Local Law #4 of the Year 2026:
A Local Law to Increase the Salaries of Elected Assessors in the Town of Wilmington

Be it enacted by the Town Council ("town board") of the Town of Wilmington ("the town") as follows:

§1. Authority.

This local law is enacted under the authority granted by the General Municipal Home Rule law of the State of New York.

§2. Legislative Intent.

The Town of Wilmington is one of five towns in Essex County that continues to use the traditional system of three elected assessors.

The town has struggled to find town residents willing to serve in the role of assessor for several years. Prior to the adoption of this local law, the town has lacked an assessor for well over a year. Prior to that, the town lacked two assessors.

Prior to the adoption of this local law, Town Supervisor Timothy Follos regularly advertised, promoted, and announced these open positions for nearly two years. Thus far, his efforts have only managed to recruit one new assessor, in the spring of 2025.

The town board therefore deems it advisable to raise the salaries of the town's assessors in order to:

1) Increase the appeal of the position to residents of the town; and

2) Appropriately compensate the town's assessors for the period their office has been understaffed.

§3. Salary Increase.

Pursuant to the adoption of this local law, the town's assessors' salaries shall be increased by _____ annually, paid on a pro-rata basis. For the town's assessors employed on the date of the passage of this law, the salary increase described herein shall be retroactive to the first of the year.

§4. Permissive Referendum.

This local law shall be subject to a Permissive Referendum, in accordance with Article 7, §90 through §94, of the State of New York's Town Law.

§6. Effective date.

The date this local law shall take effect shall be controlled by the laws, rules, and regulations regarding local laws subject to permissive referenda in New York State. If the period during which a petition for a permissive referendum may be lawfully submitted expires without the submission of a sufficient petition, this local law shall be filed in the office of the Secretary of State of the State of New York, whereupon it shall take effect immediately.