

PUBLIC HEARING
Town of Westfield
Senior Citizen Real Property Tax Exemption
January 9th, 2008

Supervisor Bills called the public hearing to order at 7:25pm. in Eason Hall, 23 Elm Street, Westfield, NY, with the following members and guests present:

Supervisor:	Martha R. Bills	Guests:	David Babcock	Fred Bertrando
Councilmen:	Raymond Schuster		James Pacanowski	Ed Causebrook
	David Brown		Scott Frudd	Marybelle Biegh
	Carl Vilardo, Jr.		Jack Gulvin	Conrad Vicary
	James Herbert		Claude Abbey	Kaitlyn Ballerstein
			Steven Lax	Samantha Leone
			Robert Rose	Evelyn Gonzalez
			Shirley West	

Supervisor Bills explained that the Public Hearing was being held to hear all persons in regard to a proposed change to the Senior Citizen Real Property Tax Exemption. The proposal allows for income limits to be increased to \$16,000 effective as of the next taxable status date (March 1st, 2008) with the income limit to be increased annually by an additional \$1,000 per year in each of the next four (4) years.

There were no questions from the audience.

There being no further business, David Brown moved and Raymond Schuster seconded the motion that Public Hearing be closed at 7:30pm. This was unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Timothy C. Smith, Town Clerk

**TOWN BOARD MEETING
Town of Westfield
January 9th, 2008**

The regular meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Westfield was called to order at 7:30pm in Eason Hall, 23 Elm Street, Westfield, NY, with the following members and guests present:

Supervisor:	Martha R. Bills	Guests:	David Babcock	Fred Bertrando
Councilmen:	Raymond Schuster		James Pacanowski	Ed Causebrook
	David Brown		Scott Frudd	Marybelle Biegh
	Carl Vilardo, Jr.		Jack Gulvin	Conrad Vicary
	James Herbert		Claude Abbey	Kaitlyn Ballerstein
			Steven Lax	Samantha Leone
			Robert Rose	Evelyn Gonzalez
			Shirley West	

Ray Schuster moved and David Brown seconded a motion to waive the reading of the minutes inasmuch as all members received a copy thereof and that the minutes be approved. Unanimously carried.

The Town Clerk's report together with a check in the amount of \$2188.78 representing fees for the month of December, 2007, was turned over to the Supervisor. State and County agencies received checks totaling \$294.62.

The Supervisor's report is as follows:

<u>Fund</u>	<u>Revenues</u>	<u>Expenditures</u>	<u>Checking Balance</u>	<u>Key - MM Balance</u>
Gen. A	\$624,468.00	\$534,663.00	\$1,157.66	\$500,617.00
Gen B	92,496.00	106,403.00	55.72	49,083.46
Hwy DA	306,267.00	336,346.00	198.62	230,661.22
Hwy DB	384,333.00	392,823.00	1.32	196,632.84
Sewer HO1	24,054.00	24,311.00	-0-	16,614.56
Water HO2	48,874.00	41,758.00	-0-	85,269.69
Wfd. Fire	79,989.00	77,906.00	-0-	3,131.75
Sherm. Fire	7,746.00	7,858.00	-0-	169.45
Totals:	\$1,568,227.00	\$1,522,068.00	\$1,413.32	\$1,082,179.97

The Dog Warden's report for December 2007 was received and placed on file.

The Fire Department Report for December 2007 was received and placed on file.

The Historian report for December 2007 was received and placed on file.

Code Enforcement Officer James Pacanowski stated the two new Wind Project Meteorological Towers in the Town (with approved SUP's) have been erected. He also noted that the existing two Meteorological Towers from the previous Wind Project should be taken down within 2 weeks. CEO Pacanowski also submitted his annual report with 62 Building Permits issued within the Town during 2007.

In Public Comment there were questions / comments reference the two older Met Towers and a Hawthorne Beach resident.

Supervisor Bills announced that the Town would conduct an annual Audit of Books on the 17th of January 2008 at 4:00pm.

Old Business:

1. Supervisor Bills discussed Draft Engineering Reports for Barcelona and East Lake road.
2. Supervisor Bills also stated that Cable Access Channel 5 has requested \$2695 from the Town for the upcoming 2008 operating year.

New Business:

David Brown offered the following resolution and moved its adoption:

Resolution No. 1 of 2008
Official Meeting Place

“That the official meeting of the Town Board shall be in Eason Hall, 23 Elm Street, Westfield, NY on the first Wednesday of each month at 7:30 p.m. with one exception; January 9th, 2008.”

This was seconded by Carl Vilardo. Voting was as follows: Martha Bills, aye; James Herbert, aye; David Brown, aye; Carl Vilardo, aye; Raymond Schuster, aye.

David Brown offered the following resolution and moved its adoption:

Resolution No. 2 of 2008
Salaries

“That the Town Board hereby fix the salaries of the Town employees and officials for the year 2008 as follows:”

Highway Employees:	Laborers - Minimum \$7.50 p/hr.
	MEO's - Minimum \$10.00 to 16.93 p/hr.
	- Maximum \$25.39 p/hr.

Supervisor:	\$15,650 annual to be paid quarterly
Code Enforcement:	\$12,000 annual to be paid monthly
Deputy Supervisor:	\$ 2,700 annual
Councilmen:	\$ 3,000 annual
Justice Spann:	\$ 7,000 annual to be paid quarterly
Justice LaPorte:	\$ 7,000 annual to be paid quarterly
Court Clerk:	\$15,098 annual be paid biweekly
Town Clerk / Dep. Tax Collector	\$28,675 annual to be paid biweekly
Bookkp/Dep. Tn Clerk/Dep. Tax Collector	\$19,325 annual to be paid biweekly
Tax Collector	\$ 7,320 annual
Historian	\$ 1,000 annual
Highway Superintendent:	\$44,000 annual to be paid biweekly
Deputy Highway Superintendent:	\$ 1,500 annual to be paid quarterly
Assessor:	\$43,285 annual to be paid biweekly
Utility Workers:	\$ 7.25 Minimum p/hr.
	\$ 8.50 Maximum p/hr.
Civil Defense:	\$ 750 annual

This was seconded by Carl Vilardo. Voting was as follows: Martha Bills, aye; James Herbert, aye; David Brown, aye; Carl Vilardo, aye; Raymond Schuster, aye.

Martha Bills offered the following resolution and moved its adoption:

Resolution No. 3 of 2008
Designation of Banks

WHEREAS, under Section 64 of the Town Law, it is provided that the Town Board shall designate by written resolution the banks and trust companies in which certain Town Officers shall deposit monies received into their hands by virtue of their office, be it,

RESOLVED, that Key Bank of Westfield, M & T Bank of Jamestown and Mayville, MBIA Class, and HSBC Bank of Westfield, are hereby designated as depositories in which the Supervisor, Town Clerk, Deputy Town Clerk, Tax Collector and Court Clerk shall deposit all monies coming into their hands.”

This was seconded by David Brown. Voting was as follows: Martha Bills, aye; James Herbert, aye; David Brown, aye; Carl Vilardo, aye; Raymond Schuster, aye.

Martha Bills offered the following resolution and moved its adoption:

Resolution No. 4 of 2008
Official Newspapers

“That the *Westfield Republican* and the *Observer* newspapers be designated the official newspapers of the Town for the year 2008.”

This was seconded by Carl Vilardo. Voting was as follows: Martha Bills, aye; James Herbert, aye; David Brown, aye; Carl Vilardo, aye; Raymond Schuster, aye.

Martha Bills offered the following resolution and moved its adoption:

Resolution No. 5 of 2008
Annual Appointments

Timothy C. Smith	Registrar / Bingo Inspector / Deputy Tax Collector / RMO
Donna Sanderson	Bookkeeper / Deputy Tax Collector / Deputy Town Clerk / Deputy Registrar
James Pacanowski	Code Enforcement / Zoning Officer
Marybelle Biegh	Town Historian
Kathryn Comerford-Issler	Tax Collector
Kathleen Alexander	Clerk to the Court
Vincent Calarco	Civil Defense Director
Jock Phillips	Harbor Master
Scott Frudd	Deputy Highway Superintendent
N. Chautauqua Canine Rescue	Dog Control Official

Planning Board

John Hemmer (Chairman)	Joseph Orton
David Ross	Richard Sauer
Amy Gregory	Alex Nixon

Zoning Board of Appeals

Wayne Harrington (Chairman)	Abbie Cardy
Heinz Wolff	Vacant
Will Northrop	

Town Committees

Harbor	James Herbert
Security & Technology	David Brown
Transfer Station	Ray Schuster
Highway	Carl Vilardo & Ray Schuster
Ad Hoc & Personnel	David Brown & Ray Schuster
Website	David Brown, Mary Bivens, Martha Bills, Tim Smith, & Joel Seachrist

Barcelona Harbor Commission

Sam Arnold (Chairman)	George Kolibar
David Gembela	Mike Ptak
Jamie Jaynes	James VanDyke (Alt.)
Julie Travis	

Fire Department Liaison - David Brown

Process Servers - David Haskin / Max Baker / Town Constable – Peter Kunow

This was seconded by Raymond Schuster. Voting was as follows: Martha Bills, aye; James Herbert, aye; David Brown, aye; Carl Vilardo, aye; Raymond Schuster, aye.

Martha Bills offered the following resolution and moved its adoption:

Resolution No. 6 of 2008
Authorization for Supervisor / Deputy Supervisor

“That the Supervisor or the Deputy Supervisor be, and they are hereby authorized, to sign all the necessary documents for the financing of the Town of Westfield.”

This was seconded by Raymond Schuster. Voting was as follows: Martha Bills, aye; James Herbert, aye; David Brown, aye; Carl Vilardo, aye; Raymond Schuster, aye.

Martha Bills offered the following resolution and moved its adoption:

Resolution No. 7 of 2008
2008 Holiday Schedule

New Years Day	Tuesday, January 1
Martin Luther King Day	Monday, January 21
Presidents Day	Monday, February 18
Good Friday	Friday, March 21
Memorial Day	Monday, May 26
Independence Day	Friday, July 4
Labor Day	Monday, September 1
Columbus Day	Monday, October 13
Veteran’s Day	Tuesday, November 11
Thanksgiving Day	Thursday, November 27
Day after Thanksgiving	Friday, November 28
Christmas Day	Thursday, December 25
Day after Christmas	Friday, December 26

This was seconded by David Brown. Voting was as follows: Martha Bills, aye; James Herbert, aye; David Brown, aye; Carl Vilardo, aye; Raymond Schuster, aye.

Raymond Schuster offered the following resolution and moved its adoption:

Resolution No. 8 of 2008
Highway Agreement

RESOLVED, that pursuant to the provisions of Section 284 of the Highway Law, the Town Board agrees that monies levied and collected for the repair and improvement of highways, and received from the state for the repair and improvement of highways, and specifically the sum of \$302,000 shall be expended for the general repairs of town highways, including sluices, culverts and bridges, or the renewal thereof, and for the following projects:

1. For the oiling and stoning within the budget allotment of portions of the following roads: upper Parker, Barber, South Gale, North Gale, Ogden, Mt. Baldy, Minton, Martin Wright, Persons, Creamery, Napper, Light, Main Street (Barcelona), Jamestown Street (Barcelona), and Felton.

2. Should the Town receive funds under the Consolidated Highway Improvement Project System (CHIPS), funds would be used towards blacktopping of Mt. Baldy Road (3 miles), Creamery (.7 miles), and Parker Road (1 mile).

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that no fewer than three members of the Town Board and the Highway Superintendent shall execute a certified copy of this resolution in duplicate, and said certified copy, so signed, shall constitute written agreement between the parties once it shall have been approved by the County Superintendent of Highways.

This was seconded by David Brown. Voting was as follows: Martha Bills, aye; James Herbert, aye; David Brown, aye; Carl Vilardo, aye; Raymond Schuster, aye.

David Brown offered the following resolution and moved its adoption:

Resolution No. 9 of 2008

Increase of Income Limits to Senior Citizen Real Property Tax Exemption

WHEREAS, the Town of Westfield currently offers a partial real property tax exemption to senior citizen homeowners whose incomes do not exceed \$14,000, and

WHEREAS, this \$14,000 has not kept pace with the COLA increases in pension and Social Security payments since 2002, and

WHEREAS, as a result several senior citizens homeowners who were once eligible for the exemptions are no longer eligible for this important tax reduction, and

WHEREAS, it is proposed that the income limits be increased to \$16,000 effective as of the next taxable status date (March 1st, 2008) with the income limit to be increased annually by an additional \$1,000 per year in each of the next four (4) years thereafter, and

WHEREAS, a Public Hearing has been held before the Town Board of the Town of Westfield regarding a Resolution increasing the income limits for persons applying for the exemption,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the qualifying income limits for the Senior Citizen Real Property Tax Exemption (467 or the Real Property Tax Law) be increased to \$16,000 effective as of the next taxable status date (March 1st, 2008) with the income limit to be increased annually by an additional \$1,000 per year in each of the next four (4) years thereafter.

This was seconded by Carl Vilardo. Voting was as follows: Martha Bills, aye; James Herbert, aye; David Brown, aye; Carl Vilardo, aye; Raymond Schuster, aye.

David Brown offered the following resolution and moved its adoption:

Resolution No. 10 of 2008
Removal of Equipment from Inventory

WHEREAS, the Bookkeeper has recommended that the following office equipment be junked / removed from various office department inventory considered to be obsolete and due to the security of information on such equipment:

2003 Supervisor - Brother 2900 Fax Machine
2004 Court Computer System w/ Monitor

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board agrees that the above equipment be disposed of as recommended.

This was seconded by Raymond Schuster. Voting was as follows: Martha Bills, aye; James Herbert, aye; David Brown, aye; Carl Vilardo, aye; Raymond Schuster, aye.

Martha Bills offered the following resolution and moved its adoption:

Budget Resolution No. 1 of 2008
Amendment to 2007 Budget

Amendment Description		Increase	Decrease
<u>Highway Funds</u>			
To allow for rising fuel cost:			
Fuel Slips	72.5130.420DA	\$8454.70	
Machinery-Eq	72.5130.200DA		\$8454.70
Fuel Slips	72.5110.420DB	\$5247.90	
Repairs	72.5110.400DB		\$5247.90
<u>A Funds</u>			
To allow for extra cost involving Bookkeeper position & trainer			
Bookkeeper	43.1220.130A	\$5263.00	
Attorney	45.1420.400A		\$5263.00
To cover cost of engineer feasibility reports			
Engineer	45.1440.400A	\$5000.00	
Other Home & Community (Water district reserve)	28.3989.000		\$5000.00
<u>B Funds</u>			
To cover expenses of previous code enforcer services			
Code Enforcer	56.3620.100	\$11003.00	
Planning	96.8020.400		\$10903.00
Contingent Acct	47.1990.400		\$ 100.00

This was seconded by Carl Vilardo. Voting was as follows: Martha Bills, aye; James Herbert, aye; David Brown, aye; Carl Vilardo, aye; Raymond Schuster, aye.

Raymond Schuster was unanimously appointed Deputy Supervisor.

Martha Bills moved and Carl Vilaro seconded a motion that the Supervisor be directed to draw the necessary checks to cover the warrant as audited. Voting was as follows: Martha Bills, aye; Raymond Schuster, aye; David Brown, aye; James Herbert, aye; Carl Vilaro, aye.

At 8:45pm Supervisor Bills moved and David Brown seconded a motion to move to Executive Session to discuss a particular personnel history. Unanimously carried.

At 9:00pm Supervisor Bills moved and Raymond Schuster seconded a motion to return to regular session. Unanimously carried.

The next Town Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, February 6th, 2008 @ 7:30pm.

There being no further business, at 9:05pm. Carl Vilaro moved and David Brown seconded a motion to adjourn. Unanimously carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Timothy C. Smith, Town Clerk