

WARREN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

COMMITTEE: ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERNS & REAL PROPERTY TAX SERVICES

DATE: AUGUST 25, 2020

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

SUPERVISORS: BRAYMER
DICKINSON
HOGAN
MERLINO
SIMPSON

OTHERS PRESENT:

LEXIE DELUREY, DIRECTOR OF REAL PROPERTY TAX SERVICES
CHRIS BELDEN, ASSISTANT COUNTY PLANNER
FRANK E. THOMAS, CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD
RYAN MOORE, COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR
MARY ELIZABETH KISSANE, COUNTY ATTORNEY
AMANDA ALLEN, CLERK OF THE BOARD
KEVIN B. GERAGHTY, BUDGET OFFICER

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT:

SUPERVISORS: BEATY
STROUGH

SUPERVISORS CONOVER
LEGGETT
SEEBER
KEVIN HAJOS, SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
TAMMIE DELORENZO, ASSISTANT TO THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR
DON LEHMAN, DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS
JEREMY SCRIME, SENIOR COMPUTER SYSTEMS ANALYST/PROGRAMMER
MICHAEL SWAN, COUNTY TREASURER
ANDREW RATTO, WARREN COUNTY RESIDENT
TRACY FRISCH, WARREN COUNTY RESIDENT
MOLLY GANOTES-GLEASON, LEGISLATIVE OFFICE SPECIALIST

Please note, the following contains a summarization of the August 25, 2020 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: <https://www.warrencountyny.gov/gov/comm/Archive/2020/environmental/>

Note: As per Governor Cuomo's Executive Order 202.1: "Article 7 of the Public Officers Law, to the extent necessary to permit any public body to meet and take such actions authorized by the law without permitting in public in-person access to meetings and authorizing such meetings to be held remotely by conference call or similar service, provided that the public has the ability to view or listen to such proceeding and that such meetings are recorded and later transcribed". All of the Committee members in attendance participated via video or teleconference except for Supervisors Merlino and Simpson who were physically present.

Copies of the Real Property Tax Services and Environmental Concerns agendas were distributed to those in attendance, those participating remotely accessed the agendas via the Warren County website. *Copies of both agendas are on file with the meeting minutes.*

Ms. Braymer called the meeting of the Environmental Concerns & Real Property Tax Service Committee to order at 12:45 p.m.

Motion was made by Mr. Dickinson, seconded by Mr. Simpson 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 informed Andrew Ratto, *Warren County Resident*, was in attendance on behalf of his father who owned property in the Town of Chester. She advised he was interested in an extension agreement to pay back taxes, and said she had spoken to the County Treasurer's Office regarding the matter. Mr. Ratto informed his father had owned his property for forty-seven years and fell behind on his taxes when his wife passed away. He explained he had contacted Mike Swan, *County*

Treasurer, at the end of July 2020 because he wanted to keep his father in his home. Ms. Delurey expressed she did not want him to lose his home, and noted Mr. Ratto had indicated he was able to provide sufficient funds to enter into an installment agreement.

Motion was made by Mr. Leggett, seconded by Mr. Merlino and carried unanimously to approve an extension until August 31, 2020 for Mr. Ratto to enter into the requested installment agreement.

Continuing, Ms. Delurey presented a request to authorize the Town of Queensbury to purchase Town of Queensbury Tax Map Parcel No. 295.20-1-12 following the 2020 tax foreclosure action for the amount of delinquent taxes plus fees or one-third of the value of the property, whichever was lower. Ms. Delurey explained the parcel was connected to Rush Pond.

Motion was made by Mr. Simpson, seconded by Mr. Dickinson and carried unanimously to approve the request as outlined above and the necessary resolution was authorized for the September 18th Board Meeting. *A copy of the resolution request is on file with the minutes.*

Next, Ms. Delurey spoke of a tax payment made after the July 31, 2020 deadline on Town of Bolton Tax Map Parcel No. 156.00-1-38.2 and she inquired if the Committee would accept the payment; the Committee unanimously agreed to accept the payment.

Concluding her agenda review, Ms. Delurey advised the County Attorney's Office had filed a motion for default judgement on the Mullen's property located on Bay Road in the Town of Queensbury. Ms. Braymer informed the property would be included in the Warren County Tax Auction.

Ms. Braymer inquired if there were any public comments and Don Lehman, *Director of Public Affairs*, replied in the negative.

There being no further Real Property Tax Services business to discuss, Ms. Braymer commenced review of the Environmental Concerns agenda. She spoke regarding Septic Inspections at Transfer Law that was brought to Committee by the Adirondack Lake Alliance in January 2019. She said work had been done with the Septic Working Group and changes were made to the law for those properties located 200 feet from a water body. A lengthy discussion ensued regarding waterbodies not included in the draft Law provided, following which it was determined more work was required before it could be adopted.

Regarding the Solid Waste Plan, Tracy Frisch, *Warren County Resident*, spoke regarding zero waste, informing the cost would be \$10.00 per ton for 55,000 tones for the remainder of 2020 and would bring in \$5.00 of revenue per person per year. Ms. Braymer suggested establishing a system to register trash haulers to obtain data for how much waste they collected and where they collected it, adding baseline data was needed. She mentioned they should designate a Waste Coordinator which should be referred to the Public Works Committee. Mr. Geraghty inquired if there was a surcharge and Ms. Braymer replied affirmatively, indicating the surcharge would fall on the public. Mr. Geraghty suggested to pay by weight rather than by bag, indicating it could bring in more revenue. Mr. Leggett expressed there should be a working group to continue discussion on the matter. Don Lehman, *Director of Public Relations*, read comments from Diane Collins, *Warren County Resident*, who expressed her interest in zero waste.

As there was no further business to come before the Environmental Concerns & Real Property Tax Service Committee, on motion made by Ms. Hogan and seconded by Mr. Dickinson, Ms. Braymer adjourned the meeting at 1:28 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Molly Ganotes-Gleason, Legislative Office Specialist