

COUNTY GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE

August 27, 2013

PRESENT:

Kevin McDonald, Chairman  
Matt Murell  
Ronald Knott  
Ellen Thurston  
Jesse DeGroot  
Raymond Staats  
Thomas Garrick  
Edward Cross

ALSO PRESENT:

Rebecca Vinchiarello, Deputy Clerk  
Ronald Caponera  
Pat Grattan  
Arnold Schneider  
Chris Watz

Press: 1

Chairman McDonald called the meeting to order at 5:02 P.M.

Sealer of Weights and Measures – A. Schneider

The July 2013 monthly report was distributed. Motion to accept the report by M. Murell, seconded by R. Staats, motion carried.

County Attorney- C. Watz

Resolution Request – Authorization to extend the Westlaw legal research contract.

The services provided were discussed. It was mentioned that the County Attorney covers the cost of this resource for all other departments that use Westlaw. Motion to approve by T. Garrick, seconded by E. Thurston, motion carried. Refer to Finance. The 2014 budget will have to be increased for this service as a result of an increase in the contract.

Resolution Request – Authorization to accept the weighted vote. The Supervisors would like time to review this and it was requested that all Supervisors be provided with a copy of the new weighted vote. Motion to approve setting a public hearing on October 9<sup>th</sup> 2013 by R. Knott, seconded by T. Garrick, motion carried. Refer to Finance.

Tax Foreclosures Update - An order from the Judge has been signed and filed. \$972K was generated from back taxes in the month of August. S. Booy added that it would be helpful for towns to allow residents to pay their taxes with a credit card, and there would be no cost to the municipalities for such a service. Tax bills would have to be available on line as well.

Real Property – S. Booy

An update was given by S. Booy regarding the Basic STAR registration (2014 Assessment Roll) process and a mailing that many Columbia County taxpayers will be receiving from NYS during the first two weeks in September. A memo that S. Booy will be sending to Supervisors, Mayors, and Town and City Clerk’s regarding renewing this exemption was passed around. The State plans to attend the next Full Board meeting to give a presentation. The information should be displayed on county and town websites.

With no further business there was a motion to adjourn at 5:44 PM by R. Staats, seconded by J. DeGroot, motion carried.

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