VILLAGE OF HASTINGS-ON-HUDSON, NEW YORK BOARD OF TRUSTEES PUBLIC HEARING NO. 1 OCTOBER 6, 2009

A Public Hearing was held by the Board of Trustees on Tuesday, October 6, 2009 at 7:38 p.m. in the Meeting Room, Municipal Building, 7 Maple Avenue.

PRESENT: Mayor Peter Swiderski, Trustee Bruce Jennings, Trustee Jeremiah Quinlan,

Trustee Meg Walker, Trustee Nicola Armacost, Village Manager Francis A. Frobel, Village Attorney Marianne Stecich, and Administrative Assistant

Kevin Hay.

CITIZENS: Eight (8).

Mayor Swiderski declared the Board in session for the purpose of conducting a Public Hearing in accordance with the legal notice that appeared in the October 2, 2009 issue of *The Rivertowns Enterprise* to consider the advisability of adopting Proposed Local Law No. 3 of 2009, amending the Code of the Village of Hastings-on-Hudson, Westchester County, New York, Chapter 260-17 Senior Citizen Exemption Extent of Exemption, to allow changes to the sliding income scale to be made by resolution rather than local law, as follows:

Section 1: Section 260-17 of the Code of the Village of Hastings-on-Hudson is hereby amended by deleting the entire existing language and replacing with the following new language:

§ 260-17. Extent of exemption.

The amount of the exemption shall be determined from time to time by resolution of the Board of Trustees in accordance with § 467 of the New York State Real Property Tax Law.

Section 2: All ordinances, local laws, and parts thereof inconsistent with this local law are hereby repealed.

Village Manager Frobel: As indicated in the amendment to the law, periodically the State of New York, under the Real Property Tax Law, allows communities to adjust their limits for tax relief for residents over 65 years of age, meeting certain income guidelines. Hastings has traditionally done that through amending the local law. This recommendation is that all future adjustments be done by resolution. It will make it a little easier for us, and we feel it will streamline the operation somewhat.

Mayor Swiderski: Any comments from the public?

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John Gonder, 153 James Street: I have a question. When you say "by resolution," therefore you do not have an open hearing. Is that correct?

Village Manager Frobel: All items are subject to public comment. So there would also be comment by the public, but it would not require a formal public hearing. Correct.

Mr. Gonder: I would rather see an open hearing. Thank you.

Hearing no further comments, Mayor Swiderski asked for a motion to close the Public Hearing.

CLOSE OF PUBLIC HEARING

On MOTION of Trustee Walker, SECONDED by Trustee Armacost with a voice vote of all in favor, Mayor Swiderski closed the Public Hearing at 7:44 p.m.