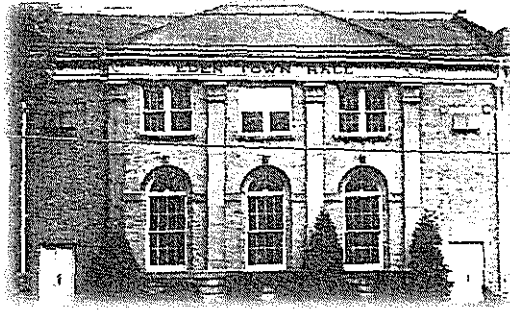


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Town of Eden



Mary Jo Hultquist
Eden Town Clerk

GA

March 21, 2012

Mark C. Poloncarz
County Executive

Michael A. Siragusa
County Attorney

Maria Whyte
Comm. Dept. Environ/Planning

Robert Keating
Dir. Budget/Management

Joe Maciejewski
Dir. Real Property Tax Svcs.

Erie County Legislature

David Shenk
County Comptroller

Dear Sir or Madam:

Enclosed with your letter is a copy of a resolution adopted by the Town Board of the Town of Eden at a Regular Meeting held on March 14, 2012.

The Eden Town Board urges your support of this legislation.

Sincerely,

Mary Jo Hultquist
Mary Jo Hultquist
Eden Town Clerk

Cc: Glenn R. Nellis, Supervisor

Enclosure

6M-22



town of eden



Resolution No. 6-2012

STATE OF NEW YORK :
COUNTY OF ERIE : ss:
TOWN OF EDEN :

I, Mary Jo Hultquist, Town Clerk of the Town of Eden, Erie County, New York, do hereby certify that a Regular Meeting of the Town Board of the aforesaid town, held on the 14th day of March, 2012 at the Eden Town Hall, 2795 East Church Street, Eden, New York, the following resolution was adopted,

MOTION was made by Supervisor Nellis to approve the adoption of the following resolution:

RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF A LAND BANK IN ERIE COUNTY

WHEREAS, the Erie County Department of Real Property Tax Services has determined that there are in excess of 73,360 tax liens within Erie County with more than \$53,529,325 in taxes owed to Erie County; and

WHEREAS, this situation is particularly troublesome in the Cities of Buffalo, Lackawanna and Tonawanda as well as in the Towns of Amherst and Cheektowaga; and

WHEREAS, other towns and villages are also struggling with vacant and abandoned properties; and

WHEREAS, Erie county and its member municipalities have recognized the need to address the growing county-wide issue of tax delinquent, vacant, abandoned, and foreclosed properties; and

WHEREAS, similar problems exist in many areas of New York State; and

WHEREAS, in July 2011 in recognition of this growing problem, New York State passed the Land Bank Act, as Article 16 of the New York State Not-for-Profit Corporation Law, which authorizes any foreclosing governmental unit (FGU) to create a land bank to return tax delinquent, vacant, abandoned and foreclosed properties to productive use; and

WHEREAS, county-wide land banks have proven highly successful in Michigan, Ohio and other regions experiencing growing numbers of problem properties by successfully returning properties to productive use; and

WHEREAS, the County Executive, the Department of Environment and Planning and Department of Real Property Tax Services are seeking ways to work collaboratively with Erie County Municipalities to address this issue; and

WHEREAS, the newly adopted state law establishes a competitive process to allow municipalities to create land banks but will only permit the formation of 10 land banks throughout New York State, with no more than five land banks being approved with the first round of applications due to Empire State Development (ESD) on March 30, 2012; and

WHEREAS, at the January and February 2012 meetings of the Association of Erie County Governments the issue of establishing an Erie County land bank to address the growing problem of vacant properties was raised and discussed at great length and appropriate resolution was unanimously passed by the municipalities in attendance to create such a land bank; and

WHEREAS, County Executive mark Poloncarz tasked the County's Department of Environment and Planning and the County's Real Property Tax Department to establish a land bank working group with representatives from any interested municipality, along with representatives from the Association to work collaboratively on an application to ESD by March 30.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Town of Eden joins Erie County and the Association of Erie County Governments in recognizing the dire need to address the growing vacant and abandoned housing crises in Erie County; and be it further

RESOLVED that the Town of Eden supports the creation of a land bank as an essential strategy in dealing with the vacant property crisis in Erie County; and be it further

RESOLVED that the Town of Eden supports the creation of a land bank by Erie County as Erie County is the Foreclosing Government Unit for most of the municipalities; and be it further

RESOLVED that certified copies of this resolution shall be forwarded to the Erie County Executive; the Commissioner of the Department of Environment and Planning; the Erie County Director of the Department of Real Property Tax Services; and County Comptroller; the County Attorney; the Director of the Division of Budget and Management; and the Erie County Legislature.

Seconded by Councilwoman Pew; All "Ayes"; Motion carried.

I do further certify that I have compared the foregoing with the original Minutes of the Town Board Meeting of the Town Board of the said Town held on the 14th day of March, 2012 and that the foregoing is a true and correct transcript from said original Minutes and the whole thereof, and that the resolutions duly adopted by the said Town Board are on file in my office.

I do further certify that the members of the Eden Town Board on March 14, 2012 were as follows: Supervisor: Glenn R. Nellis; Councilwoman: Mary Lou Pew; Councilman: Edward Krycia, Jr.; Councilman: Fran McLaughlin; and Councilman: Richard S. Ventry.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF; I have hereunto set my hand and the seal of the said Town of Eden, Erie County, New York, the 20th day of March, 2012.

Seal


Town Clerk, Town of Eden, NY