

PUBLIC HEARING

DELAWARE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

LOCAL LAW INTRO. NO. 17 OF 2024

**LOCAL LAW AUTHORIZING 12- AND 13-YEAR OLD LICENSED HUNTERS
TO HUNT DEER WITH A FIREARM OR CROSSBOW DURING HUNTING SEASON
WITH THE SUPERVISION OF AN ADULT LICENSED HUNTER**

OCTOBER 8, 2025

The Delaware County Board of Supervisors held a Public Hearing concerning Local Law Intro. No. 2 of 2025 entitled, Local Law Authorizing 12- and 13-Year Old Licensed Hunters to Hunt Deer With a Firearm or Crossbow During Hunting Season With the Supervision of an Adult Licensed Hunter in the Board of Supervisors' Room of the Senator Charles D. Cook County Office Building, 111 Main Street, Delhi, New York, at 1:03 p.m. on Wednesday, October 8, 2025, Vice Chairman James Ellis presiding.

Vice Chairman Ellis called the hearing to order and read the notice of public hearing:

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

LOCAL LAW INTRO. NO. 2 OF 2025

**LOCAL LAW AUTHORIZING 12- AND 13-YEAR OLD LICENSED HUNTERS TO
HUNT DEER WITH A FIREARM OR CROSSBOW DURING HUNTING SEASON
WITH THE SUPERVISION OF AN ADULT LICENSED HUNTER**

Notice is hereby given that a public hearing will be held by the Delaware County Board of Supervisors on Wednesday, October 8, 2025 at 1:05 p.m. in the Board of Supervisors' Room of the Senator Charles D. Cook County Office Building, 111 Main Street, Delhi, New York, concerning proposed Local Law Intro. No. 2 of 2025 entitled, Local Law Authorizing 12- and 13- Year Old Licensed Hunters to Hunt Deer With a Firearm or Crossbow During Hunting Season With the Supervision of an Adult Licensed Hunter. The intent of this Local Law is to authorize Delaware County to permit 12- and 13- year-old individuals to participate in the new and safe hunting opportunities in accordance with Environment Conservation Law § 11-0935.

All persons interested in speaking concerning the proposed local law will be heard at the aforementioned time and place. Disabled citizens who require assistance in attending said public hearing or in furnishing comments or suggestions should contact the Clerk of the Board's office to request assistance at (607) 832-5110.

Dated: September 26, 2025

Penny A. Bishop
Clerk of the Board
Delaware County Board of Supervisors

Vice Chairman Ellis stated that a sign-in sheet is being passed around and asked that anyone wishing to speak to please stand and state their full name and the town they are from.

Al Vigna from the Town of Harpersfield said he has been hunting since 1978 and thinks the youth hunting program is a good program. He said kids need to be taught young so they are responsible gun handlers, gun owners, and good stewards of our natural resources. He stated the program has been a success so far in New York state and nearly all other states across the country that allow 12 year-old and older hunters to hunt big game.

Mr. Vigna said the youth hunting program should continue because of the success rate of the program and the current deer population. He stated the deer population is approximately two to three times higher than it was in the 1970s and noted there are a lot of car-deer collisions on our roads.

Since no one else wished to speak, Vice Chairman Ellis declared the public hearing closed at 1:05 p.m.