

**TOWN OF KIRKWOOD  
PUBLIC HEARING**

**November 28, 2017**

A public hearing regarding the adoption of a Local Law of the Town of Kirkwood for the year 2017 entitled "A Local Law of the Town of Kirkwood Providing a Partial Exemption from Taxation by the Town to Volunteer Firefighters and Volunteer Ambulance Service Members", was held on November 28, 2017 at 6:18 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  
John A. Finch, Jr., Commissioner of Public Works  
James Smith, Budget Officer

Supervisor Kniffen explained that since we appreciate what our firefighters do and the amount of sacrifice involved, we look for ways to compensate them monetarily. This exemption is only for town taxes, not county or school taxes. Mr. Blaise explained that they will get 10% off their assessed value on town taxes which is capped at \$3,000 and reduced by the equalization rate. He said the maximum exemption permitted by State law, which authorizes this, is \$2,340 for Kirkwood. After conferring with the Town's Assessor, Mr. Blaise said we estimated it will be about \$30 off the tax bill for the average home value in Kirkwood.

Supervisor Kniffen opened the hearing to public comment. Hearing none, Supervisor Kniffen ordered the hearing closed at 6:20 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Gayle M. Diffendorf  
Town Clerk