

**MINUTES OF PUBLIC HEARING ON AN ORDINANCE
EXTENDING THE LOCAL TAX RELIEF PROGRAM FOR
ELDERLY AND DISABLED TAXPAYERS**

OCTOBER 25, 2005 COUNCIL CHAMBERS 646

Acting President Art Spada called the hearing to order at 6:50 p.m.

Present were Councilors Shari Cantor, Barbara Carpenter, Chuck Coursey, David Lemkuil, Maureen Kelly McClay, Art Spada, Carolyn Thornberry and Joseph Verrengia. President Scott Slifka was absent.

President Spada: Mr. Feldman is there anything to report or a presentation?

Mr. Feldman: Mr. Mayor, just for the record as the ordinance describes pursuant to state law the Town Council adopted a tax relief program for certain individual senior individuals who are income eligible and we drafted it back in 2002 with a sunset. This basically removes the sunset provision. It continues the program without the sunset provision that was originally drafted in the 2002 legislation.

President Spada: Any questions from Councilors? Mrs. Carpenter.

Councilor Carpenter: I know in Budget and Finance we explained what the change was in this ordinance, what the change will be for our elderly and disabled taxpayers, the financial change.

Mr. Feldman: Actually Mr. Spada and Mrs. Carpenter what again this would do is that it continues the program as it was originally adopted and then in that adoption there was a sunset provision that terminated the program. What you are doing now is removing that termination allowing the program to continue with the same benefits that have been accruing. I don't know if there is additional...

Councilor Carpenter: I guess I was just looking for a dollar amount.

Mr. Feldman: There is apparently, what is that Joe?

Mr. O'Brien: That is the fiscal impact.

Mr. Feldman: What is the number there?

Mr. O'Brien: One hundred and seventy five thousand (\$175,000) but that has been on going for the last couple of years and is part of our adopted budget anyway. We are at maximum allowable by state law.

President Spada: Mrs. Carpenter anything further?

Councilor Carpenter: Thank you, I'm all set.

President Spada: Any other questions from the Council? Any from the public? I see none. Attorney Alair or Attorney O'Brien any commentary?

Mr. Alair: No.

President Spada: Okay, if there is nothing else we will close this public hearing.

The hearing adjourned at 6:55 p.m.

Norma W. Cronin
Town Clerk/Council Clerk