

**MINUTES OF PUBLIC HEARING ON AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING FEES
FOR THE RELEASE OF DELINQUENT MOTOR VEHICLE TAXES**

OCTOBER 28, 2003

COUNCIL CHAMBERS

958

President Jonathan Harris called the hearing to order at 7:26 p.m.

Present were Councilors Rob Bouvier, Kevin Connors, Carl Donatelli, Jonathan Harris, Maureen Kelly McClay, Scott Slifka, Art Spada, Carolyn Thornberry and Al Turco.

President Harris: Mr. Feldman can you give us a description of this?

Mr. Feldman: Mr. Mayor I believe Mr. Alair is going to briefly describe the ordinance.

Mr. Alair: Good evening. The ordinance under consideration in this hearing is an amendment to our Section 161-1 of the ordinances which currently, the structure of the ordinance is an addition of a subsection c to the ordinance which would allow us in essence to pass on a surcharge, a surcharge which we are currently incurring from the State as a result of the most recent budget adopted by the State. You may be familiar with the fact that a person who is delinquent on their motor vehicle taxes discovers when they next go to register their car that they are unable to do so without paying us the overdue taxes. The State has in essence administering that program for free and in the most recent budget they have passed along a cost which I believe is currently \$2.00 per notice that they receive which means that on a quarterly basis I believe we transmit to them overdue taxes, overdue motor vehicle taxes and the number I think I recall hearing from the Collector of Revenue is approximately \$9,800 a year that we pay to the State under the new provisions to get this information into their system and keep them from registering cars belonging to people who owe us taxes. It is a small investment but an investment which should be made by the person who is delinquent not by the town and therefore the purpose of the ordinance is to pass that cost along in a surcharge to the owner of the property.

President Harris: Thank you Mr. Alair. Any questions for Mr. Alair? Is there a sign up sheet?

Mr. O'Brien: There is but no one has signed up though.

President Harris: Any members of the public present that would like to speak on this proposed ordinance? There being none I will close the public hearing.

The hearing adjourned at 7:28 p.m.

Norma W. Cronin
Town Clerk/Council Clerk