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OF THE FREEHOLDERS AND COMMONALTY OF THE
**TOWN OF SOUTHAMPTON**

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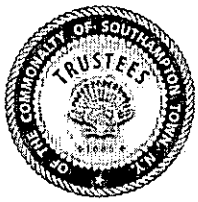


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The Trustees have studied the recent decisions of the Appellate Division, Second Department in the cases of Semlear v. Quogue, Semlear v. Albert Marine and Village of West Hampton Dunes v. Semlear, and have concluded that, although there is ambiguity in the Court's decisions in those cases and the Trustees retain some regulatory power with respect to activities on the ocean beaches within the incorporated villages, it is unlikely that that authority reasonably covers the issuance of permits to operate 4 x 4 vehicles on the ocean beaches within the village, or to prescribe the places within the villages where, and the hours when, such operations would be permitted.

Therefore, in an effort to comply with the Court's decisions, the Trustees have scheduled a public hearing for February 8, 2016, for the purpose of amending the 4 x 4 provisions of the Trustees' "Blue Book" of regulations to make clear that those provisions only will be effective outside of the boundaries of the villages. The Trustees also have tentatively decided to substitute the term "Resident ID" for "permit" so as to make clear that village residents may apply for proof of town residency, if they choose, just as all the other town residents may. The hearing on February 8 will be an opportunity for all residents of the Town to express their views on these issues.