

EQUALIZATION & ASSESSMENT COMMITTEE MEETING

July 13, 2008 – 3:00 p.m.

PRESENT: Vice-Chairman Connelly; Supervisors Grattidge, Hunter, Thompson, Yepsen; Spencer Hellwig, Mgmt. Analyst; Carol Holley, Joanne Bosley, Real Property Tax; Mark Rider, Co. Attorney; Sam Pitcherelle, Treasurer; Emily Donohue, The Saratogian

Vice-Chairman Connelly called the meeting to order.

Mr. Thompson moved to approve the minutes of the June 10th meeting. Mr. Grattidge seconded. Unanimous.

Ms. Holly stated nine parcels need to have their taxes cancelled for a total of \$4,385.87. She said some are owned by New York State located in the Town of Malta (3); Town of Northumberland (3); Town of Waterford (1); and Town of Wilton (2). For the Wilton parcel, the assessor should have removed the two parcels last year because the town acquired them, but she neglected to do that. **Mr. Thompson moved to authorize the cancellation of these taxes. Mr. Hunter seconded. Unanimous.**

Mr. Rider distributed copies of a resolution **Canceling Delinquent Tax Liens In The Towns of Clifton Park, Halfmoon, Moreau, Northumberland, Saratoga and Wilton.** He said there are suffixed lots within a mobile home park that is land not taxed to the mobile home park owner. Some park residents may have an exemption, and they pay the taxes themselves because they get the benefit of the exemption. When these elderly people move out or die, the exemption continues until the assessor finds out that lot is no longer entitled to the exemption. He stated the County then pays the taxes, and we need to cancel that tax. He said there are two of these in Lamplighter Acres in the Town of Moreau, and the balance are roads that were never dedicated to the towns. He said basically, these roads are worthless, and no one can drive on them. It makes them a non-taxed parcel, he said. Mr. Thompson said so these will never make it to the auction, and Mr. Rider said exactly. **Mr. Thompson moved to approve this resolution. Mr. Grattidge seconded. Unanimous.**

Mr. Grattidge asked if these roads were being used. Mr. Rider stated they are private roads left in a subdivision and never taken over by the town. Mr. Grattidge said he does not want people to think they can keep doing this in the future. Mr. Rider said you stand not getting CO's or permits until the road is ready to be turned over to a town.

Ms. Holley said if a mobile home has an aged exemption or a veterans' exemption, the homeowner gets the tax bill. Mr. Thompson asked what happens if the people do not pay the taxes. Mr. Rider said we can foreclose on the home, tow it away and sell it. Mr. Thompson pointed out some are so old and would cost a lot to move them and get rid of them. This may get us in trouble one of these days, he said. Ms. Holley stated newer

mobile homes need to have a registration number and be filed with the County Clerk, but you cannot do that with the older ones.

Vice-Chairman Connelly stated the next auction will be September 22nd at 5:30 p.m.

On a motion by Mr. Hunter, seconded by Ms. Yepsen, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Elaine M. Sodemann