

Amended
Equalization and Assessment Minutes

September 21, 2010 – 3:15p.m.

Present: Chairman Lucia; Supervisors Collyer, Hargrave, M. Johnson, Kinowski, Southworth, Thompson, Sausville, Barrett, Wright, Jenkins; Spencer Hellwig, Mgmt. Analyst; Carol Holley, Joanne Bosley Real Property; Cynthia Baker, Sam Pitcherelle, Treasurer; Mark Rider, County Attorney; Terri Price, Day Resident; Clifford Teroni, Clifton Park Resident;

Chairman Lucia called the meeting to order and welcomed all in attendance.

On a motion made by Mrs. Southworth, seconded by Mr. Collyer the minutes of the August 2, 2010 meeting were approved unanimously.

Mr. Barrett requested a second pull for property on Oakwood Blvd, in the town of Clifton Park owned by Karen Kinns and Cliff Teroni. He stated Mr. Teroni is here today; however, Mrs. Kinns was unable to attend the meeting as she works with children with special needs. Mr. Barrett said he has had conversation with Mr. Teroni, and he is confident that they have a plan so that they are not here again. They are hard working people who do have a plan to get current within the next six months. Mr. Teroni and Mrs. Kinns are requesting an opportunity to get to where they need to be.

Mrs. Johnson asked what the taxes were? Ms. Baker said \$15,572.60.

Mr. Collyer asked if the property was commercial? Mr. Barrett said, no, it is residential.

Mr. Thompson asked Mr. Teroni if he would be able to have his taxes paid up in the next six months. Mr. Teroni said, yes.

Mrs. Johnson said the current years taxes must be paid before a second pull can be approved.

Mr. Rider read the committee's policy as follows: The second removal or pull may be requested by the supervisor in extenuating circumstances. On a second pull the current taxes must be paid in full and the supervisor must be present and present the request in person at the E&A meeting for approval.

A motion was made by Mr. Thompson, seconded by Mr. Hargrave to approve a second pull from the county auction on a property located on Oakwood Blvd, in the town of Clifton Park owned by Mr. Teroni and Mrs. Kinns contingent that the 2010 taxes are paid by 5:00 p.m. on September 21, 2010. Unanimous.

Mrs. Johnson requested a second pull for Terri Price. Mrs. Price has paid her 2010 taxes as of this afternoon in the amount of \$888.83. Mrs. Price is in hard times, on social security at \$300/mo. She has gone to social security to see if she can get disability, which will increase her income. Mrs. Price has gone through two attempts for a reverse mortgage without success. Mrs. Johnson said Mrs. Price knows the bind she is in and that she may have to sell her house. Mrs. Johnson said she has requested that Social Services assign Mrs. Price with a caseworker to help her along with the Office for the Aging. Mrs. Johnson said she would continue to help Mrs. Price as well. If Mrs. Price could get the balance paid, which is now \$3,100 or \$3,200, next year she would have the aged exemption, and her taxes would be less than \$100. Mrs. Johnson said at that point she doesn't expect Mrs. Price will have any problems.

Mrs. Southworth asked Mrs. Johnson if she would be following up with Mrs. Price to ensure that she does what she says she would do along the way? Mrs. Johnson said, yes.

A motion was made by Mr. Thompson, seconded by Mrs. Southworth to approve a second pull on property on Yates Hill Road, owned by Terri Price in the town of Day. Unanimous.

Mr. Thompson requested a second pull on a parcel in the Village of Ballston Spa owned by Evelyn Vickery.

Mrs. Baker temporarily left the meeting to gather tax information regarding the second pull in the Village of Ballston Spa on the Vickery property.

Mr. Pitcherelle presented a tender offer in the town of Greenfield from Leo Hoffman. Mr. Hoffman has paid in full the 2007, 2008, 2009 and 2010 taxes for a total of \$7,007.18.

A motion was made by Mr. Hargrave, seconded by Mrs. Johnson to accept a tender from Mr. Hoffmann in the Town of Greenfield for a total of \$7,007.18

Mrs. Baker said the outstanding taxes for 2010 are \$7,334.19 and would have to be paid. Mrs. Baker said it appears that they have not paid the Village as well as the school taxes for 2009. The 2009 and 2008 town and county taxes were paid on March 16, 2010. The 2007 Town and County taxes are still outstanding.

Mr. Rider said the most recent taxes must be paid in order to have a second pull approved.

Mrs. Southworth said it appears that the Vickery's thought they were paying their current taxes.

Mr. Kinowski said on the current policy that we have; he would entertain a motion to adjust the policy, that would allow the committee to affirm a second pull, if there is

sufficient reason determined by the committee that they did, in fact, pay taxes for prior years with the intent to make good on all taxes in the year that the second pull is going to occur.

Mrs. Southworth said that it seems in this economy and bad times, and the fact that they said they were current, that they did think they were current.

Mr. Kinowski said, we need to adjust the policy and the committee has the authority to do so.

Mr. Rider said the policy can be changed, as it was originally adopted by the committee only. The second pull policy was setup in the Equalization and Assessment committee minutes in 1995 and in the Equalization and Assessment committee minutes in September 1996.

Mr. Lucia cautioned the committee to look down the road at what they are doing today, as it will affect upcoming auctions.

Mr. Collyer said he doesn't want to see anyone put out of his or her house, but he recommended that the committee stay with the current policy.

Mrs. Johnson said that she has thought for some time that the committee should look at the current policy. Everyone has to be treated equally, however it is done.

Mr. Collyer said that the 11th hour is not a good time to change the policy.

Mr. Kinowski suggested that the committee vote on whether to change the policy. Mr. Hargrave asked what he would change it to?

Mr. Kinowski said if the taxpayer has made a concerted effort to pay any of the back taxes, and they have worked with the supervisor, and the supervisor has assured us that there is a plan to pay them on the second pull, that is why you do the second pull.

Mrs. Johnson asked if there was any amount that they have to pay? Mr. Kinowski said they would have had to pay the previous year or two years taxes in between. Upon the second pull, the supervisor would meet with the people, and believe that they are going to make the payments.

Mr. Thompson suggested making the policy state that if it is a second pull all the taxes have to be paid up to the current date.

Mr. Rider said to make a payment current with this application it would have to be the most recent year.

Mr. Hargrave said what Mr. Kinowski is saying is that you are allowing a second pull based on the supervisor's assurance that the person has made the minimum of one previous years taxes between the first pull and the current.

A motion was made by Mr. Kinowski, seconded by Mrs. Southworth to approve a change to the committee policy to allow approval of a second pull from the county auction without the current taxes being paid based on the supervisor presenting a good case and the individual having paid one years prior taxes since the last pull. Ayes – Lucia, Hargrave, M. Johnson, Kinowski, Southworth, Thompson – Naves – Collyer. Motion Passed.

A motion was made by Mrs. Southworth, seconded by Mr. Hargrave to approve a second pull on a parcel owned by Evelyn Vickery in the Village of Ballston Spa. Ayes – Lucia, Hargrave, M. Johnson, Kinowski, Southworth, Thompson – Naves – Collyer. Motion passed.

On a motion made by Mr. Hargrave, seconded by Mr. Thompson the meeting was adjourned. Unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,
Chris Sansom