

**TOWN OF KIRKWOOD
PUBLIC HEARING**

February 27, 2018

A public hearing regarding the adoption of a Local Law of the Town of Kirkwood for the year 2018 entitled "A Local Law of the Town of Kirkwood Amending Local Law No. 3-2017, entitled 'Providing a Partial Exemption from Taxation by the Town to Volunteer Firefighters and Volunteer Ambulance Service Members'" was held on February 27, 2018 at 6:07 PM at the Joseph A. Griffin Town Hall with Supervisor Gordon Kniffen presiding.

Present: Supervisor Gordon Kniffen
Councilman Robert Weingartner
Councilman Lewis Grubham
Councilwoman Linda Yonchuk
Councilman William Diffendorf, Jr.

Also Present: Oliver Blaise III, Attorney
Gayle Diffendorf, Town Clerk
William Tozer, Deputy Commissioner of Public Works
James Smith, Budget Officer

Supervisor Kniffen explained that we recognize and appreciate the sacrifices of the members and their families of the two fire companies in Kirkwood. Although we are legally limited in what we can do for them, he said New York State distinctly allows a municipality to adopt a law that reduces a volunteer fire fighter's assessment by 10%. He said there is a local town tax, county tax and school tax and the town tax is about 10% to 15% of the total tax so this will not be a lot of money. All four school districts in Kirkwood as well as the County were contacted. The Windsor district responded that they will not be doing this and as yet there has been no response from the others. He added that he was supposed to be a guest speaker at the last legislative meeting at the County and for some reason he wasn't on the agenda but he is still trying to do that. He did note that the County Executive is aware of this.

Supervisor Kniffen opened the hearing to public comment. Hearing none, Supervisor Kniffen ordered the hearing closed at 6:10 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Gayle M. Diffendorf
Town Clerk