

Public Hearing – Wood-Fired Furnaces
July 29, 2015

The Town Board held a Public Hearing on the above date at 7:30 p.m. at the Town Hall, 238 Main Street, Cold Spring, New York. The purpose of the Public Hearing was to hear comments for/against a proposed Local Law to amend Town Code Chapter 175 by amending Town Code Section 175-5 “Existing Wood-Fired Furnaces” to impose time of operation restrictions on pre-existing Wood-Fired Furnaces.

PRESENT:

Richard Shea	Supervisor
Nancy Montgomery	Councilwoman
John Van Tassel	Councilman
Michael Leonard	Councilman
Robert Flaherty	Councilman

Town Clerk Merando read the public notice.

Supervisor Shea emphasized that wood-fired furnaces cannot be operated out of season, wintertime is one thing, as people are trying to save money on heating bills. These devices put out a lot of smoke and are not appropriate in certain areas. The law now reads the device needs to be 500 feet away from the nearest residence. Pre-existing furnaces now have to comply with all the provisions of the law. This law is to shorten the allowable time for their uses and everyone is subject to these provisions, whether or not they are pre-existing or a new installation. Councilwoman Montgomery stated that she has received numerous calls from residents who are affected by this problem in the early spring.

Two residents residing in Continental Village thanked the Town Board for their efforts, as they have had some problems with a neighbor who operates an outdoor furnace. He asked how this laws changes things? Supervisor Shea responded saying that prior to this amendment, pre-existing furnaces didn't fall under the law, it didn't matter if you had a permit or not. Supervisor Shea noted for the record that everyone is subject to air-quality issues.

There being no further comments from the public, Councilman Leonard made a motion, seconded by Councilman Flaherty to close the Public Hearing at 7:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,

Tina M. Merando, Town Clerk