

PUBLIC HEARING

JANUARY 24, 2018

A public hearing of the Council of the County of Kaua'i was called to order by Arryl Kaneshiro, Chair, Budget & Finance Committee, on Wednesday, January 24, 2018, at 1:40 p.m., at the Council Chambers, 4396 Rice Street, Suite 201, Historic County Building, Līhu'e, and the presence of the following was noted:

Honorable Arthur Brun
Honorable Mason K. Chock
Honorable Ross Kagawa
Honorable Arryl Kaneshiro
Honorable Derek S.K. Kawakami
Honorable JoAnn A. Yukimura
Honorable Mel Rapozo

The Clerk read the notice of the public hearing on the following:

“Bill No. 2680 – A BILL FOR AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 5-2.3, KAUAI COUNTY CODE 1987, AS AMENDED, RELATING TO MOTOR VEHICLE WEIGHT TAX,”

which was ordered to print by the Council of the County of Kaua'i on December 20, 2017, and published in The Garden Island newspaper on January 3, 2018.

The following communications were received for the record:

1. McMahon, Kevin, dated January 16, 2018
2. Mohamad, Ana, dated January 24, 2018

The hearing proceeded as follows:

SCOTT K. SATO, Deputy County Clerk: We received one (1) written testimony in opposition, one (1) testimony providing comments, and we have two (2) registered speakers. The first speaker is Alice Parker, followed by Glenn Mickens.

Committee Chair Kaneshiro: Again, I believe this may come through the Committee Meeting for receipt.

ALICE PARKER: I reiterate, do not decrease taxes anywhere until our roads are smooth as can be. We need all the money we can get to fix our horrible roads. Thank you.

Committee Chair Kaneshiro: Thank you.

Mr. Sato: The next speaker is Glenn Mickens.

GLENN MICKENS: For the record, Glenn Mickens. I really do not have that much more to say. I pretty much said it before. When the meeting is called back to order, I would really like to hear a dialogue between you people to know how you feel about paving our roads. They are in horrible shape; there is no doubt about that. It is going to take money to do it. I think the figure was over one hundred million dollars (\$100,000,000) to be able to do it. I know you folks came aboard after-the-fact. This has been going on for a long time. We have not been taking care of it. Again, the moneys that we take in for that purpose is going to have to be locked in a box someplace. Even with that twenty-five million dollars (\$25,000,000), if you were honestly saying that money is there and it is going to pave our roads, people might believe it. But when you look at the history, you will see that the money is not going...people come into those baseyards and use the gasoline and stuff for other purposes other than our roads. Where is the oversight? Who is there to oversee it? Anyway, that is my testimony.

Committee Chair Kaneshiro: Thank you. Anyone else wishing to testify?

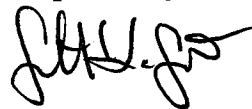
Mr. Sato: We have one (1) final speaker, Jerome Freitas.

JEROME FREITAS, SR.: Good afternoon, Council Chair Rapozo, Vice Chair Kagawa, Councilmembers, and Staff. Like I said before, we have twenty-five million dollars (\$25,000,000) a year from the tax that would be for the roads and the buses. Now they say, "Well, let us cut down one cent (\$0.01) per pound." Who will benefit are the business people, like Kaua'i Freight and all of the big companies that have semi-trucks running on the road, which is what causes the most damage to the roads. I think we should leave it as it is. The more money that comes in, then lucky for us. We can use that for the roads or bus transportation. I think just leave it as it is. I do not mind paying one cent (\$0.01). So I believe they should leave it as it is. That is about it. Like I said, the only people that are going to benefit are the people with the big cars and big trucks, businessmen, and the companies like that. I think I am against that. Thank you very much.

Committee Chair Kaneshiro: Thank you. Anyone in the audience wishing to testify? If not, this public hearing is now adjourned.

There being no further testimony, the public hearing adjourned at 1:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



SCOTT K. SATO
Deputy County Clerk