

Supervisor David P. Kelly opened a Special Meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Pawling at 7:00 PM December 27, 2017 at Pawling Town Hall, 160 Charles Colman Blvd., Pawling, New York. Present were Councilmen Upham, Johnson and approximately 17 interested citizens. Councilman DeRosa was absent.

MINUTES

Supervisor Kelly made a motion to approve the minutes of November 1, 2017, November 8, 2017, December 6, 2017 and December 13, 2017, seconded by Councilman Upham, motion passed unanimously.

DISCUSSION – 2018 PROPERTY TAX PAYMENT

Supervisor Kelly made a motion to have the Tax Collector carry out Executive Order number 172 of the Governor of the State of New York, seconded by Councilman Johnson.

Councilman Johnson said people should understand that this means they can come and pay their taxes while the Town Hall is open. He believed the Tax Collector intends to be here tomorrow from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM so people can get a stamped receipt. However, there is the box to accept taxes and the Town Hall is open Friday from 8:30 AM to 4:00 PM. This also allows for postmarked payments by December 31st at 11:59 PM. If something happens and there is a mistake at the Post Office, well you will want to watch the Post Office postmark your document. He spoke with an accountant today and you have to be careful if you are subject to the AMT or any other rules, so before you send in money, make sure you will qualify and will benefit from what you are doing. That is his advice.

Supervisor Kelly said regarding escrow payments through the bank, people will have to deal with their banking institution. If your payment is put in the Post Office on Sunday, it will not get stamped so there could be rejections. People need to either get to Town Hall tomorrow or make sure the payment is hand stamped at the Post Office.

Councilman Johnson said people are still not 100% guaranteed that the Federal Government will allow people to take the extra deduction. If it can help anyone, he is happy to vote in favor of this.

Supervisor Kelly said the Governor passed this last week and the amount of time, with the holidays, the Board had to act on this was not a lot of time. The Board is trying to get this out to everyone. This is a service the Board is trying to provide to the constituents under the short term fallout of the Federal Government passing this tax bill. The Tax Collector will do the best she can to work with people to deal with this issue. The tax rolls have been put on the Town's website today so people can see what their bill is. The payments accepted will be full payments only, not partial payments. The Town does not handle school taxes. The Board has made the best effort they could to get this out, using the Town's website and social media.

Councilman Johnson thanked Supervisor Kelly and Councilman Upham, as outgoing officials, for coming in to take this action tonight. He appreciated their true love and concern for this community.

All were in favor of the motion and it passed unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Indira Penson, 13 Sunset Ave., asked what AMT stood for.

Councilman Johnson said it stands for Alternative Minimum Tax.

Drew Montgomery, 13 Quaker Hill Road, said just to be clear, taxes will be accepted that are post marked and the Tax Collector is coming in tomorrow between 10:00 AM and 2:00 PM.

Supervisor Kelly said the Executive Order clearly states, "And until receipt for the purposes of payments made by mail that are postmarked on or before December 31, 2017". The Board is asking her to comply with Executive Order 172. The Tax Collector has told people that she will not accept payment by mail but Executive Order 172 says she has to and the Board is directing her to carry out Executive Order 172.

Councilman Johnson asked Mr. Montgomery if would ask some folks that have control over a group that was sending out misinformation today to get that corrected for people.

Mr. Montgomery said he would make sure that would be corrected.

The motion to adjourn was made by Supervisor Kelly at 7:10 PM, seconded by Councilman Johnson, motion passed unanimously.