

**TOWN OF KIRKWOOD  
PUBLIC HEARING**

**March 29, 2016**

A public hearing regarding the adoption of a Local law of the Town of Kirkwood for the year 2016 regarding the adoption of a Local Law to enact legislation entitled "Business Investment Exemption" was held on March 29, 2016 at 6:00 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

Mr. Blaise explained there is a provision in the Real Property Tax Law that certain types of commercial and industrial development are automatically exempted from taxation for ten years. The Town's Assessor, Dan Giblin, noted to him that the Town has never opted out of this and although no one has ever applied for one of these exemptions, if they did they would be exempt for ten years. He also said that all the school districts in the Town as well as all the surrounding municipalities and the County have opted out of this. Mr. Blaise suggested that the Town of Kirkwood do the same. By doing this the Town is opting out of allowing this exemption by reducing the exemption to zero percent.

Supervisor Kniffen opened the hearing to public comment.

Ed Egan questioned if this would interfere with any possible future development within the Town. Mr. Blaise said that someone coming in may wish that this was in place but since the law was put into place in the mid 1980's Mr. Giblin said there is no history of anyone having ever applied for it. Mr. Blaise also responded to Mr. Egan that the PILOT program is separate from this.

Hearing no additional comments, Supervisor Kniffen ordered the hearing closed at 6:06 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Gayle M. Diffendorf  
Town Clerk