

Wales Town Board
Public Hearing
Tuesday October 8th, 2019 @ 7:00 pm

Public Hearing for Town of Wales Local Law 4-2019

This Local Law would provide to change to a single appointed Assessor as authorized by Section 328 of the New York Real Property Tax Law, and

WHEREAS, General Municipal Law Section 20(A) requires a Public Hearing

The Public Hearing was called to order at 7:00pm at the Wales Community Center, 12345 Big Tree Road, Wales Center, NY.

Present
Supervisor Rickey Venditti
Councilman Gerald Klinck
Councilman Donald Butcher
Councilman Kyle Barry
Councilman Dan Driver

Also Present: Ronald Bennett Town attorney, and David Bender Building Inspector (7) Residents whose names are on file.

Town Clerk, Melinda Eaton read Notice of Public Hearing as Published.

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Supervisor Rickey Venditti stated that Councilman Gerald Klinck initiated this local law. The Town of Eden is the only town and are thinking of changing as well. Starting in 2020, the Assessor's office will have a reduced workload due to the State taking over the S.T.A.R. program. The anticipated cost savings to the town is approximately 35%.

Invitation for Resident's input to the Town Board.

Paul Borden-5465 East Creek Road. Why would the position be appointed instead of elected? Supervisor Rickey Venditti stated they have the option of going either way. I was just given information from David Newman. 913 municipalities have appointed assessors. There are 10 municipalities that have elected assessors. This was the way we chose to implement the change.

Doug Sernoffsky-Centerline Road. I am opposed to this change. Do you plan to go to the 3 man town board? Supervisor Rickey Venditti responded no. Doug continued to say it is not right for 2 people to lose their position when they are not reducing the town board by 2 position. There was a referendum some years ago and it failed. In the future, we will lose representation for our town when it comes time to replace the assessor.

Merle Sly-1104 Big Tree Road. "You have the power to hire and fire them-just the board along." Does anybody else have any input? Supervisor Rickey Venditti stated as far as appointed, yes to your question. The town board will make that decision.

Supervisor Venditti closed the hearing and second by Councilman Gerald Klinck to adjourn the meeting at 7:08pm
Melinda Eaton, Wales Town Clerk

CARRIED

Submitted by