

PUBLIC HEARING

MAY 9, 2011

The Village of Liberty Board of Trustees held the Public Hearing of May 9, 2011 at the Village Municipal Building, 167 North Main Street, Liberty, New York. Deputy Mayor McGuire opened the meeting at 6:55 p.m.

PRESENT: Trustee Luis Alvarez, Trustee Corinne McGuire, Trustee Shirley Lindsley, and Trustee Joan Stoddard. Also Present: Langdon Chapman, Attorney for the Village and Judy Zurawski, Clerk/Treasurer.

ABSENT: Mayor Richard Winters

ALSO PRESENT: William Cogswell, Rebecca P. OaCosta (OC Taxi) Larry Goldberg (Country Taxi), Alan Kesten (Yellow Cab), Ed Philpot (Our Way Car Service), David Spitzer (MediCar), Jennifer Adamec, Wayne Lutrell (Sureway Taxi), Gary Putter (Sureway Taxi), Joseph Kadin (Sureway Taxi), Frank Hinton (Sureway Taxi), Richard Crawley (Medicar) Charles Barbuti Jr., Steven D'Agata Andrea M. Putter (Cab Quest), and Christos Kyrakovsis (Cab Quest).

AFFIDAVIT OF PUBLICATION: Mayor Winters recognized the following Affidavit of Publication:

VILLAGE OF LIBERTY RESIDENTS REPLEASE TAKE NOTICE that a Public Hearing will be held by The Village Board of the Village of Liberty on Monday, May 9, 2011 at 6:50 p.m. to consider Local Law #3-2011 to amend Chapter 75 of the Code of the Village of Liberty which pertains to Taxicabs and the possibility of adding Intercommunity Medical Taxicab Permits.

Said Public Hearing will take place at the Village Municipal Building located at 167 North Main Street, Liberty, New York, at which time all interested parties will be heard. A full copy of the text of said proposed local law is available for inspection and copying at the Village Clerk's Office, 167 North Main Street, Liberty, New York during regular business hours.

This local law shall take effect immediately upon the filing with the NY Secretary of State. All interested persons will be given an opportunity to speak as time permits.

PUBLIC INPUT: Deputy Mayor/Trustee McGuire opened the hearing to comments from the public.

Alan Kesten (Yellow Cab) explained that he has no interest in operating in the Village, however he did read the law and found it to be very vague.

Deputy Mayor McGuire explained that the purpose of the law was to issue exclusive Medicaid medallions and have taxicab owners turn in regular medallions to obtain these medallions.

Alan Kesten said he wanted to be in full compliance as he does pickup and drop off Medicaid within Village limits.

Rebecca P. OaCosta (OC Taxi) said she pick upped her son at the Lincoln Motel, which was not a paid fare, however the Village Police arrested the driver of her cab. She said she is just trying to make a living and Medicaid and Workforce Development Fares are a big part of hers.

Alan Kesten (Yellow Cab) said that in the Village of Monticello (which he operates out of) every medallion must be operational during July. He said these Medicaid fares have been a windfall for all taxicab owners.

Gary Putter (Sureway Cab) said he did not see the need for more taxi's on the streets of Liberty. He explained that recently the Village raised there amount of medallions from twenty (20) to thirty (30).

Deputy Mayor McGuire said that when there were twenty medallions, Sureway Taxi owned seventeen of them and that there was other businesses that want to become established. She stated competition always raises the bar.

Gary Putter said it is the first available car that gets the business.

The Board asked Mr. Putter to submit his concerns in writing.

David Spitzer (Medicar) agreed with Mr. Putter and said he did not think more medallions would be a good idea. He said he operates fifteen cars, all of which are Medicaid.

Alan Kesten (Yellow Cab) said Medicaid Management is a countywide service and he was not sure if the Village could regulate it.

Deputy Mayor McGuire said they would take everyone's comments under advisement and that no further action would be taken until the whole matter can be reviewed.

ADJOURN: Motion by Trustee Stoddard, seconded by Trustee Lindsey and unanimously carried to close the Public Hearing at 7:40 P.M.

THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED AT 7:40 P.M.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

JUDY H. ZURAWSKI, CLERK/TREASURER