak on John Deere Loader Changed oil and filter on John Deere Loader, Checked over Massey Ferguson tractor and did some brush cutting for the Village of Ravena, Replaced broken exhaust clamp on 2013 International truck #13, Serviced John Deere Backhoe, Serviced John Deere Excavator, Repaired broken sign on Kings Road, Replaced stolen street sign at Hillcrest Road and Route 26, Replaced battery on Massey Ferguson Tractor, Welded cracks on plow for 1993 International unit #4, January 16 called all in at 4am for light snow plowed and sanded all roads, Replaced power steering lines on 1997 International unit #14, Cleaned up fallen tree on Mirror Lake Road, Saturday Jan. 18 called all in at 6:30pm for snow, Adjusted brakes on 1985 Oshkosh unit #3, Replaced two air cans on 1985 Oshkosh unit #3, Installed LED backup lights on 1985 Oshkosh unit #6, On Wednesday February 5 I will be attending the New York State Association of Town Highway Superintendents meeting in Syracuse with a few other superintendents from Greene County, On December 26, 2019 I was elected Secretary Treasurer of the Greene County Highway Superintendents association.

**Councilmember Boehlke:** How much of the shop work do we do ourselves?

**Highway Superintendent VanWormer:** All of it.

**Councilmember Boehlke:** Excellent job.

**Supervisor Ruso:** I meant to ask when you say unit number, that means truck number?

**Highway Superintendent VanWormer:** Truck number. Every truck has a number.

**Councilmember Downes:** Can I just ask how we got into the brush cutting for the Village of Ravena?

**Highway Superintendent VanWormer:** We had an Intermunicipal Agreement with them and we work back and forth together.

**Councilmember Boehlke:** Which is the best way to do it.

**Highway Superintendent VanWormer:** They come down and sweep for us because we don't have a sweeper. We don't have a sweeper and they'll come down and sweep for us.

**Councilmember Boehlke:** But just want to comment for the record though, Alan. That's excellent that you have your guys doing all the shop work.

**Highway Superintendent VanWormer:** Do as much of it as we can.

**Councilmember Boehlke:** It justifies not just the shop, but for the repairs and the maintenance for the place. That's quite a bit of work that's being done there. If we had to farm that out to someone, that would be substantial, but it's excellent it really is.

***Planning Board Chair Rob VanEtten***

The Planning Board met on January 9, 2020, with the following business transacted: ...The Board welcomed Michelle Stefanik to the Planning Board. She replaces Bill Boehlke who has moved to the Town Board following his election as a Councilperson in last fall's election. ...The Board discussed with the Attorney for the Town the necessary procedure for a Town

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property owner to combine the two parcels he owns that were originally part of a four-lot subdivision that took place in the 1990's. He is being notified accordingly. ...The Board briefly discussed how another property owner could combine their two parcels, one from a subdivision several years old and the other from a subdivision that took place less than two years ago. ...The Board Members held a procedural discussion with the Attorney for the Town in regard to the two solar projects before the Board. ...The Board reviewed the engineering firm proposals received for review of the DG New York Solar Project currently before the Planning Board. The Board chose Crawford and Associates. This selection has now been sent over to the Town Board for their approval. ...Janet Ward was present from DG New York to give the Board a project update and to seek a timeline for moving forward. ...The Board appointed Ann Marie Vadney, Vice Chair; and Pat Bruno, Board Secretary, for the 2020 year.

Planning Board activity for 2019 is as follows: Regular Monthly Meetings Held: 12 Public Hearings Held: 13 Minor Subdivision Applications Received: 10 Minor Subdivisions Approved: 11 Altered Lot Line Applications: 3 Altered Lot Line Adjustments Approved: 2 Site Plan Applications Received: 6 Site Plan Applications Approved: 4 Special Use Permit Applications Received: 1 Special Use Permits Approved: 1 Special Use Permit Annual Renewal: 1 Applicants Referred to ZBA: 5 Solar Project Site Plan Applications Before Board: 3 Solar Project Site Plan Application Approved: 1 Non-Conforming Parcels Corrected: 6 New Parcels Created Through Subdivision: 10 Parcels Combined: 9 New Parcel Increase: 1 Fees Taken in January thru December, 2019 ..... \$4,930.00

***Zoning Board of Appeals Chair Pat Linger***

The Zoning Board of Appeals met on January 8, 2019. Public Hearing was held on the five Variance Applications for the Hannacroix Solar Facility, LLC. and then recessed until an undetermined later date following completion of Part II of the SEQRA Long Form, the Planning Board having formally taken Lead Agency and the project's plans are a bit further developed enabling the Zoning Board of Appeals to determine if all five Variances are needed and the degree of Variance needed in each instance. The project's authorized representative was in agreement with the Board's decision for Hearing recess until a future date. Date of Public Hearing continuation will be posted on the Town's website as soon as known. In the regular monthly meeting that followed: ...Discussion continued on the Hannacroix Solar project. ...The Board selected Craig Albano to continue as Vice Chair for the 2020 year.

The Zoning Board of Appeals report for the 2019 year is as follows: **Meetings Held** - 7 (April, May, June, July, October, November, December) **Variance Applications Received** – 8 (Riversand LLC; Taormina/Honey Hollow Brewery; 12498 U.S. Rte. 9W; and five for Hannacroix Solar Project LLC)) **Public Hearings Held** – 3 Completed - Riversand LLC; Taormina/Honey Hollow Brewery; 12498 U.S. Rte. 9W **Variances Approved** – 3 (Riversand LLC; Taormina/Honey Hollow Brewery; 12498 U.S. Rte. 9W **Variance Approval or Denials Pending** – 5 (Hannacroix Solar Project LLC) **Variance Application Fees Taken In:** \$1,600.00

***Town Courts***

In November, Court fees were \$8,372 of which \$4,623 was sent to the State Comptroller and the Town retained \$3,749. Justice Farrell \$5,268 Justice Meacham \$3,104

**TOWN OF NEW BALTIMORE, COUNTY OF GREENE**

**RESOLUTION 48-2020**  
**JANUARY 27, 2020**

**RESOLUTION TO PLACE ADVERTISEMENT FOR**  
**TOWN JUSTICE VACANCY**

**WHEREAS** due to the resignation of one of the Town Justices in the Town of New Baltimore on December 31, 2019, the Town Board seeks interested Town of New Baltimore residents willing to serve the remainder of the unfinished term expiring December 31, 2020.

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**RESOLVED** the Town Clerk will place the following advertisement, approved by the Attorney for the Town, in The Daily Mail for seven days.

The Town of New Baltimore is seeking interested persons for one vacant Town Justice position which is open to Town of New Baltimore residents ONLY. Must be available evenings and weekends and extensive training is required. Please send letter of interest or resume outlining experience to Town Supervisor Jeffry Ruso, 3809 County Route 51, Hannacroix, NY 12087, [jruso@townofnewbaltimore.org](mailto:jruso@townofnewbaltimore.org), or call (518)756-6671, Ext. 7 for information. Letters of interest must be received no later than February 4, 2020.

Motion by Councilmember VanEtten seconded by Councilmember Downes

AYES: Ruso, Boehlke, Downes, Irving, VanEtten

NAYS:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

**Motion Carried**

***Veterans and Memorials***

**Councilmember VanEtten:** We will be working soon on the Luncheon and we had to move it to March, unfortunately, as I have no free weekends in February. We will be meeting in a week or so.

***Wastewater Treatment***

No Report

***Youth, Parks and Recreation***

No Report

**TOWN OF NEW BALTIMORE, COUNTY OF GREENE**

**RESOLUTION 49-2020**

**JANUARY 27, 2020**

**RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE SUPERVISOR TO PAY  
AUDITED CLAIMS**

**WHEREAS** the Town Clerk has presented claims to the Town Board for audit and review, and

**WHEREAS** the Town Board has audited claims 2020b-01-01 to 2020b-01-36, it is

**RESOLVED** that the Supervisor is hereby authorized to pay claims 2020b-01-01 to 2020b-01-36.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Town Clerk will prepare an abstract and hold it for public review until February 29, 2020.

Motion by Supervisor Ruso seconded by Councilmember Boehlke

AYES: Ruso, Boehlke, Downes, Irving, VanEtten

NAYS:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

**Motion Carried**

General \$20,287.36, Highway \$3,001.63, Sewer 1 \$296,550.74, Sewer 2 \$277.95, Water 2 \$2,982.41, Water 3 \$694.92, Total \$323,795.01

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**Public Comment Period/Community Events**

- February 5, 2020 Zoning Board of Appeals Meeting at 7:30 PM if Needed
- February 10, 2020 Town Board Regular Meeting at 7 PM
- February 13, 2020 Planning Board Meeting at 7 PM
- February 17, 2020 Town Hall Closed in Observance of Presidents' Day
- **February 23, 2020 Town Historian Ted Hilscher Slide Show on *The Hudson River School and the Birth of the Environmental Movement at 4PM***
- February 24, 2020 Town Board Work Meeting at 7 PM
- March 1, 2020 Veterans Committee Luncheon at Cornell Hook & Ladder Fire Company at 12 Noon
- March 25, 2020 Greene County Public Health Rabies Clinic at Medway-Grapeville Firehouse 6-8 PM

On a Motion by Councilmember Boehlke seconded by Councilmember VanEtten, the meeting was adjourned at 7:49 PM.

AYES: Ruso, Boehlke, Downes, Irving, VanEtten

NAYS:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

**Motion Carried**

Respectfully Submitted,

Barbara M. Finke  
Town Clerk