

Public Hearing September 30, 2009

In attendance: Rudy Marconi, Barbara Manners

Absent: Di Masters, Andy Bodner, Joan Plock

Rudy Marconi, First Selectman, called the public hearing to order at 6:30 p.m.

He stated that both items on the agenda require public hearings. The first is to change the language in the Tax Deferment for the Elderly Ordinance, and the second is accepting the North Street Water Main Extension ARRA Bonding Resolution. The bonding resolution involves receiving federal stimulus money for the project. The total project cost is about 1.5 million, and the Town expects to receive at least \$700,000, and maybe \$800,000 from the stimulus money for the project.

Item #1, Tax Deferment for the Elderly (Section 13 ½-20) (4)

Chris Robertson, 81 Hobby Dr., Chairman of the Commission on Aging, stated that everyone was in agreement with the proposed changes, and that it was needed for a long time.

Rudy Marconi stated that the purpose of the change was to extend the time a family has to pay in the event of the death of a loved one, because now the ordinance is silent on the time limitation. Technically, a family could be forced to start paying a large interest rate immediately after the death. It gives the family an opportunity to come with the money to pay the taxes without incurring a high interest rate, which is now 4%, or whatever the Board of Finance approves each year.

Item #2, North St. Water Main Extension ARRA Bonding Resolution

Rudy Marconi explained that currently the water line ends at Stonecrest Rd. and Wooster St.. The Town wants to extend the water line down to the Barlow Mt./Scotland School site. The reason for this is that some years ago, new wells were drilled for the schools, but when they were brought on line and final tested, it was discovered there were high chloride levels. Three alternatives were considered to solve the problem: dig new wells, use reverse osmosis, or extend the water line through Aquarion Water Services. The Board of Selectmen went back and forth considering the options, but after the ARRA stimulus package came out, the Town found out they could qualify for a substantial amount of the cost of extending the water line. The Board of Finance and the Board of Selectmen have both approved the project.

There was no public comment.

The public hearing closed at 6:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Serfilippi, Town Clerk

