

June 5, 2000

Finance Committee: 5-22-2000

RESOLUTION NO. 167-2000

**ADOPTING LOCAL LAW A (NO. 1) FOR THE YEAR 2000  
MODIFYING LOCAL LAW NO. 2 FOR THE YEAR 1998, SETTING POLICY ON  
ACQUISITION AND SALE OF TAX DELINQUENT PROPERTY  
IN ST. LAWRENCE COUNTY**

By Mr. Greenwood, Chair, Finance Committee

**WHEREAS**, the County would like to modify Local Law No. 2 for the Year 1998, and

**WHEREAS**, the St. Lawrence County Board of Legislators held a public hearing on this issue on Monday, June 5, 2000,

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the St. Lawrence County Board of Legislators hereby adopts Local Law A (No. 1) for the year 2000.

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Mr. Greenwood moved to adopt Resolution No. 167-2000, seconded by Mr. FitzRandolph, and carried by a roll call vote with fourteen (14) yes votes and one (1) no vote (Morrill).

**LOCAL LAW A (NO. 1) FOR THE YEAR 2000  
MODIFYING LOCAL LAW NO. 2 FOR THE YEAR 1998,  
SETTING POLICY ON ACQUISITION AND SALE OF TAX  
DELINQUENT PROPERTY IN ST. LAWRENCE COUNTY**

Be it enacted by the Board of Legislators of the County of St. Lawrence as follows:

Section 1: This law is supplemental to Local Law No. 2 for the Year 1998, and supersedes that law wherever applicable, and makes the following modifications.

Section 2: The current foreclosure process includes an inspection of parcels in foreclosure by County staff. These inspections are scheduled to end on or about May 1<sup>st</sup> of the foreclosure year. Certain parcels that are identified during the inspection may be withdrawn from the foreclosure process by the St. Lawrence County Treasurer upon the advice of the Director of Real Property Services, the Director of Planning, the County Administrator and the St. Lawrence County Attorney.

Section 3: On or before June 1<sup>st</sup> of the foreclosure year, a list of the withdrawn parcels shall be compiled. The parcels shall be divided into two groups.

Group 1: Those parcels deemed to be at no cost to the County. For those parcels the County Treasurer will notify the property owners. The owners will then have one year to resolve whatever problem resulted in the property going into tax foreclosure and pay the taxes, removing the property from the foreclosure. If the owners do not resolve the problem within one year, the parcel will be sold at the next auction year.

Group 2: Those parcels deemed to be of cost to the County.

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A. First, those parcels with no potential to sell. A list of the parcels with no potential to sell will be presented to the St. Lawrence County Board of Legislators with the staff recommendation that a certificate of cancellation of taxes be issued and that a certificate of prospective cancellation of taxes also be issued by the St. Lawrence County Board of Legislators. This shall be done by August 1<sup>st</sup> of the foreclosure year. There shall be an annual evaluation of these parcels. If at the annual evaluation, the Board of Legislators shall make the determination that the parcel still is too costly to the County to be sold, it shall remain in the exempt category. If the evaluation shall be changed, then on July 1<sup>st</sup> of the next year, a development of a parcel specific plan shall be made as hereinafter defined.

B. Second, those parcels with potential to sell. For those parcels with potential to sell, a parcel specific plan will be developed within one year. Letters shall be sent to taxing jurisdictions inviting them to participate in the development of the parcel specific plan of those parcels within their municipality. A resolution adopting the parcel specific plan will be presented to the St. Lawrence County Board of Legislators for action. Those parcels for which a parcel specific plan cannot be developed, will be presented to the St. Lawrence County Board of Legislators with the request that a certificate of cancellation of taxes be issued and a certificate of prospective cancellation also be issued. Those parcels will then be subject to an annual evaluation.

Section 4: Procedures may be developed, implemented and modified as needed to carry out the intent of this local law.