

**ARLINGTON CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING
CENTRAL ADMINISTRATION OFFICE
NOVEMBER 29, 2016**

President Steve Rossi called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm at the Central Administration Office, 144 Todd Hill Road, LaGrangeville, NY 12540

1) Call to Order

Open Meeting 7:00 pm

2) Pledge of Allegiance

3) Roll Call

Board Members present were Mrs. Baxter, Mr. Bodnar, Mrs. Fasulo, Mrs. Herr, Mr. McCormick, Mr. McLeod, Mr. Rossi, and Mr. Tornatore. Board member absent was Dr. Eraca due to family emergency. Also present were Dr. Lyons, Mr. Benante, and Mr. Sheldon.

4) Reading of the District Mission

By Mr. Rossi

5) Board President's Remarks

Mr. Rossi welcomed everyone to the meeting. The purpose of this meeting is to hold the Public Hearing on the Veterans' Tax Exemption.

6) Veterans' Tax Exemption

Open Public Hearing

Motion by Mr. Bodnar, seconded by Mrs. Baxter, to open the Public Hearing. The motion was carried unanimously. There were approximately 70 people in attendance.

Public Comment

Residents spoke in favor of the tax exemption and several residents were not in support of the tax exemption.

Close Public Hearing

Motion by Mr. Bodnar, seconded by Mr. McLeod, to close the Public Hearing. The motion was carried unanimously.

7) **New Business**

a) **Veterans' Tax Exemption**

Motion by Mr. Tornatore, seconded by Mr. McLeod, to approve the following resolution. The motion was passed 5-3 by roll call vote as follows:

Christine Baxter	Yes
Peter Bodnar	Yes
Kerri Fasulo	Yes
Pauline Herr	No
Edward McCormick	No
Charles McLeod	Yes
Steve Rossi	No
Mark Tornatore	Yes

WHEREAS, the Board of Education wishes to adopt the provisions of Section 458-a of the Real Property Tax Law which would grant a partial exemption from taxation for school district purposes of certain real property situated in the School District and owned and used as the primary residence by eligible veterans (Alternative Veterans' Exemption);

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board, after having conducted a public hearing on November 29, 2016, and having given the public an opportunity to be heard on the issue of the Board's proposed adoption of the Alternative Veterans' Exemption pursuant to Section 458-a of the Real Property Tax law, hereby adopts the Alternative Veterans' Exemption for assessment rolls prepared on the basis of the taxable status date occurring on or after January 1, 2017, at the following basic maximum levels:

1. Basic Exemption - Tax exemption of 15% of the assessed value of the property, not to exceed \$12,000 or the product of \$12,000 multiplied by the latest state equalization rate for the assessing unit, whichever is less.
2. Combat Zone - An additional tax exemption of 10% of the assessed value of qualifying residential property of veterans who are documented to have served in a combat zone, not to exceed \$8,000 or the product of \$8,000 multiplied by the latest state equalization rate, whichever is less.
3. Disabled Veterans - In addition to the above exemptions, where the veteran received a compensation rating from the Veterans' Administration or Department of Defense based upon a service related disability, the qualifying residential property will be exempt to the extent of the product of the assessed value multiplied by 50% of the veteran's disability rating, not to exceed \$40,000 or the product of \$40,000 multiplied by the latest state equalization rate, whichever is less; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board directs the District Clerk to provide a certified copy of this resolution to Dutchess County and the assessors for the other taxing jurisdictions located within this School District.

8) **Adjournment**

Motion by Mrs. Baxter, seconded by Mrs. Fasulo, to adjourn the meeting at 8:10 pm. The motion was carried unanimously.

Margie Flynn, District Clerk