

**WALWORTH TOWN BOARD – REGULAR MEETING
1 SEPTEMBER 2011**

Presiding Supervisor Plant called the regularly scheduled Town Board meeting, County of Wayne, State of New York, held at the Walworth Town Hall, 3600 Lorraine Drive, Walworth, NY to order at 7:32 PM with the Pledge to the Flag.

PRESENT:

Robert Plant	Supervisor
Thomas Yale	Councilman
Patricia Marini	Councilwoman
Mike Frederes	Highway Superintendent.

ABSENT:

Frank Maciuska	Councilman
Susie Jacobs	Town Clerk
Suzi Hawkins-Mance	Councilwoman

OTHERS PRESENT: Beth Hart, Deputy Town Clerk; Ed Parrone, Engineer for the Town; Mary Zingerella, Library Director and 2 attendees.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

Susie Jacobs, Town Clerk and a resident read the following:

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SUSIE C. JACOBS, CMC/RMC

**PROPOSAL TO ABOLISH THE RECEIVER OF TAXES AND ASSESSMENTS AND
TRANSFER THE DUTIES TO THE WALWORTH TOWN CLERK**

COPY TO BE PART OF THE TOWN RECORDS

Pursuant to Section 23 of the Municipal Home Rule Law of the State of New York, the Town of Walworth, I am asking you to consider my proposal to abolish the Receiver of Taxes and Assessments and transfer the duties to the Walworth Town Clerk.

Transferring these duties to the Town Clerk will result in a savings without remuneration and no additional staff hours.

This proposal comes as the Town is addressing the 2012 budget, when the state has mandated even a greater tax load to the municipalities; causing the Chief Fiscal Officers and Department Heads to look closely at their estimated proposed budgets.

Transferring the Duties of the Receiver of Taxes and Assessments to the Walworth Town Clerk would give residents the convenience of payment during the Town Clerk's Office business hours of five days a week from 9 AM to 5 PM, there would be no need to leave payments in a drop box. Additionally the Town Clerk would be available all year for assistance with tax questions/issues. This would also result, according to the 2011 Adopted Budget, in a savings to taxpayers of \$9,349.00 (Receiver of Taxes and Deputy Collector's salaries, this figure does not take into account the personnel benefits) and approximately an additional savings of \$500.00 (mileage, equipment and office expenses) for a total savings at a minimum to taxpayers of \$9,849.00. This decision would have a far greater impact on the Town budget dilemma than cutting \$120.00 for cemetery Veterans flags.

During my two (2) terms as Receiver of Taxes and Assessments Town funds were invested, as permitted by Law, bringing additional yearly revenue to the Town of Walworth. Should this proposal be accepted, the convenience and savings to the residents and the Town of Walworth would be highly significant.

Additional data: There are only three Towns in Wayne County with a Receiver of Taxes and Assessments the Town of Walworth being one. This indicates that the majority of taxes are collected in the Offices of the Town Clerk.

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PROPOSAL TO ABOLISH THE RECEIVER...

With seven years of experience as the Town of Walworth Receiver of Taxes and Assessments, I have a great deal of knowledge and understanding of the responsibilities to the Town, County and its residents.

Municipal Home Rule states that a Local Law must be introduced as well as a public hearing held. The Local Law is subject to a mandatory referendum of the qualified voters of the Town of Walworth.

In 1994 a similar proposal was introduced, held public hearing and adopted (Local Law No. 1 of 1994 – Abolish of the Elected Office of Receiver of Taxes and Assessments and establish the Appointive Office of Receiver of Taxes and Assessments). This Local Law was offered and approved by two (2) Town Board members currently on this board.

In order to benefit the residents and Town, I hereby am asking that you consider this proposal and propose a Local Law which would abolish the position of Receiver of Taxes and Assessments and transfer the duties to the Walworth Town Clerk subject to a mandatory referendum before the electors on November 8, 2011.

The Town has until September 7th to complete the steps required placing this on the November ballot, which is ample time.

Thank you.

Susie C. Jacobs, CMC/RMC

Walworth Town Clerk

COMMENT: Councilman Yale would like it noted that he found this presentation to be inappropriate and unprofessional use of the forum by an elected official of this town. Thank you.

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EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Motion by Councilwoman Marini to enter into executive session to discuss personnel and a potential litigation.
Seconded by Councilman Yale.

Adopted: Vote Ayes 2 Nays 0
Time: 7:37 PM.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion by Councilwoman Marini to adjourn.
Seconded by Councilman Yale and unanimously carried.
Time: 8:24 PM.

Minutes transcribed in my absence by Beth Hart, Deputy Town Clerk.

Respectfully Submitted,

Susie C. Jacobs, CMC/RMC
Town Clerk

Beth Hart
Deputy Town Clerk