**PUBLIC HEARING**

**TOWN OF ELIZABETHTOWN**

**7563 Court Street, Elizabethtown, NY 12932**

**May 21, 2024**

A second Public Hearing was held May 21, 2024, to give information and take questions regarding the formation of a Town Ambulance District. The public could attend in person or via GoToMeeting.

-This meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM.

-The following were in attendance:

Cathleen Reusser-Supervisor

Jeffrey Allott-Councilperson

William Wright-Councilperson

Ben Morris-Councilperson

-Absent with excuse:

Adam Bailey-Councilperson

-The following public was in attendance:

Ken Fenimore, Charles Moisan, Mary McGowan, Carolyn Sicher, Patty Bashaw, Jack Pulsifer, Larry Bashaw, Jen Peck, David Reinman, Matt Drew, Suzie Drew, Mike Dunsmore and Laurie House.

-The following attended via GoToMeeting:

Eric Weyand, George Saltamach & Megan Hall.

-County Attorney Bill Tansey spoke and gave an explanation about the formation of a District. This will be subject to a referendum and a vote will be held on June 25, 2024, from noon to 8 PM.

-Councilperson Wright asked for a map showing the full district.

-Councilperson Allott questioned the amounts per town.

-Discussion on if the Town Board will oversee the district when planning a budget or if a separate Board will be elected.

-Carolyn Sichler explained about the large jump in the budget from last year to this year.

-Ken Fennimore asked questions about the formation of the district. It was explained that the Town Board could appoint Ambulance Commissioners, or they could be voted in by the public or the Town Board would be the Commissioners for them. Tonight’s vote is just to approve an ambulance district or not. Then it will be voted on by the public and details worked out. It was explained that the Ambulance budget would be a line item on a person’s tax bill like the Fire district or Garbage district and that the line item on the yearly Town budget that presently helps pay for the Ambulance Squad, would be removed. Mr. Fennimore asked what an Ambulance Board would do. It was explained that they would approve what the budget is and then would submit it to the Town Board for final approval. It was discussed what would be done if Lewis does not approve an Ambulance District and how the Ambulance Squad would have to negotiate with them separately. What will happen does not matter as it will be 2 separate districts. Hopefully some day will be able to combine into one district.

It was also explained that Etown gave them $155,000.00 this year while Lewis only gave $60,000.00.

**RESOLUTION NO. 98-24**

Motion to close this meeting at 6:27 PM offered by Councilperson Wright and seconded by Councilperson Allott. All in favor. Motion carried.

AYES-4 Supervisor Reusser NAYS-0

Councilperson Wright

Councilperson Allott

Councilperson Morris

Respectfully submitted,

Janet E. Cross,

Town Clerk