

REAL ESTATE TAX CYCLE COMMITTEE

Wednesday, March 11, 2020

PRESENT: P. Chapman, M. Walters, M. King, C. Hankins
ABSENT: K. Novacich-Koberna
OTHERS: V. Jones, K. Wathan, P. Curtin, P. McRae, C. Slusser, P. Byers, S. Rolens, P. Taylor, T. Manoogian

The minutes from the February meeting were approved by all members present.

TREASURER:

C. Slusser reported the final real estate tax distribution for the 2018 tax cycle will be on March 27th; they have made 15 distributions and have distributed \$429,658,989.61 which is 98.15% of taxes extended. He said the Tax Sale last month was successful with a record number of tax buyers as well as having the third lowest percentage rate they have ever had. Mr. Slusser also said they auctioned fewer parcels this year than they have in past. The average interest rate was 1.67%.

COUNTY CLERK:

V. Jones reported they have been processing and receiving abstracts from the State and have been working on TIFs, enterprise zone abatements and overlapping districts while they wait for the 1 multiplier to come in.

RECORDER:

P. Curtin reported the transactions in February slowed down as well as the rejections. Ms. Curtin mentioned there has been a rise in paper rejections and plans to work with local title companies to bring those rejections back down. Ms. Curtin provided a quarterly report, per Mr. Chapman's request, and said the amount collected in January/February, 2020 compared to January/February, 2019 is up 54% (\$22k) just in automation fees. Mr. Chapman reiterated that if the fees were not raised, there would be a deficit. He also spoke of the importance of using fees that are designated to specialized funds like the preservation fund to avoid them from accruing and piling up with no benefit to the tax payers or clients.

Ms. Curtin made the Committee aware of a ransomware situation in LaSalle County and passed out the press release regarding the issue. She said they have been in contact with the I.T. Department to create a plan in the case something like this happens in Madison County. Mr. Curtin briefly spoke about the restoration process and the risk that it holds.

COUNTY ASSESSOR:

P. Byers reported the field crew is in Venice Township and is half way complete. He said after that, they will be going on to 2020 building permits, demolitions and various outstanding issues. Mr. Byers said they will be rolling to the 2020 year on March 19th and have mailed the 2020 final abstracts to the State.

It was noted by Ms. Curtin that the new microfiche equipment in the Assessor's Office is nice and is doing research to find the best deal for what they need at the best price.

BOARD OF REVIEW:

S. Rolens reported they have published the tentative multipliers in the Edwardsville Intelligencer on March 2nd, they held their hearing for the tentative multipliers on March 9th and they intend to mail out the multiplier cards on March 23rd. Ms. Rolens said they completed the abatement for the Enterprise Zones and submitted it to the County Clerk and will close the 2019 year on March 12th and reconvene for the 2020 year on March 13th. Ms. Rolens mentioned they continue to process applications for tax exempt parcels and are working on sending evidence to the Property Tax Appeal Board for properties that filed to PTAB on their decision. It was noted that everybody in the county received a positive multiplier except for Venice.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY:

P. Krome reported the I.T. Department continues to provide I.T. support.

Mr. Chapman commended the I.T. Department and briefly spoke about unused space their office gave up that would have been very expensive to rent otherwise.

PURCHASE REQUESTS:

The following purchase request was presented:

1. Treasurer: Real-Time Auction Management System. The cost is \$9,683.00.

Mr. Walters moved, seconded by Mr. King to approve the purchase request as presented. The ayes and nays being called on the motion to approve resulted in a vote as follows: AYES: M. Walters, M. King, C. Hankins NAYS: None. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Mr. Walters moved, seconded by Mr. Hankins to approve the bills for the month. The ayes and nays being called on the motion to approve resulted in a vote as follows: AYES: M. Walters, M. King, C. Hankins NAYS: None. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Mr. Walters moved, seconded by Mr. Hankins to approve the Property Trustee Report as presented. The ayes and nays being called on the motion to approve resulted in a vote as follows: AYES: M. Walters, M. King, C. Hankins NAYS: None. **MOTION CARRIED.**

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Ms. Curtin provided packets to the committee that included a comparative statement showing the balance of the Automation Budget as well as bids regarding the record/film deterioration due to vinegar syndrome in the Recorder's Office.

Very brief discussion was held regarding possible solutions on how this project could be carried out.

NEW BUSINESS:

None.

Mr. Walters moved, seconded by Mr. Hankins to adjourn the meeting. **MOTION CARRIED.**

/mds