

Minutes
Community and Consumer Affairs Committee
September 26, 2006

Committee present: Chairman Jerry Thomas, Legs. Beckwith, Doyle, Ospelt, and Vasho

Excused: Leg. Seager
Absent: Leg. Malone

Guests and Staff: Leg. Chm. Johnson, Leg. Gearsbeck, Co. Admin. Lyman, Clerk of the Leg. Jerrett, Elections Commissioners Wart and Scriber, Central Services Dir. Hogan, Real Property Services Dir. Hastings

Chairman Thomas called the meeting to order at 2:00 PM

Hearing no objections/corrections to the August 29, 2006 minutes, they stand approved.

Real Property

Real Property Director Dave Hastings presented a list of 31 “Buyback” tax delinquent parcels to date with a total payment of \$167,787.46. Upon motion and second by Doyle/Vasho, the committee unanimously approved the sale.

Director Hastings explained the circumstances surrounding Tax Delinquent Parcel #3600-54 – off Co. Rte. 8 in Minetto and recommended it be withdrawn from the auction list. He also recommended that it be deeded to Mr. Donald L. Gifford for \$1 and then merged into Mr. Gifford’s residential property. It was further recommended that the delinquency of \$579.32 be written off and the separate assessment record be removed from the assessment and tax rolls through the correction of errors process. Upon motion and second by Ospelt/Vasho, the committee unanimously approved.

Director Hastings pointed out that there are currently 67 parcels going to the auction this year and that the process has gone extremely well, saving county employees a lot of time and the taxpayers a lot of money. Director Hastings also noted that the County had received \$2,500 in restitution from an individual who stole windows from a county owned parcel just before last year’s auction.

State proposed equalization rates for Oswego County were presented. Upon motion and second by Beckwith/Doyle, the committee unanimously accepted the proposed rates.

Weights and Measures Contracts

Chairman Thomas told the committee that he has spoken with Clerk of the Legislature Ted Jerrett regarding the upcoming expiration of contracts with the two cities for Weights and Measures services and has asked Ted to gather some additional information. Upon motion and second by Beckwith/Ospelt, the committee unanimously tabled the issue.

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Central Services

Central Services Director Rick Hogan reported this, the second year of the three-year Technology Update Plan, has been very successful. He requested that \$100,000 be approved for year three. Leg. Doyle asked Administrator Lyman if all is going well with departments regarding this program. Mr. Lyman responded that not all responses have been positive, but that the new approval process for acquisitions had curbed some buying and has provided for much tighter management. Mr. Lyman also noted his interest in weaning away from proprietary software where possible in deference to adaptable standard software. Upon motion and second by Doyle/Ospelt, the committee unanimously approved \$100,000 to complete the third year of the Technology Update Plan.

Director Hogan also reported that the Oswego Wireless Network is nearly complete and will be up-and-running by the end of this week.

Elections

Commissioner Don Wart reported that Board of Elections is still working on evaluating new voting machines and awaiting final numbers of voters in each election district to determine the total number of machines needed in Oswego County. The required local match of \$56,000 still needs to be identified because it was not included in the BOE budget.

Commissioner Wart also noted that delivery of new voting machines is expected in March, May and July of 2007. Time is expected to be very tight for receiving new machines and educating the public on their use. Mr. Wart also noted that the old lever machines are outlawed for use after September 2007.

Upon motion and second by Beckwith/Ospelt the Committee went into executive session at 2:40 to discuss performance evaluations.

Adjournment

At 2:55 the Committee returned from executive session and adjourned.