

**TOWN OF BRUNSWICK
PUBLIC HEARING
FEBRUARY 14, 2019, 6:30 P.M.
TOWN HALL**

Board Members Present: Supervisor Herrington, Councilman Christian, Councilman Sullivan and Councilman Casale and Councilman Balistreri.

Board Members Absent: None.

Also Present: Town Attorney, Thomas Cioffi and Town Clerk, William J. Lewis.

Supervisor Herrington called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m. and instructed the Town Clerk to read the Notice of Public Hearing. The notice had been published in The Record and posted at Town Hall and on the Town website. The hearing was for the purpose of accepting public comment on Introductory Local Law No. 1 entitled “**A Local Law Establishing a Registry for Vacant Buildings and Requirements for Vacant Buildings**”.

Stephen Rooney, Town Sole Assessor, gave a brief overview of the Proposed Local Law. The need for a registry of vacant properties, to keep track of ownership and a fine structure as an incentive to comply with registration is apparent. It is often extremely difficult and time consuming tracking down those responsible for maintaining or safely securing vacant properties.

Supervisor Herrington opened the meeting for public comment.

VISITORS WHO WISH TO SPEAK:

Mr. Jim Tkacik, 383 Brunswick Rd., pointed out that the notice for the public hearings tonight and the proposed Local Laws were not on the website. He looked over a copy at the Town Office. On the proposed Local Law, he thought the term “vacant” may need to be better defined. For instance people may have a part time home, vacant part of a year, or be selling it.

Mr. Andrew Gilchrist, Planning and Zoning Boards attorney pointed out that text within the proposed Local Law did in fact spell out in more detail the definition of “Vacant” as being in disrepair, unsecured, unsafe and possibly violating code among other criteria. Mr. Gilchrist and the Board discussed the way forward if they determined to amend the Local Law or even if not, to leave the Public Hearing open. All agreed that the Public hearing should be continued and that if any significant changes were made to the body of the document it would be re-noticed and a new Public Hearing scheduled.

Supervisor Herrington made a motion to continue the Public Hearing, which was seconded by Councilman Christian. Unanimously approved.

ADJOURNMENT:

Councilman Christian made a motion to adjourn, which was seconded by Councilman Sullivan. Unanimously approved. The meeting adjourned at 6:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

William J. Lewis
Town Clerk