NYS Funded Study to Implement a Countywide Database for Property Tax Collection/Enforcement

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Purpose of the Franklin County Study

- Document Current Collection Processes
- Document Manual Procedures
- Propose a Plan to Get to a Centralized Tax Database and Reduce or Eliminate Manual Procedures
- Prepare a bid specification for a Centralized Tax Database System

Some of our findings

- Many Manual Tax Collection operations in Towns/Villages
- Manual entry of "delinquencies" in our database
- Manual foreclosure process
- Errors due to the manual process
- Taxpayers and Researchers do not have a single source for tax data, confusing the process to gather data

Proposed Plans

- Request Bids on our Specifications (\$42,500 available from NYS, should cover software costs)
- Consolidate all data on a daily or periodic basis in the County Offices
- Put all tax data, current data, delinquencies, tax history online for public access

(Proposed Plans)

- Eliminate manual operations with updated, current generation software, such as that used by nearby St. Lawrence County
- Migrate toward a "centralized tax collection" module over time to reduce costs

An Immediate test of our Plans

Prototype a Centralized Tax Database
 System with Centralized Tax Collection,
 using Brushton – Moira CSD

(under a no cost demo license from Allen Tunnell Corporation)

- Based on the proven St. Lawrence County/Sullivan County/ Broome County Systems
- To demonstrate Feasibility
- To determine Cost Benefits
- To show Benefits for Taxpayers

Winter Implementation for Towns

- Rollout of a "partial payment Collection System" with several towns
- Allow taxpayers to have immediate access to tax rolls
- To reduce phone calls into tax offices and into the county
- As a demonstration for all tax collectors to get them "on board" with reduced resistance