Supervisor Lesko Delivers Keynote Address at Strictly Business Trade Show
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Farmingville, NY - On May 3, Brookhaven Town Supervisor Mark Lesko was the keynote speaker at the Strictly Business Trade Show and networking event held at the Middle Country Library. Strictly Business is a joint initiative of the Greater Middle Country Chamber of Commerce, the Miller Business Resource Center and the Brookhaven Chambers of Commerce Coalition.

"In Brookhaven, we are doing everything we can to help small businesses succeed," said Supervisor Lesko. "I believe that these efforts are paying off as evidenced by our recently released small business survey. The results showed that 84% of the businesses who responded think Brookhaven is a good place to do business, which is very encouraging."

Deputy Supervisor/Councilwoman Kathleen Walsh, who also attended the event, said, "Small businesses are the backbone of our community and it's important that we as a Town give them all the support they need to succeed. I commend Strictly Business and their membership for being a big part of that support system."

Sandy Feinberg, Middle Country Library Director said, "This year's Strictly Business turnout with 72 vendors and over 700 attendees was our best ever. It's a pleasure to combine the work of the Town, the Chambers and the Miller Business Center to help stimulate business in Brookhaven and the Middle Country community."

The Brookhaven Industrial Development Agency (IDA) has had a long standing relationship with the Miller Business Resource Center, which assists local businesses and entrepreneurs with the resources and training they need. The Town of Brookhaven also hosts SCORE business coaching at Town Hall, which provides confidential mentoring and coaching to small businesses free of charge every Friday.

The Town of Brookhaven's Small Business Advisory Council conducted a survey of 129 businesses to evaluate the sentiment and measures the activity of businesses within the Town during 2010. Some of the results include:

- 84% of the respondents believe Brookhaven Town is a positive location for business.
- 49% of respondents anticipated an increase in revenue for 2010 as compared to 2009 while 28% expected to remain the same.
Even in the tough economy, 81% of the businesses surveyed plan to keep their businesses in Brookhaven Town.

46% of respondents indicated that they plan on expanding their businesses in 2011.

Respondents expected a mean average of 5% to 10% projected revenue increase for 2010 as compared to 2009.

42% of businesses anticipated hiring new staff in 2011.

Lisa Mulligan, Brookhaven Director of Economic Development and CEO of the Industrial Development Agency, had a resource table at the event to provide businesses with information about various Town programs and IDA benefits. For more information about these programs, contact Lisa Mulligan at 631-451-6563.