

WARREN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

COMMITTEE: REAL PROPERTY TAX SERVICES

DATE: AUGUST 29, 2006

Committee Members Present:

Supervisors Belden
Monroe
Bentley
F. Thomas
Geraghty

Others Present:

Michael Swan, Director, Real Property Tax Services
William Thomas, Chairman
Joan Parsons, Commissioner of Administrative &
Fiscal Services
Joan Sady, Clerk
Supervisor Caimano
Carlene A. Ramsey, Sr. Legislative Office Specialist

Committee Members Absent:

Supervisors Champagne
Haskell

Mr. Belden called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.

Motion was made by Mr. Bentley, seconded by Mr. Geraghty and carried unanimously to accept the minutes of the previous meeting, subject to correction by the Clerk.

Privilege of the floor was extended to Michael Swan, Director of Real Property Tax Services, who distributed an Agenda packet to each of the Committee members and a copy is on file with the minutes.

Mr. Swan began his report with Agenda Item 1, Corrections from the County Treasurer's Office and he referred to the list of corrections attached to the Agenda packet. He explained the first Queensbury correction had been court ordered, while the second one was to correct an assessment, inadvertently applied to the wrong parcel. As for the three corrections in Thurman, he noted, the disabled veterans exemption had not been correctly applied to the parcel for the past three years.

Motion was made by Mr. Monroe, seconded by Mr. Geraghty and carried unanimously to authorize the corrections to the tax rolls, and the necessary resolution was authorized for the September Board meeting.

Mr. Swan said the Real Property Tax Service Agency Budget (A.1355) showed a 2007 request of \$297,445.00 as compared to the 2006 appropriations of \$281,918.00 for an increase of \$15,527.00 due to increases in three object codes.

Mr. Swan expounded on the budget increase as follows:

- ✓ Equipment Rental (.421) increased by \$500 to cover the cost of rental cars.
- ✓ Data Processing & Internet Fees (.428) increased by \$5,640 due to the increase in the license fees charged by New York State for the assessment program used by the

municipalities.

✓ Contract (.470) increased by \$642 to cover auctioneer's services at the public land auction. However, he noted the revenue side had also been increased, since the auction proceeds pay for those costs.

Mr. Swan further noted the 2007 revenue estimate of \$34,500, as compared to the 2006 amended budget of \$39,579, had decreased by \$5,079.00 since fewer school systems had opted to have the County process their 2007 billing.

Responding to Mr. Belden's question regarding the Personal Services figures, Mr. Swan said he presented the figures received from the Personnel Office. He also noted the Deputy Director's salary had recently been adjusted to reflect the increased duties assigned to the position.

Mr. Swan reminded the Committee members that a Real Property Clerk position had been vacant for some time now. He said a civil service exam was scheduled for September and he was anxious to obtain the results. He said he would report back to the Committee in the event a viable candidate was found.

Mr. Swan noted the Supplies to Towns Budget (A.1970) remained flat with a 2007 request of \$14,000 compared to a 2006 appropriation of \$14,000.

Motion was made by Mr. Bentley, seconded by Mr. Geraghty and carried unanimously to approve the Real Property Tax Service Agency Budget (A.1355) and the Supplies to Towns Budget (A.1970) as presented, and authorize the Committee Chairman to sign the budgets and forward same to the Budget Officer.

Responding to Mr. Monroe's question regarding the Data Processing & Internet Fees, Mr. Swan pointed out that the State had not raised its license fee on the software for a number of years.

Mr. Caimano and Mrs. Sady left the meeting at 9:42 a.m.

General discussion ensued.

There being no further business to come before the Committee, on motion by Mr. Bentley and seconded by Mr. Monroe, Mr. Belden adjourned the meeting at 9:48 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Carlene A. Ramsey, Sr. Legislative Office Specialist