

## **TIOGA COUNTY OFFICE OF REAL PROPERTY TAX SERVICES ANNUAL REPORT TO THE LEGISLATURE 2023**

The Tioga County Office of Real Property Tax Services continues to be the resource center for all matters pertaining to the County's real property. Some of the office's ongoing responsibilities include:

- Answering questions and providing information to property owners, realtors, lenders, attorneys, paralegals, and the public in general.
- Assisting the nine Towns and six Villages of the County in the administration of their assessment rolls.
- Supporting the Towns, Villages and School Districts of the County by generating tax rolls and tax bills.
- Aiding the municipal Assessors in their various assessing duties.
- Reviewing and processing property transfers.
- Working with the County's GIS Department in the maintenance of the County tax map.
- Maintaining and updating the Real Property and Assessment Rolls portal on the County website.

In 2023, the Tioga County Office of Real Property Tax Services started with one full-time employee, the Director. By the end of January, a second full-time employee, an Office Specialist III, was hired.

Deeds – The office processed 1,269 deed transfers in 2023, averaging just under 106 per month. Deeds were downloaded, reviewed, entered in the State Salesnet system, and loaded into the Real Property database for Assessor action.

Tax bill printing numbers:

- 25,528 Town & County tax bills printed.
- 2,929 Village tax bills printed.
- 11,867 School tax bills printed.
- Support was also provided to six (6) school districts and one (1) Village in tax roll and tax bill processing, minus the actual tax bill printing.

Additional services provided to the public included sending copies of tax bills and property records via email, and tax map printing.

Real Property highlights of 2023 include:

- Proposing and drafting a Local Law that the County Legislature passed granting the new Volunteer Firefighter and Ambulance Worker property tax exemption.
- Conducting an extensive review and update of Agricultural District information in the County Real Property database.
- Initiating an outreach effort to Town and School Boards to increase awareness of new and updated property tax exemptions, focusing on the Firefighters and Volunteer Ambulance Workers exemption and the Senior exemption. This effort will continue throughout 2024.

A goal for 2024 is to generate a contingency plan for the County to provide assessing services to Towns who lose their Town Assessor and are unable to find a replacement.