

**VILLAGE OF WAUCONDA**  
**PUBLIC HEARING**  
**TUESDAY, DECEMBER 20, 2011**  
**MINUTES**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Knigge called the Public Hearing to order on Tuesday, December 20, 2011, at 6:45 p.m. in the Village Hall.

**2. ROLL CALL**

Upon roll call by the Village Clerk, the following Trustees were:

Present: Trustees Knight, Barbini, Buster, Starkey, Arnswald, Black

Absent: None

QUORUM PRESENT

**3. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION**

**A. PRESENTATION OF TAX LEVY ORDINANCE**

Mayor Knigge began the meeting stating that the purpose of tonight's meeting is to answer any questions regarding the Tax Levy Ordinance on tonight's consent agenda.

There were no comments or questions from the Trustees.

**4. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC**

Kathy Hadamik, 1006 Monroe, asked why there was a tax levy and why the public had not been notified that this was coming. She stated that when the fire referendum was passed, the public was told there would not be further tax hikes.

Roger Sydell, 1018 Washington, stated that he agreed with her and why wasn't this information provided to the residents. Why did he just hear about this item being on the agenda?

Mayor Knigge said that this will allow the Village to increase property taxes to 5%, which is the legal limit, if necessary. Currently residents are paying 3.9%. Other increases on their property tax bill of last year are not from the Village, but from the school district and park district.

He continued by informing the attending residents that during his campaign we had promised the residents we would work towards a balance budget. They have done all that can be done to cut back and still maintain the core services. We have cut 25 staff members. This is now what we need for continued quality core services.

In response to the question if home owners could vote on this item, Mayor Knigge answered no. This is the Board's responsibility to decide. The residents voted for these Board members knowing they would be fiscally responsible. We are not overspending anywhere. Mayor Knigge said that he guarantees we are doing what we can.

And increases are not just being made in the Village of Wauconda. Mayor Knigge invited the residents to come into the office, and he would go through each cut that has been made and go through the current budget, step by step, to show them where the money goes.

Mayor Knigge concluded by saying that if our state and federal government made the kinds of cuts that Wauconda has, we wouldn't be in this mess.

**5. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

None

**6. ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made by Trustee Barbini, seconded by Trustee Starkey, to adjourn the meeting at 7:00 p.m.

Ayes: 6      Nays: 0      Absent/Abstain: 0

MOTION DECLARED CARRIED

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Ginger Irwin, Village Clerk