

## RESOLUTIONS

June 14, 2017

### RESOLUTION # 2017 PUBLIC HEARING ON 2% TAX OVERRIDE LAW

**WHEREAS**, New York State has instituted a law that local municipalities should not adopt a budget increasing property taxes more than 2% and

**WHEREAS**, the cost of employees benefits is increasing, the Highway building needs revovation and the Highway Superintendent has concerns about equipment, culvert and bridge replacement, cold storage and salt storage facilities and

**WHEREAS**, it is unknown at this time what our 2018 budget will look like, therefore be it

**RESOLVED** that a local law be passed allowing there to be more than a 2% increase in local property taxes and that a public hearing on the matter be scheduled for Wednesday, July 12, 2017 at 6:30 PM for the purpose of the public to comment on the following draft Local Law # -2017 for the purpose of being acted upon by the Enfield Town Board. The Town Clerk is directed to do the mandatory public notices as required in MHRL§20.

### TOWN OF ENFIELD

#### LOCAL LAW #\_\_ FOR THE YEAR 2017

#### A LOCAL LAW TO OVERRIDE THE TAX LEVY LIMIT ESTABLISHED IN GENERAL MUNICIPAL LAW §3-C

Be it enacted by the Town Board of the Town of Enfield as follows:

**Section 1. Legislative Intent:** It is the intent of this local law to override the limit on the amount of real property taxes that may be levied by the Town of Enfield pursuant to General Municipal Law §3-c, and to allow the Town of Enfield to adopt a budget for the fiscal year beginning January 1, 2018 and ending December 31, 2018 that requires a real property tax levy in excess of the “tax levy limit” as defined by General Municipal Law §3-c.

**Section 2. Authority:** This local law is adopted pursuant to subdivision 5 of General Municipal Law §3-c, which expressly authorizes the Town Board to override the tax levy limit by the adoption of a local law approved by vote of at least sixty percent (60%) of the town board.

**Section 3. Tax Levy Limit Override:** The Town Board of the Town of Enfield, County of Tompkins is hereby authorized to adopt a budget for the fiscal year 2018 that requires a real property tax levy in excess of the amount otherwise prescribed in General Municipal Law §3-c.

**Section 4. Severability:** If any clause, sentence, paragraph, subdivision, or part of this Local Law or the application thereof to any person, firm or corporation, or circumstance, shall be adjusted

by any court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid or unconstitutional, such order or judgment shall not affect, impair, or invalidate the remainder thereof, but shall be confined in its operation to the clause, sentence, paragraph, subdivision, or part of this Local Law or in its application to the person, individual, firm or corporation or circumstance, directly involved in the controversy in which such judgment or order shall be rendered.

**Section 5. Effective date:** This local law shall take effect immediately upon filing with the Secretary of State.

**Resolution #      2017**

**SUPPORT OF THE LIVING WAGE AS THE MINIMUM WAGE IN TOMPKINS COUNTY**

WHEREAS, it is one of our most cherished values that there is dignity in work; and

WHEREAS, raising incomes is critical to providing economic mobility and opportunity for working families; and

WHEREAS, the growth in income inequality in recent years has created divisions within our society and community; and

WHEREAS, Tompkins County is becoming increasingly divided, with a portion of the population thriving while many more face low wages, growing inequality, erosion of middle-class jobs, staggering housing costs, and the low-wage service economy; and

WHEREAS, the Alternatives Federal Credit Union has conducted a Living Wage study every other year since 1994 to establish the cost for a single person working full-time to live in Tompkins County, and the subsequent wage necessary to meet this cost; and

WHEREAS, the Tompkins County Workers Center, which certifies local living-wage employers, lists currently more than 100 Living Wage entities across the county, a list that includes the Town of Enfield and five other municipalities, encompasses more than 90 employers with workforces less than 50 employees, and represents over 2,800 workers making, at least, a Living Wage; and

WHEREAS, failure to pay workers a living wage is a major problem within the Town of Enfield, highlighted by the fact that 73% of students at Enfield Elementary qualify for free or reduced lunch, representing the highest rate of any school in the County; and

WHEREAS, a full-time minimum wage worker in New York State earns \$20,176 at the current minimum wage of \$9.70/hour, an income significantly below the current living wage in Tompkins County of \$29,827; and

WHEREAS, a higher minimum wage across Tompkins County can increase spending on locally produced goods and services by workers benefiting from such increased wages, which, in turn produces greater demand and helps stimulate the local economy; and

WHEREAS, a living wage can reduce the cost burden of social services in the Town of Enfield and

Tompkins County; and

WHEREAS, our community has a proud tradition of advocating for worker rights and promoting economic justice; and

WHEREAS, we as a community can no longer accept wages that leave hardworking people unable to support themselves nor their families; now, therefore be it

**RESOLVED**, that the Town of Enfield requests that the Tompkins County Legislature pass a local minimum wage law establishing the Tompkins County Living Wage, as determined by Alternatives Federal Credit Union, (currently \$14.34/hour) as the minimum wage; phasing this new minimum wage in over a four year period; and indexing it to changes in the Tompkins County Living Wage thereafter; and, be it further

**RESOLVED**, that the Town of Enfield supports Tompkins County further passing a home-rule request to New York State seeking the authority to implement such a local minimum wage; and, be it further

**RESOLVED**, that the Town of Enfield calls on the New York State Legislature to pass promptly said home-rule request; and, be it further

**RESOLVED**, that the Town Clerk forward a certified copy of this resolution to the Tompkins County Legislature, the Tompkins County Council of Governments, New York State Assemblywoman Barbara Lifton, New York State Senator Thomas O'Mara, and New York Governor Andrew Cuomo.