

County Assessing Sub Committee  
March 23, 2009

Present:  
Richard Keaveney, Chairman  
Douglas McGivney  
Roy Brown  
Raymond Staats

Absent:

Also Present:  
Jacquelyn Lydon, Asst. Deputy  
Brent Stack  
Susan Savage  
Suzette Booy  
Judy Bender  
Alison Dooley  
Jean Rohde  
Philip Williams  
George Jahn

Press: 0

Chairman Keaveney called the meeting to order at 4:04 PM.

Chairman Keaveney asked P. Williams if Chairman Baer would like to see a referendum for November. S. Booy thinks that will be too soon. P. Williams stated if the referendum will not be possible we should inform Chairman Baer as soon as possible.

Short Term Goals:

Public Relations: conduct informational sessions around the county about coordinating/consolidating the assessing functions.

Coordinated Assessment Programs (CAP): two or more towns located in the same county; have the same level of assessment; have the same Assessor can enter into an agreement. RPTL Section 579 requires the State Board to establish identical equalization rates for all assessing units in the CAP.

Discussion regarding CAPS.

Elected Assessors: Currently 5 out of our 19 municipalities have elected three member boards of assessors. Those 5 towns are: Chatham, Claverack, Copake, Stockport, Taghkanic, Village of Chatham is still considered an assessing unit and has recently appointed an Assessor to fill a vacant position.

Valuation Specialist Position: in the County Real Property Tax Service Agency. This position would develop and maintain a Commercial Valuation System for the County by analyzing income, expense and capitalization data; developing and maintaining a countywide sales database; assisting each municipality in the determination of their level of Assessment and verifying the State's Equalization Rates. Discussion regarding valuation specialist position and a possible resolution.

Long Term Goals:

County Service Agreement: RPTL Section 1537 allows an assessing unit and a county to enter into an agreement for appraisal service, exemption service, or assessment services.

Countywide Department of Assessment: As outlined in the Study. Countywide Referendum.

S. Booy stated the Countywide assessing office would consist of a total of 15 staff, including 5 Assessors, Valuation Specialist, Tax Mapping Personnel, Commercial Valuation Specialist, and Clerical Staff. Discussion regarding individual towns and having staff in all town halls on certain days of the week. Discussion regarding who will be responsible for litigation the county of individual towns if county wide assessing is in place.

Discussion regarding re-evaluations in certain towns and data collection.

P. Williams asked if all assessing documents can be electronically. S. Booy said not all documents can be but most can. Discussion regarding electronic assessing documents.

A. Dooley distributed and reviewed Major Type A- Market Area handout, sheet on final equalization rate in each town and level of assessment.

R. Keaveney stated there are 23 municipalities and if they all signed service agreements instead of a referendum would that be sufficient. A. Dooley stated yes, there are grants for that.

S. Booy asked S. Savage for a copy of the Clinton County Service agreements.

Discussion regarding Commercial Valuation Factor File and standardized practices.

Discussion regarding if Supervisors and Town Boards would support countywide assessing or Cap with adjoining towns.

S. Savage stated ORPS could put together a power point presentation to educate Supervisors and Town Board Members. S. Booy will work with ORPS on an education presentation for town boards.

The next meeting will be held on April 20<sup>th</sup> at 4pm.

With no further business a motion to adjourn at 5:03 PM by R. Brown, seconded by R. Staats. Motion carried.