

PUBLIC HEARING
2016 LOCAL LAW #2
CHAPTER 140 TOW TRUCKS
OCTOBER 24, 2016
MINUTES OF MEETING

Present: Supervisor Lanzetta
Councilman Molinelli
Councilman Corcoran
Councilman Baker

Danielle Cherubini, Deputy Town Clerk

Absent: Councilman Koenig

Supervisor Lanzetta opened up the public hearing for comment.

Steve Adamschick, Amodeo Brothers Sunoco, stated that Amodeo's has been in the tow business since 1947 and he has been towing for over 44 years. He stated that in the past, tow companies have been asked for input before any new tow law was put in place and he asked the Town Board to table this law until they can meet with each towing company to get input on the proposed law. Mr. Adamschick referred to the proposed tow law and brought up the following concern; what the fees would be that the Town Board will be establishing for tows.

Supervisor Lanzetta stated that the fees would not be voted on until the reorganization meeting and Chief Cocozza handed out the proposed fees to tow company owners/representatives that were in attendance.

Mr. Adamschick stated that New Paltz and Lloyd do not have permit fees and he doesn't think Marlborough should have them. He also had a brief discussion with Chief Cocozza regarding some of the general procedure in the proposed law for accepting and declining tows and seeking assistance from other permittees on the tow list. He gave his opinion on what is stated in the proposed law regarding accepted forms of payment for a tow and also penalties (fines) for violating the tow law. Mr. Adamschick urged the Board again to consider meeting with all tow companies before enacting this law.

Supervisor Lanzetta stated that they will listen to all the tow companies and also talk to the Police Department liaisons, Councilman Molinelli and Councilman Baker, and the Chief of Police.

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Al Votta, AKV Transport, stated his concerns regarding the proposed law and the hours it states that a company should be available to release vehicles. There was a brief discussion about what would be the suggested amount of time to release a car.

Gary Mankes, Mankes and Sons, also stated his concern regarding the hours stated in the proposed law for releasing vehicles.

Al LaMarca, Absolutely Automotive, stated that there should be set fees for releasing vehicles. He has other shops in two other towns' one being New Paltz who has set fees that are posted in the Police Department and at the particular tow company which makes it a smooth transaction for all involved and prevents price gouging. He explained the hours that his business would release a vehicle. He also stated his opinion regarding what type of payment should be accepted. Mr. LaMarca suggested that the Board look at an easier way a tow company can obtain an impound release form possibly without having to put a lien on a car due to the fact that in certain situations it often ends up costing the tow company money to get rid of a car.

There was a brief discussion regarding the section in the proposed law that states what forms of payment are accepted by a tow company.

James Garofalo questioned how many companies are called for a three car accident. Chief Cocozza explained how that would work. He also stated that in the proposed law it states a tow truck should have a broom; he suggested they have a shovel as well.

Mike Dovich, Marlboro, questioned if a tow company is in violation of the code would a new owner of that same company with the same name be in violation as well.

Chief Cocozza stated that the new owner would need to file a new application.

Mr. Dovich questioned whose seal will be on the fee schedule that is posted.

Supervisor Lanzetta said it would be the Town's seal.

Supervisor Lanzetta stated that they should leave the public hearing open until the next Town Board meeting. They can meet with the tow companies in the meantime and address concerns.

Councilman Molinelli made a motion to keep the public hearing on Local Law #2 Chapter 140, Tow Trucks, open until the next Town Board meeting. Motion seconded by Councilman Corcoran.

Yea: 4

Nays: 0

Carried