

**MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC HEARING OF
THE TOWN BOARD OF THE TOWN OF NEW LEBANON
ON PROPOSED LOCAL LAW #2 OF 2022
HELD ON JUNE 14, 2022**

Present: Britt Buckenroth, Councilmember
Deborah Gordon, Councilmember
John Trainor, Councilmember
Marianna Anthonisen, Councilmember

Absent: Tistrya Houghtling, Supervisor

Recording Secretary: Marsha (Marcie) Robertson, Town Clerk

Others Present: Jeffrey Winestock, Highway Superintendent
Tony Murad, ZBA Chair & ZRC Member
Sharon Powers, IT Website Support & BEDC Member
Ed Godfroy, LVPA
Mary Young, NL Rep to CC Office for the Aging & Traffic Safety

CALL TO ORDER:

The Public Hearing was called to order at 6:50 pm by Councilmember Buckenroth. The meeting was held in person at the New Lebanon Town Hall, 14755 State Route 22 North, New Lebanon, NY 12125 with members of the public also being able to view the meeting at the following link: https://townhallstreams.com/towns/new_lebanon_ny

A motion was made by Councilmember Anthonisen, seconded by Councilmember Gordon and approved unanimously with the exception of Supervisor Houghtling who is absent to have Councilmember Buckenroth run the Public Hearing in Supervisor Houghtling's absence.

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE:

Town Clerk Robertson read the following public hearing notice aloud:

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
INTRODUCTORY LOCAL LAW NO. 2 of 2022
TOWN OF NEW LEBANON
COUNTY OF COLUMBIA**

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that a public hearing will be held by the Town Board of the Town of New Lebanon on June 14th, 2022 at 6:50 p.m. at 14755 Route 22 North, New Lebanon, New York, 12125 regarding the adoption of Introductory Local Law No. 2 of the Town of New Lebanon for the year 2022.

Introductory Local Law No. 2 of the Town of New Lebanon for the year 2022 would amend Chapter 81 of the Code of the Town of New Lebanon to adopt a local energy code.

Copies of said proposed Local Law are available for review at the Office of the Town Clerk of the Town of New Lebanon, 14755 Route 22 North, New Lebanon, New York, 12125 and the proposed local law can be viewed on the town website at www.townofnewlebanon.com.

Participation by the public will be in person at the New Lebanon Town Hall. Those not attending in person who wish to comment on the proposed local law can email in advance of the meeting to supervisor@townofnewlebanon.com and all comments will be read at the public hearing and entered into the record.

Marcie Robertson, Town of New Lebanon Town Clerk
5/16/2022

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Councilmember Buckenroth opened the floor to public comment and asked if there was anyone that wished to speak regarding Introductory Local Law #2 of 2022 or has any comments that they would like to put on the record.

Tony Murad: Spoke in opposition of the Stretch Code, he stated that they have used them in Massachusetts for years. He stated that he is sure that the people who are writing these energy codes think that they are doing the right thing. He stated that he has been in the building business for fifty-five years and they have made great strides in his industry, they don't need the government to tell them how to do it. He suspects that many of the people writing these laws are not out in the street realizing what it takes to build a house, more importantly, what it costs a family to get into a house. He gave an example of a new house costing \$200,000 to build and if they do the Stretch Energy Code, he stated that the requirements to meet the energy code of that \$200,000 house will be about \$20,000. He then commented that the payback in energy savings will take twenty years or more to get the money back for these so-called energy improvements. He stated that well-to-do people don't care so much but working people that have to spend an additional \$20,000 in energy improvements will be getting \$20,000 less in value on the house that they are building, generally translating to less square footage. Most people cannot afford to spend the extra money required by these energy laws and that is why he is opposed to this law and he hopes that the Town Board takes this into consideration. He stated that the fact that the town is taking money to pass this law is like a bribe, the state is begging and paying the town to take this law. He stated that if it was so good, why don't they just mandate it.

Councilmember Buckenroth stated that she did not receive any emails in favor of or opposed to Introductory Local Law #2 of 2022.

CLOSING OF PUBLIC HEARING:

All persons desiring to be heard and having been heard, a motion was made by Councilmember Buckenroth to close the Public Hearing and adjourn at 6:56pm. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Gordon.

Roll Call Vote:

Councilmember Buckenroth-	Aye
Councilmember Gordon-	Aye
Supervisor Houghtling-	Absent
Councilmember Trainor-	Aye
Councilmember Anthonisen-	Aye

Respectfully submitted,

Marcie Robertson
New Lebanon Town Clerk

Draft