

**WARREN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

**COMMITTEE: ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERNS & REAL PROPERTY TAX SERVICES**

**DATE: MAY 30, 2019**

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**COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:**

SUPERVISORS: BRAYMER  
SIMPSON  
STROUGH  
DICKINSON  
MCDEVITT  
MERLINO  
LOEB  
HOGAN  
HYDE

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

LEXIE DELUREY, DIRECTOR OF REAL PROPERTY TAX SERVICES  
CHRIS BELDEN, ASSISTANT COUNTY PLANNER  
RONALD F. CONOVER, CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD  
RYAN MOORE, COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR  
MARY ELIZABETH KISSANE, COUNTY ATTORNEY  
AMANDA ALLEN, CLERK OF THE BOARD  
FRANK E. THOMAS, BUDGET OFFICER  
SUPERVISORS BEATY  
DIAMOND  
DRISCOLL  
FRASIER  
GERAGHTY  
LEGGETT  
MAGOWAN  
SOKOL  
CHRIS BELDEN, ASSISTANT COUNTY PLANNER  
TAMMIE DELORENZO, ASSISTANT TO THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR  
SARA FRANKENFELD, GIS ADMINISTRATOR  
KEVIN HAJOS, SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC WORKS  
FRANK MOREHOUSE, SUPERINTENDENT OF BUILDINGS  
MICHAEL SWAN, COUNTY TREASURER  
TRAVIS WHITEHEAD, TOWN OF QUEENSBURY RESIDENT  
DON LEHMAN, *THE POST STAR*  
MOLLY GANOTES-GLEASON, LEGISLATIVE OFFICE SPECIALIST

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*Please note, the following contains a summarization of the May 30, 2019 meeting of the Environmental Concerns & Real Property Tax Service Committee; the meeting in its entirety can be viewed on the Warren County website using the following link: <http://www.warrencountyny.gov/gov/comm/Archive/2019/environmental/>*

Ms. Braymer called the meeting of the Environmental Concerns & Real Property Tax Service Committee to order at 10:25 a.m.

Motion was made by Ms. Hogan, seconded by Mr. Merlino and carried unanimously to approve the minutes of the previous Committee meeting, subject to correction by the Clerk of the Board.

Privilege of the floor was extended to Lexie Delurey, *Director of Real Property Tax Services*, who distributed copies of the agenda to the Committee members; *a copy of the agenda is on file with the minutes.*

Commencing her agenda review, Ms. Delurey indicated there were no Action Items to discuss. Moving on to the Referral/Pending Items section, Ms. Delurey reminded the committee of a prior request from the County Treasurer to delete the outstanding 2010 taxes for Town of Horicon Tax Map Parcel No. 38.20-1-7.1 in the amount of \$6,347.32. Michael Swan, *County Treasurer*, informed there was a problem with the parcel and the taxes needed to be deleted and written off because the issue could not be solved. He stated the Town of Horicon had records showing

the taxes were paid, but the County did not have any record of this.  
Ms. Hyde entered the meeting at 10:26 a.m.

Mr. Simpson advised he had a letter from the previous Town of Horicon Supervisor stating the taxes were paid.

A discussion ensued following which a motion was made by Mr. Strough, seconded by Mr. Merlino and carried by majority vote, with Mr. Dickinson abstaining, to delete the outstanding 2010 taxes for Town of Horicon Tax Map Parcel No. 38.20-1-7.1 in the amount of \$6,347.32 and the necessary resolution was authorized for the June 19<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting. *A copy of the resolution request form is on file with the minutes.*

Continuing to the Information for Discussion/Review section of the agenda, Ms. Delurey spoke of amending Resolution No. 259 of 2017 to make revisions to the Warren County Real Estate Auction Terms and Conditions of Sale. She noted discussion at previous Committee meetings regarding revisions aimed at addressing properties purchased at auction which are subsequently left in disrepair. The Committee discussed the proposed revisions provided in the agenda packet and made suggestions for changes to the policy to clarify the language provided; the Committee requested that the County Attorney's Office revise the policy language accordingly and bring the revised policy before the Committee at their next meeting for further consideration.

Moving on, Ms. Delurey provided an update on Town of Chester Tax Map Parcel No. 104.10-4-5, indicating the Town was interested in purchasing the property. She mentioned she was waiting for permits to demolish the structure located on Town of Johnsbury Tax Map Parcel No. 133.8-1-27. With regard to Town of Queensbury Tax Map Parcel No. 302.8-1-2, Ms. Delurey apprised she had received a quote of \$17,420 from Atlantic Testing to perform necessary environmental testing for the structure located on the property to determine if there are any environmental hazards present before demolition of the building could be considered. She noted there were concerns that the structure was unsafe as the upper portion of the building had collapsed into the lower section. A discussion ensued during which it was the consensus of the Committee to move forward with the testing which could be completed under the existing DPW contract with Atlantic Testing.

Ms. Delurey noted that action was necessary to appropriate funding from the Environmental Testing Reserve (A.893.00) to the Real Property Tax Services contract budget (Code A.1355 470).

Motion was made by Ms. Hogan, seconded by Mr. Dickinson and carried unanimously to authorize the request and forward same to the Finance Committee. *A copy of the resolution request form is on file with the minutes.*

Regarding Town of Queensbury Tax Map Parcel No. 308.8-1-56, which the County was seeking to sell to National Grid, Ms. Delurey informed National Grid was still doing their due diligence.

Ms. Braymer asked for an update on the actions being taken to become part of the Clean Energy Communities. Kevin Hajos, *Superintendent of Public Works*, indicated they had received funding for the vehicle charging stations and would be taking steps to commence installation. Frank Morehouse, *Superintendent of Buildings*, reported that one-third of the campus currently had LED (*Light Emitting Diode*) lighting, with more to be installed. He apprised he had developed a spreadsheet to track energy use.

Chris Belden, *Assistant County Planner*, discussed the Climate Smart Communities Program which addressed impacts to climate change and the actions to adapt infrastructure. He discussed many layers of the program, suggesting that the County pursue the certification route and become certified for project actions at different levels. He recommended the future establishment of a task force to discuss matters regarding climate change and

infrastructure. He indicated the Climate Smart Communities Program grants required a 50% local match and the appointment of a Climate Smart Coordinator.

A discussion ensued, during which a motion was made by Mr. Merlino and seconded by Mr. Dickinson to appoint Chris Belden as the Climate Smart Coordinator.

Messrs. Merlino and Strough exited the meeting at 11:20 a.m.

At the conclusion of discussion, Ms. Braymer called the question and the aforementioned motion was carried unanimously and the necessary resolution was authorized for the June 19<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting. *A copy of the resolution request form is on file with the minutes.*

Motion was made by Mr. Dickinson, seconded by Mr. Simpson and carried unanimously to authorize submission of an application of the NYSDEC Climate Smart Communities Program for grant funds in an amount not to exceed \$100,000 for the term commencing March 15, 2020 and terminating March 14, 2025, and the necessary resolution was authorized for the June 19<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting. *A copy of the resolution request form is on file with the minutes.*

Concluding his agenda review, Mr. Belden spoke about the Climate Smart Communities Pledge which was included in the agenda packet and he requested approval of same. Ryan Moore, *County Administrator*, notified he had revised the preamble of the pledge, but the ten planks of the Pledge remained the same.

Motion was made by Ms. Hogan, seconded by Mr. Dickinson and carried unanimously to approve the request as outlined above and the necessary resolution was authorized for the June 19<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting. *A copy of the resolution request form is on file with the minutes.*

As there was no further business to come before the Environmental Concerns & Real Property Tax Service Committee, on motion made by Mr. Loeb and seconded by Ms. Hogan, Ms. Braymer adjourned the meeting at 11:23 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Molly Ganotes-Gleason, Legislative Office Specialist