WARREN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

COMMITTEE: ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERNS & REAL PROPERTY TAX SERVICES

DATE: SEPTEMBER 23, 2026

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:		**OTHERS PRESENT:**
SUPERVISORS	PATCHETT	KRISTEN MACEWAN, DIRECTOR, REAL PROPERTY TAX SERVICES
	ETU	KEVIN B. GERAGHTY, CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD
	STRAINER	JOHN TAFLAN, COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR
	BEATY	AMANDA ALLEN, CLERK OF THE BOARD
	NILES	CHRISTOPHER BRIGGS, SECOND ASSISTANT COUNTY ATTORNEY
	CROCITTO	SUPERVISORS STROUGH
		WILD
		TAMMIE DELORENZO, ASSISTANT COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR
COMMITTEE MEMBER ABSENT:		SARA FRANKENFELD, GIS ADMINISTRATOR
SUPERVISOR	DIAMOND	ETHAN GADDY, COUNTY PLANNER
		LIZA OCHSENDORF, DIRECTOR, WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT
		LISA ADAMSON, NORTH COUNTRY EARTH ACTION
		KASSANDRA PURCELL, DEPUTY DIRECTOR, SARATOGA-WARREN-WASHINGTON COUNTIES WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD
		GRETCHAN STEFFAN, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, SARATOGA-WARREN-WASHINGTON COUNTIES WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD
		SARAH MCLENITHAN, DEPUTY CLERK OF THE BOARD

Please note, the following contains a summarization of the September 23, 2026 meeting of the Environmental Concerns & Real Property Tax Services Committee; the meeting in its entirety can be viewed on the Warren County website using the following links:

Warren County website - https://www.warrencountyny.gov/MMA
Warren County's YouTube Channel - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3on0awCith8&t=31s

Mr. Patchett called the meeting of Environmental Concerns & Real Property Tax Services to order at 11:41 a.m.

Motion was made by Mr. Etu, seconded by Mr. Strainer and carried by a unanimous vote of those present *(Mr. Diamond absent)* to approve the minutes of the previous Committee meeting, subject to correction by the Clerk of the Board.

Copies of the Real Property Tax Services agenda were distributed; a copy of the agenda is on file with the meeting minutes.

Privilege of the floor was offered for public comment:

Lisa Adamson, *Representing North Country Earth Action*, spoke regarding solar energy, how battery energy storage was related and the possibility of the County creating a task force that included members of the public to analyze the pros and cons of battery energy storage and the market rules that held up solar and wind energy installation and report back to the Committee.

Mr. Strough voiced his support of Agenda Item 1 which pertained to authorizing a resolution requesting Governor Hochul support Legislation that would allow the Towns in the County the option to assess all converted and newly constructed condominiums in a manner that reflects the most current market value.

Mr. Etu advised he had discussed the possibility of assembling a working group to learn more about battery energy storage with a member of the public if the Committee determined they would like to explore the topic more; however, he noted, it was difficult for him to pinpoint the County's roll in this matter since the power to zone fell upon the towns. He added he also met with a few stakeholder who were opposed to battery energy storage.

Mr. Patchett voiced his concerns with solar energy being generated on local farmland which he believed diminished the charm of the area. With regard to battery energy storage stations, he advised these facilities were generally located in urban areas which decreased the neighboring properties market values. He also mentioned his apprehension with

locating a storage station within the Lake George basin.

Committee commenced with a review of the Action Agenda/New Business Items portion of the Real Property Tax Services agenda which consisted of the following requests:

1. Request to authorize a resolution requesting Governor Hochul support Legislation that would allow the Towns in the County the option to assess all converted and newly constructed condominiums in a manner that reflects the most current market value.

Motion was made by Mr. Strainer and seconded by Mr. Crocitto to approve the request as presented; following discussion, Mr. Patchett called the question and the motion was carried by a unanimous vote of those present *(Mr. Diamond absent)* to approve the request as outlined above and the necessary resolution was authorized for the October 16, 2026 Board meeting. *A copy of the resolution request form is on file with the meeting minutes.*

2. Request to introduce a Local Law providing an additional exemption for the primary residence of seriously disabled veterans and authorizing a public hearing thereon.

Motion was made by Mr. Beaty and seconded by Mr. Strainer to approve the request as presented; following discussion, Mr. Patchett called the question and the motion was carried by a unanimous vote of those present *(Mr. Diamond absent)* to approve the request as outlined above and the necessary resolution was authorized for the October 16, 2026 Board meeting. *A copy of the resolution request form is on file with the meeting minutes.*

Proceeding with the agenda review, Committee reviewed the Discussion Items portion of the Real Property Tax Services agenda with an overview of the following:

1. Real Property Budget Summary/Recap.
2. Real Property Working Committee update - Kristen MacEwan, *Director, Real Property Tax Services,* advised they had met on September 2nd, indicating she was working with the County Attorney's Office on a few properties that had been foreclosed upon a few years ago to move forward with offering them for sale. She said zoning and use issues were discussed on a few of the other properties.
3. Tax Foreclosure update - Ms. MacEwan apprised the Tax Foreclosure Auction would be held on October 17th with 28 properties currently included, noting the properties could be redeemed if the back taxes and fees were paid in full prior to the Auction.

Mr. Patchett once again offered privilege of the floor for public comment:

Ms. Adamson spoke regarding solar energy located on farmland, noting although it would make the landscape less appeasing it may be necessary in the future to provide affordable energy. Next, she mentioned the City of Burlington, Vermont had recently approved locating a battery energy safety storage facility there.

A Town of Queensbury Resident who was not clearly identified voiced his support of solar energy on farmland, noting they provided farmers with additional income and also benefitted some aspects of agriculture.

There being no further business to come before the Environmental Concerns & Real Property Tax Services Committee, on motion made by Mr. Niles, seconded by Mr. Crocitto and carried by a unanimous vote of those present *(Mr. Diamond absent)*, Mr. Patchett adjourned the meeting at 12:08 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Sarah McLenithan, Deputy Clerk of the Board