



Committee on Budget & Appropriations

~AGENDA~

Monday, March 2, 2020

1:01 PM

Committee Chair: Catherine Borgia

Committee Room, 148 Martine Avenue, 8th Floor, White Plains, NY 10601

www.westchesterlegislators.com

CALL TO ORDER

Joint with Legislation.

MINUTES APPROVAL

I. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

Guests:

County Attorney, John Nonna and Chief Deputy Attorney, Stacey Dolgin-Kmetz

Budget Director, Larry Soule

1. **(ID # 12419) Resolution – LEGISLATORS SMITH, BORGIA, CUNZIO, COVILL, BOYKIN, PARKER, A. WILLIAMS, SHIMSKY AND GASHI: PH - Tax exemption for volunteer firefighters and ambulance service members:**

A RESOLUTION to set a Public Hearing on a "LOCAL LAW of the Westchester County Board of Legislators amending Chapter 475 of the Laws of Westchester County by extending the expiration date of tax exemption for volunteer firefighters and volunteer ambulance service members." [Public Hearing set for _____, 2020 at _____ .m.]. LOCAL LAW INTRO 12420 - 2020.

2. **(ID # 12420) Local Law – LEGISLATORS SMITH, BORGIA, CUNZIO, COVILL, BOYKIN, PARKER, A. WILLIAMS, SHIMSKY AND GASHI: Tax exemption for volunteer firefighters and ambulance service members:**

A LOCAL LAW of the Westchester County Board of Legislators amending Chapter 475 of the Laws of Westchester County by extending the expiration date of tax exemption for volunteer firefighters and volunteer ambulance service members.

II. OTHER BUSINESS

Unfinished Business and any other agenda items to come before the Committee.

III. RECEIVE & FILE

ADJOURNMENT

Colin D. Smith
Legislator, 1st District
Chairman, Public Safety



Voice of the People of Westchester County for over 300 years

Committee Assignments:
Legislation
Planning, Economic Development & Energy
Law & Major Contracts

To: Ben Boykin, Chairman of the Board of Legislators
Sunday Vanderberg, Clerk of the Board of Legislators

From: Colin Smith, Legislator, 1st District
Catherine Borgia, 9th District

Date: October 16, 2019

Re: Tax Exemption for Volunteer Firefighters & Ambulance Service Members

Please refer the attached legislation, amending Chapter 475 of the Laws of Westchester County by extending the expiration date of tax exemption for volunteer firefighters and volunteer ambulance service members, to the appropriate committees on the February 24, 2020 Westchester County Board of Legislators agenda.

This local law was enacted in 2008 with a sunset that expired on December 31, 2019. This is a much needed and well deserved tax exemption for those who risk their lives voluntarily to save others.

TO: HONORABLE BOARD OF LEGISLATORS
COUNTY OF WESTCHESTER

The Committee is in receipt of “A LOCAL LAW of the Westchester County Board of Legislators amending Chapter 475 of the Laws of Westchester County by extending the expiration date of tax exemption for volunteer firefighters and volunteer ambulance service members.”

In 2008, by Local Law 16-2008, your Honorable Board enacted Chapter 475 of the Laws of Westchester County, which provides volunteer firefighters and volunteer ambulance service members, who are qualified real property owners, with the tax exemption authorized by Section 466-d of the Real Property Tax Law and to continue this exemption in the case of certain un-remarried spouses of deceased volunteers pursuant to the provisions of Sections 466-f and 466-h of the Real Property Tax Law. The exemptions authorized by this Chapter are subject to all of the qualifications and limitations set forth in Sections 466-d, 466-f and 466-h of the Real Property Tax Law.

Local Law 16-2008, by its own terms, expired on December 31, 2019. However, Section 466-d of the Real Property Tax Law, authorizes the County to provide this exemption as long as the County’s population is between 900,000 to 950,000, as of the last federal decennial census. Given that the County’s population as of the 2010 census was 949,113, the County remains able to provide this exemption, at least until the County’s population is determined in the next decennial census. Therefore, this Local Law would extend the exemption through the end of 2021, as the result of the next decennial census are not expected until sometime in 2021.

Additionally, and as you know, your Honorable Board must comply with the requirements of the State Environmental Quality Review Act (“SEQRA”). The Department of Planning has advised

that this proposed Local Law is not an action under SEQRA regulations (6 NYCRR §617.2(b)). Your Committee concurs in this conclusion.

The Committee, after careful consideration, recommends the adoption of this local law.

Dated: 2020
White Plains, New York

COMMITTEE ON

RESOLUTION NO. - 2020

RESOLVED, that this Board hold a public hearing pursuant to Section 209.141(4) of the Laws of Westchester County on Local Law Intro No. - 2020 entitled A LOCAL LAW of the Westchester County Board of Legislators amending Chapter 475 of the Laws of Westchester County by extending the expiration date of tax exemption for volunteer firefighters and volunteer ambulance service members.” The public hearing will be held at __ .m. on the day of _____, 2020 in the Chambers of the Board of Legislators, 8th Floor, Michaelian Office Building, White Plains, N.Y. The Clerk of the Board shall cause notice of the time and date of such hearing to be published at least once in one or more newspapers published in the County of Westchester and selected by the Clerk of the Board for that purpose in the manner and time required by law.

LOCAL LAW NO. ____ - 2020

A LOCAL LAW of the Westchester County Board of Legislators amending Chapter 475 of the Laws of Westchester County by extending the expiration date of tax exemption for volunteer firefighters and volunteer ambulance service members

Be it enacted by the Board of Legislators of the County of Westchester, as follows:

SECTION 1.

Section 2 of Local Law 16-2008 is hereby amended to read as follows:

This Local Law shall take effect immediately and shall apply to assessment rolls prepared on the basis of taxable status dates occurring on or after such date and shall expire on December 31, 20[19]21 and shall not apply to assessment rolls prepared on the basis of taxable status dates occurring on or after that date.

SECTION 2. Effective date.

This Local Law shall take effect on January 1, 2020.