

TOWN OF CLARKSON  
TOWN BOARD MEETING  
March 26, 2009

The Town Board of the Town of Clarkson held a special meeting on Thursday, March 26, 2009 at the Clarkson Town Hall, 3710 Lake Road, Clarkson, NY at 5:00 PM

**PRESENT:**

Paul Kimball	Supervisor
Christa Filipowicz	Councilperson
Allan Hoy	Councilperson
Patrick Didas	Councilperson
Sheldon Meyers	Councilperson
Sharon Mattison	Town Clerk
David Goodwin	Highway Supt.
Richard Olson	Attorney for the Town

**ALSO:**

** William Ey	Ass't to Supervisor
** Pam Dolliver	Assessor
Chad Fabry	Building Insp/Code Enf.

\*\*excused

Supervisor Kimball opened the meeting, and Sharon Mattison, Town Clerk led all those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**OPEN FORUM**

A special meeting was held to discuss the 2009 re-assessment project. Supervisor Kimball requested the meeting after the information sessions that were held with Cindy from GAR Associates raised some questions and concerns. He asked GAR to go back and review the numbers on the re-assessments due to the fact that in some neighborhoods, actual sales data shows home sales to be declining since July 1, 2008. Dave Carlon from GAR Associates provided the board with a packet of information from the disclosure notices that were sent out, including parcel details, number of parcels and shift that occurred due to re-analyzing the data. Other statistical information was also enclosed and house style and property class were identified. State requirements were discussed regarding equalization rates and the changing of the valuation date. Carlon explained at length the process involved in arriving at the figures for the re-assessment. Supervisor Kimball stated that GAR and the assessor did their job the way they were supposed to do it but the data, gathered between July 1 2007 and June 30 2008, needs to be reviewed in light of the current financial climate. He suggested meeting again next week to discuss the review results.

Duane Marshall of 3213 Lake Road questioned the time period used to gather the information. Supervisor Kimball confirmed the July 1, 2007 to June 30, 2008 dates and remarked that the downturn in the housing market didn't really become apparent until September 2008.

Anthony Traino of 1215 Lawrence Road asked, hypothetically, what would happen if the economy collapsed and houses were worth nothing. Supervisor Kimball answered that it would lower the taxable assessment base and makes it difficult for the town to operate, adding that the town is currently looking at expenses and cutting unnecessary items.

Marshall asked Carlon if he spent any time physically looking at properties or is it all done on computers. Carlon confirmed that each property was visited.

Supervisor Kimball commented on the ruthlessness of some townspeople during their informal hearings with the assessor, to the point where she felt physically unsafe. He advised everyone to keep things in perspective and remember the assessor lives in the town too.

**03.26.09**

Councilperson Meyers stated his lack of support for an annual assessment and would prefer doing it every three to five years. Carlon replied, doing it every 3-5 years is not in the best interest of the residents as they would see a larger percentage swing in their assessment. In addition, the State would then adjust the equalization rate annually anyway to make up the difference. Not only would this action take place much later in the budget cycle, leaving the Town without critical budget data; but the residents would not be able to claim their full exemptions.

Councilperson Didas thanked Carlon for coming out to the meeting and pointed out that, of the 42 “normal sale” (non “as is” and non- properties on the list of sales foreclosure type sales) since July 1 2008, 17 show an increase in the assessed value over the sale value, 14 show a decrease, and 11 show no change.

Motion to adjourn at 6:30 p.m. by Councilperson Meyers  
Second by Councilperson Hoy  
Unanimously carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Sharon S. Mattison  
Town Clerk

**Approved 04-14-2009**