STATE OF NEW YORK

5801

2023-2024 Regular Sessions

IN ASSEMBLY

March 23, 2023

Introduced by M. of A. WOERNER -- read once and referred to the Committee on Local Governments

AN ACT to amend the town law, in relation to aquatic growth control districts

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

Section 1. Section 190 of the town law, as amended by chapter 378 of the laws of 2012, is amended to read as follows:

§ 190. Establishment or extension of improvement districts. Upon a petition as hereinafter provided, the town board of any town may establish or extend in said town a sewer, drainage, water, water quality treatment, park, public parking, lighting, snow removal, water supply, sidewalk, a fallout shelter district or refuse and garbage district, aquatic [~~plant~~] growth control district, ambulance district, watershed protection improvement district, and in any town bordering upon or containing within its boundaries any navigable waters of this state, a harbor improvement district, a public dock district, or beach erosion control district, and provide improvements or services, or both, in any such district, wholly at the expense of the district; but no water supply district shall be established or extended to include lands situate within the boundaries of a water district. No such district shall be established or extended in a city or in an incorporated village provided, however, that such a district may be established or extended wholly or partly within an incorporated village on consent of the village expressed in a local law, ordinance or resolution, subject to a referendum on petition under section twenty-four of the municipal home rule law or a permissive referendum under article nine of the village law, as the case may be, and except, in the case of a water quality treatment district, on consent of a village expressed in a local law or by resolution of the board of trustees and not subject to any referendum.

EXPLANATION--Matter in *italics* (underscored) is new; matter in brackets [-] is old law to be omitted.

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§ 2. Paragraph a of subdivision 1 of section 193 of the town law, as amended by chapter 378 of the laws of 2012, is amended to read as follows:

a. Whenever a petition shall be presented to the town board pursuant to this article, for the establishment or extension of a sewer, wastewater disposal, drainage, water, water quality treatment, park, public parking, lighting, snow removal, water supply, sidewalk, refuse and garbage, aquatic [~~plant~~] growth control district, ambulance district, harbor improvement district, public dock district, beach erosion control district, watershed protection improvement district, or a fallout shelter district, the board shall adopt an order and enter the same in the minutes of its proceedings, reciting in general terms the filing of such petition, the boundaries of the proposed district, the improvements proposed, the maximum amount proposed to be expended for the improvement as stated in the petition or the maximum amount to be expended for the performance or supplying of services if a maximum amount is stated in the petition, the estimated cost of hook-up fees, if any, to, and the cost of the district or extension to, the typical property and, if different, the typical one or two family home, and specifying the time when and place where said board will meet to consider the petition and to hear all persons interested in the subject thereof, concerning the same. The board shall cause a copy of such order, certified by the town clerk, to be published at least once in the official paper, the first publication thereof to be not less than ten nor more than twenty days before the day set therein for the hearing as aforesaid, and shall also cause a copy thereof to be posted on the signboard of the town maintained pursuant to subdivision six of section thirty of this chapter, not less than ten nor more than twenty days before the day designated for the hearing as aforesaid. In the event that the town maintains a website, such information may also be provided on the website. Prior to the publication of a copy of the order, the board shall cause to be prepared, and file for public inspection with the town clerk, a detailed explanation of how the estimated cost of hook-up fees, if any, to, and the cost of the district or extension to, the typical property and, if different, the typical one or two family home was computed.

§ 3. Subdivision 10-e of section 198 of the town law, as added by chapter 602 of the laws of 1967, is amended to read as follows:

10-e. Aquatic [~~plant~~] growth control district. After an aquatic growth control district has been established, the town board may take such action as may be required to adopt plans and specifications and enter into a contract or contracts, or take such other action as may be required, for the control of aquatic growth within the district as it may deem to be necessary or desirable. **For purposes of this chapter, "aquatic growth" means aquatic invertebrate species and aquatic plants, identified as invasive pursuant to title seventeen of article nine of the environmental conservation law.**

§ 4. Subdivision 3 of section 202 of the town law, as amended by chapter 378 of the laws of 2012, is amended to read as follows:

3. The expense of the establishment of a park, public parking, water, lighting, snow removal, water supply, water, water storage and distribution, sidewalk, refuse and garbage, aquatic [~~plant~~] growth control district, ambulance district, harbor improvement district, watershed protection improvement district, public dock district, fallout shelter district, or beach erosion control district, and providing improvements or services, or both, therefor, and of constructing lateral water mains pursuant to paragraph (b) of subdivision one of section one hundred

ninety-nine, shall be assessed, levied and collected from the several lots and parcels of land within the district for each purpose in the same manner and at the same time as other town charges, except as otherwise provided by law. In the event that any order adopted pursuant to section two hundred nine-d of this chapter for the establishment of a water district, sidewalk district, a public parking district, a refuse and garbage district, an aquatic [~~plant~~] growth control district, lighting district, watershed protection improvement district, or beach erosion and control district or that any petition for the establishment of a water district, sidewalk district, a public parking district, a refuse and garbage district, an aquatic [~~plant~~] growth control district, lighting district, or beach erosion control district, shall contain a statement that the cost of constructing the water system, sidewalks, lighting system, or acquiring and improving lands for public parking or for refuse and garbage purposes or for beach erosion control, or for watershed protection improvement district or for aquatic [~~plant~~] growth control, shall be assessed by the town board in proportion as nearly as may be to the benefit which each lot or parcel will derive therefrom, the amount to be raised for the payment of the principal and interest of the bonds issued for the construction of the water system, sidewalks, lighting system, or acquiring and improving lands for public parking or for refuse and garbage purposes or for beach erosion control, or for aquatic [~~plant~~] growth control, or for watershed protection improvement district pursuant to such petition or order, shall be assessed on the lands within such district in the same manner as provided in the case of trunk sewers. The expense of constructing lateral water mains pursuant to paragraph (c) of subdivision one of section one hundred ninety-nine shall be assessed, levied and collected from the several lots and parcels of land within the district in proportion to the area of such lot or parcel of land to the total area of the district.

§ 5. Subdivision 1 of section 209-a of the town law, as amended by chapter 378 of the laws of 2012, is amended to read as follows:

1. the term "improvement district" shall include only a sewer, wastewater disposal, drainage, water, park, public parking, lighting, snow removal, water supply, sidewalk, refuse and garbage, aquatic [~~plant~~] growth control, or watershed protection improvement district or ambulance district in any town, and, in any town bordering upon or containing within its boundaries any navigable water of this state a public dock or beach erosion control district;

§ 6. Subdivision 1 of section 209-d of the town law, as amended by chapter 378 of the laws of 2012, is amended to read as follows:

1. Subsequent to the date of the filing of the map, plans and report in the office of the town clerk as required in section two hundred nine-c of this article the town board may adopt an order and enter the same in the minutes of its proceedings reciting a description of the boundaries of the proposed district or extension in a manner sufficient to identify the lands included therein as in a deed of conveyance, the improvements proposed, the maximum amount proposed to be expended for the improvement, the estimated cost of hook-up fees, if any, to, and the cost of the district or extension to, the typical property and, if different, the typical one or two family home, the proposed method of financing to be employed, the fact that a map, plan and report describing the same are on file in the town clerk's office for public inspection and specifying the time when and the place where said board will meet and hold a public hearing to hear all persons interested in the subject thereof, concerning the same. If such order proposes only

the performance or supplying of certain services, it may state the maximum amount to be expended annually for such services. The board shall cause a copy of such order to be published at least once in the official paper, the first publication thereof to be not less than ten nor more than twenty days before the day set therein for the hearing as aforesaid, and shall also cause a copy thereof to be posted on the sign-board of the town maintained pursuant to subdivision six of section thirty of this chapter, not less than ten nor more than twenty days before the day designated for the hearing as aforesaid. Such order may further state such place other than the town clerk's office where the map, plan and report may be examined in advance of the hearing, if the town board determines that, in the public interest, some other additional place is necessary or desirable. If a water district, sidewalk district, a public parking district, a refuse and garbage district, aquatic [~~**plant**~~] growth control district, watershed protection improvement district or beach erosion control district is proposed, such order may contain a statement that the cost of constructing the water system, sidewalks or acquiring lands for public parking or for refuse and garbage purposes, or aquatic [~~**plant**~~] growth control purposes or for beach erosion control or for watershed protection improvement purposes shall be assessed by the town board in proportion as nearly as may be to the benefit which each lot or parcel will derive therefrom. Prior to the publication of the order, the board shall cause to be prepared, and file for public inspection with the town clerk, a detailed explanation of how the estimated cost of hook-up fees, if any, to, and the cost of the district or extension to, the typical property and, if different, the typical one or two family home, was computed.

§ 7. This act shall take effect immediately.