



# The Town of East Greenbush

## TOWN BOARD PUBLIC HEARING

### AGENDA

Wednesday, December 17, 2014

#### Members of Town Board

Present

Absent

Supervisor Langley  
Councilperson Mangold-6:55  
Councilperson Malone  
Councilperson DiMartino  
Councilperson Matters

#### Pledge to the Flag

Call to Order: 6:45 PM

Public Hearing: To adjust Sewer Rates

#### Deputy Town Clerk reads notice

Deputy Town Clerk read the following notice and states that it was posted on the Town Web Site and legal Board, and the media has been notified

The Town Board of the Town of East Greenbush, County of Rensselaer, State of New York, will hold a Public Hearing on the 17<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2014, at 6:45PM in the evening of said day, at the Town Hall, 225 Columbia Turnpike, in said East Greenbush, New York, on a Resolution to adjust sewer rates in the Town of East Greenbush.

**NOTE:** Any member of the public wishing to speak today will be granted the floor for up to five minutes.

The following people spoke against the rate increase:

Hal Betters: He stated that he is not in favor because he is not exactly clear how the Town's finances are at the moment. He had questions regarding the usage fees and the money is distributed. George Phillips, the Town Comptroller, explained how the money is separated into different districts. George and Hal had a lengthy discussion about the sewer rates and the distribution of the funds.

Supervisor Langley explained that the Town Board voted for the upgrades and he feels that the increased fees are justifiable and necessary to pay for the upgrades.

Hal also stated that he is insulted that the Town Board is going to vote for this matter on the same night as the Public Hearing.

Elizabeth Tice stated that she has to pay a lot of money for septic and does not think it is right that she has to pay for sewer also. George Phillips stated that there was a minimal usage fee that

the Town has to charge. She also did not feel the Town Board should be voting on the sewer rates the same day at the meeting.

Pete Stenson stated that he submitted a letter to the Town Board regarding his concerns with the water rates and he thinks that this resolution should be deferred until the CFAC Committee can look at all of the figures and give the Board their opinion. He thinks the Town should wait and put together a 3 yr. plan.

Eileen Grant stated that we need a fiscal plan with goals and objectives, and a plan to pay back the water and sewer funds from the inter-fund borrowing of years past. She stated that the residents' viewpoints are not heard and they are not happy.

Don Johnson also commented on fairness. Not everyone uses sewer and water and he did not feel it was fair that they should have to pay.

Tom Grant- was also against having a meeting to vote on the resolution on the same day as the Public Hearing. He stated that there are a lot of talented and smart residents in East Greenbush. He thought the Town should leave the meeting open and let the residents e-mail their opinions like the Planning Board just did recently.

Dwight Jenkins also stated that he believes the Town should not vote on a resolution on the same night as a meeting

Bonnie Lester spoke out against the increase.

Sean Mulvey asked if the increase has anything to do with inter-fund borrowing from previous Town Boards. George Phillips said yes.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Motion to adjourn by Supervisor Langley seconded by Councilperson DiMartino and brought to a vote as follows:

|                         |       |     |
|-------------------------|-------|-----|
| Supervisor Langley      | VOTED | YES |
| Councilperson DiMartino | VOTED | YES |
| Councilperson Mangold   | VOTED | YES |
| Councilperson Malone    | VOTED | YES |
| Councilperson Matters   | VOTED | YES |

Respectfully Submitted By:  
Kimberly Carlock  
Deputy Town Clerk