

**TOWN OF WINDSOR
TOWN COUNCIL
HYBRID MEETING
April 4, 2022
PUBLIC HEARING**

APPROVED MINUTES

1) CALL TO ORDER

The Public Hearing was called to order at 7:03 p.m. by Mayor Trinks.

Present: Mayor Donald Trinks, Deputy Mayor Lisa Rampulla Bress, Councilor Nuchette Black-Burke, Councilor James Dobler, Councilor Ronald Eleveld, Councilor Kristin Gluck Hoffman, Councilor Kenneth Smith, Councilor Jody Terranova, and Councilor Len Walker

Mayor Trinks read aloud the notice of the public hearing to hear public comment on:

“FY 2022 – FY 2023 BUDGET AS PROPOSED BY THE TOWN MANAGER.”

2) PUBLIC COMMENT

Allen Bellefleur, 427 Tributary Lane, the Treasurer of the Executive Board of River Town Village stated that he has concerns about the disparities and services provided by the town. River Town Village is a community of 58 homes that collectively pay \$366,846 in taxes to the town and only receive fire and police protection. This is the third time someone from River Town Village has spoken before the Town Council concerning taxes in 55 plus communities. After speaking at the first hearing on February 7, 2022, we delivered information to each Town Council member and the Town Manager on a certain number that would be a fair reimbursement to River Town Village for services that are not received from the town. Mr. Bellefleur said that he has been to every town meeting since then and the River Town Village has been approached by two council members with questions. One council member has contacted him a few times and he would like to thank them for their time and interest the Councilors have shown. Mr. Bellefleur stated that the second council member basically told them they are wasting their time. The other seven members of the Town Council seem to have ignored them. River Town Village is one of eight 55 plus communities in town with a total of 326 homes and a tax bill of over \$1,800,000. Mr. Bellefleur stated that all 326 homes were mailed the information of what the 55 plus communities wants to accomplish and asked for help and support. Mr. Bellefleur said that some of the other towns have been successful in coming up with a plan for 55 plus communities. The United States Census in 2020 stated that the largest age group that voted was 65 plus with a turnout of over 74%. Mr. Bellefleur said that River Town Village is not going away and will continue to fight for what is fair for all citizens of Windsor.

Marilyn Adamo, 453 Tributary Lane, the President of the River Town Village Homeowners Association, has worked for a municipality for 28 years. Ms. Adamo stated that she has never seen a Council like this. Ms. Adamo said that documents were compiled and sent through the Town Manager's office. River Town Village has only heard from two council members. One Councilor has asked for additional information. Ms. Adamo asked what a citizen has to do to get a response from the rest of the Town Council. The town offers tax incentives to big businesses for five to ten year periods, but doesn't offer anything to the over 55 communities. Ms. Adamo stated that the Fair Housing Amendment takes up a portion of the agenda tonight. Ms. Adamo asked how about fair taxation for all residents. If the Town Council was truly interested in the thoughts of residents regarding the town budget, a town meeting would be in order.

Kathleen Tracy, 4 On the Green, stated that the budget is going up 2% and we have a very huge reserve. Ms. Tracy asked why at a time like this we are burdening the people with 2% instead of using the reserve.

3) ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Trinks declared the Public Hearing closed at 7:12 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lisa Ozaki
Recording Secretary