

Seniors & Youth BOL Meeting Minutes - Final



Committee Chair: José Alvarado

800 Michaelian Office Bldg.
148 Martine Avenue, 8th Floor
White Plains, NY 10601
www.westchesterlegislators.com

Wednesday, September 7, 2022

10:00 AM

Committee Room

CALL TO ORDER

Meeting jointly with the Committee on Budget & Appropriations

*This meeting will be held pursuant to Chapter 1 of the New York State Laws of 2022 and Executive Order 11, as extended, which authorize any public body to meet and take such action authorized by law without permitting in public-in-person access to meetings and authorize such meetings to be held remotely by conference call or similar service, provided that the public has the ability to view or listen to such proceeding and that such meetings are recorded and later transcribed. To access the meeting, please visit:
<https://westchestercountyny.legistar.com>*

With a quorum present, Chair Alvarado called the meeting to order at 12:20 PM.

Others in Attendance: BOL: Legislator Gashi, Legislator Pierce, Legislator Maher, Legislator Colin, Beth LoBello, Jill Axelrod, Marcello Figueroa, Shatika Parker, Anad Singh BOL Remote: Legislator Shimsky, Legislator Nolan, Legislator Parker Guests: Budget Dept: Larry Soule, Mark Medwid Law Dept: Shawna Macleod

Present: Committee Chair Alvarado, Legislator Barr and Legislator Williams Johnson

Remote: Committee Vice-Chair Tubiolo and Borgia

MINUTES APPROVAL

July 11, 2022 at 10 AM Minutes

On motion of Legislator Barr, seconded by Legislator Williams Johnson, the above item was approved. The motion carried unanimously.

I. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

[RES-2022-157](#) PH - The Senior Citizens and Persons with Disabilities Home Owner's Tax Exemption

A Public Hearing on A LOCAL LAW amending Chapters 470 and 472 of the Laws of Westchester County to allow senior citizens and persons with disabilities to reduce their income by the amount of unreimbursed medical and prescription drug expenses in order to qualify for tax exemptions and to increase the maximum eligible income. [Public Hearing set for October 3, 2022 at 7:30 p.m.]. LOCAL LAW INTRO: 2022-459.

SUBMITTED BY: COMMITTEES ON BUDGET & APPROPRIATIONS AND SENIORS & YOUTH

Guest: Budget Dept.: Larry Soule, Budget Director

Ms. Macleod explained that this is an amendment to existing sections of the Laws of Westchester County. The Laws of Westchester County provide for real property tax exemptions for seniors and persons with disabilities. In order to get this exemption there is a certain threshold of income that individuals need to meet. This was done under the laws of Westchester County. These exemptions were granted in the New York State Real Property Tax Law. On August 8, 2022, New York State amended the threshold that you need to have in order to receive the exemption. This has not been updated in a period of 12 to 13 years. The State of New York has increased the maximum eligible income to \$50,000.00. The maximum amount for the full exemption, and that a reduced exemption is permitted on a sliding income scale up to a maximum income of \$58,399.99.

Ms. Macleod stated that Westchester County is entitled to exclude certain monies from the income calculation. Pursuant to State Law, the County can exclude unreimbursed medical and prescription drug expenses incurred by applicants from their calculated income.

Legislator Alvarado asked, how are we paying for this? Mr. Soule replied that it has no fiscal impact on the County budget because we submit our tax warrants to the municipalities who collect our taxes on our behalf and they pay one hundred percent.

On motion of Legislator Barr, seconded by Legislator Williams Johnson, the above item was approved as amended. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: Committee Chair Alvarado, Legislator Barr, Committee Vice-Chair Tubiolo, Legislator Williams Johnson and Borgia

[LL-2022-17](#) **LL - The Senior Citizens and Persons with Disabilities Home Owner's Tax Exemption**

A LOCAL LAW amending Chapters 470 and 472 of the Laws of Westchester County to allow senior citizens and persons with disabilities to reduce their income by the amount of unreimbursed medical and prescription drug expenses in order to qualify for tax exemptions and to increase the maximum eligible income.

SUBMITTED BY: COMMITTEES ON BUDGET & APPROPRIATIONS AND SENIORS & YOUTH

Guest: Budget Dept.: Larry Soule, Budget Director

Refer to #1 Item.

On motion of Legislator Barr, seconded by Legislator Williams Johnson, the above item was approved as amended. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: Committee Chair Alvarado, Legislator Barr, Committee Vice-Chair Tubiolo, Legislator Williams Johnson and Borgia

II. OTHER BUSINESS

III. RECEIVE & FILE

ADJOURNMENT

On motion of Legislator Williams Johnson, seconded by Legislator Barr, the above item was adjourned at 12:48 PM. The motion carried unanimously.