

At 7:00 p.m. Supervisor Johnson called to order a public hearing located at the Town Hall, 18 State Street, Brockport, New York on Tuesday, January 23, 2018. The purpose of the public hearing was to hear all persons for or against the adoption of Local Law 1 of 2018 – Update to Chapter 164 Taxation in the Sweden Town Code – Addition of Gold Star Parent Exemption.

Town Board Members present were Supervisor Kevin G. Johnson, Councilperson Patricia Hayles, Councilperson Robert Muesebeck, Councilperson Mary Rich and Councilperson Lori Skoog. Also present were Finance Director Leisa Strabel, Town Architect David Strabel, Town Attorney Jim Bell, Superintendent of Highways Brian Ingraham and Town Clerk Karen Sweeting.

Visitors present were Joan Hamlin, Christine Hamlin, Susan Smith, Laurence Vaughan, Pat Leonard, Ken and Dorothy Reid, John Zima, Wayne Zyra, Charles and Dottie Scott, Charles Sanford, Deputy Village Mayor Bill Andrews and Village Trustee Annie Crane.

Supervisor Johnson asked Town Clerk Karen Sweeting to read the legal notice published in the Town newspaper. Notice was read.

Mr. Johnson opened the floor for comments.

Resident Laurence Vaughan mentioned that he is an Army Vietnam Veteran and is in favor of the local law. He asked if there were any considerations in the local law for “in the line of duty deaths” for military personnel not during a time of war and also asked for clarification in the case of one parent passing, would the exemption remain with the surviving parent. Supervisor Johnson stated the exemption would remain as long as one parent owned and lived at the property.

Councilperson Skoog asked if the board should consider an amendment based on Mr. Vaughan comments. Supervisor Johnson explained that the provision for the exemption is authorized by state law and the Town cannot deviate from the statutory language.

Councilperson Muesebeck indicated there were two families in the Town of Sweden that would be eligible for the exemption.

Supervisor Johnson stated he is open to exemptions offered in terms of veterans. They have paid every price they could have by serving our country. He would be happy to look into any the board may not be aware of.

No other comments.

Supervisor Johnson closed the public hearing at 7:06 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Karen M. Sweeting
Town Clerk