

EQUALIZATION AND ASSESSMENT COMMITTEE MINUTES

SEPTEMBER 11, 2006 – 3:00 P.M.

Present: Chairman Hunter; Supervisors Grattidge, M. Johnson, Keyrouze, Yepsen, Wood, and Thompson; Spencer Hellwig, Mgmt. Analyst; Mark Rider, County Attorney; Sam Pitcherale, County Treasurer; Carol Holley, Joanne Bosley, Real Property; Rick Mattrazzo, Resident, Town of Milton; Stephen Williams, Daily Gazette.

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

On a motion made by Mrs. Johnson, seconded by Mr. Grattidge the minutes of the July 10, 2006 meeting were approved unanimously.

Mr. Wood made a request to the committee that the penalties and interest be forgiven on a parcel of property in the town of Saratoga in the amount of \$243.10.

It was the decision of the committee to stay with the current county policy and not forgive the penalties and interest.

Mr. Rider said the only time that penalties or interest have been forgiven is when the county or the town has made a mistake that would cause someone to pay late.

Mr. Rider said that early in the year the Board of Supervisors authorized him to bring a special foreclosure proceeding against a parcel on Rt. 9 in the Town of Moreau. This is a hazardous disposal site registered under the department of environmental conservation. The back taxes are totaling upwards of \$130,000-\$140,000, he said. Mr. Rider said the standard judgement has been modified stating that the foreclosure is granted and the county is directed to sell at a sealed bid and directly deed directly to the buyer and not passing title through the county.

Mr. Rider said an individual at one time had indicated they were interested in developing the Victory Mills parcel in the town of Saratoga, obtaining title to the property from the owner at that time. The property owner now owes over \$400,000 in back taxes, he said. Mr. Rider is requesting a special foreclosure be held through a sealed bid auction.

A motion was made by Ms. Yepsen, seconded by Mrs. Keyrouze to approve a resolution to move forward with the Victory Mills parcel, in the town of Saratoga to an independent foreclosure through a sealed bid auction. Unanimous.

Mr. Rider requested an amendment to a conditional tender offer made by a bank for the back taxes on a piece of property located in the Village of Schuylerville.

A motion was made by Mrs. Johnson, seconded by Mr. Grattidge to accept a conditional tender offer in the amount of \$7,192.19 for a parcel in the Town of Saratoga. Unanimous.

Mr. Thompson requested a second pull request for a piece of property in the Town of Milton.

A motion was made by Mrs. Johnson, seconded by Mr. Grattidge to approve a second pull request from the County Auction scheduled in September for a property in the Town of Milton. Unanimous.

Mrs. Holley said there was a parcel in the town of Malta that was purchased by the state in April of 2004. The parcel was inadvertently left on the assessor's rolls for 2005 and 2006. The property should have been made wholly exempt, therefore, Ms. Holley is requesting that the taxes be cancelled for a total of \$5,940.10.

A motion was made by Mrs. Johnson, seconded by Mr. Grattidge to approve the cancellation of taxes for 2005 and 2006 on a property in the town of Malta in the amount of \$5,940.10. Unanimous.

Mr. Hunter said the next county auction will be held Tuesday, September 19th at 5:30.

On a motion made by Mrs. Keyrouze, seconded by Mrs. Johnson the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Chris Sansom