

From: Ian Murtaugh

Date: Wednesday, March 12, 2025 at 11:52 AM

To: Len Simon <lsimon@crotononhudson-ny.gov>

Subject: assessor position

*****CAUTION:** External sender.***

Friends and neighbors,

As a union shop steward, I have, many times, sat around the table negotiating contracts with management. During those oftentimes tense bargaining sessions, there was one guiding principal which always prevailed: to do what was in the best interests of the majority of the rank and file. On several occasions, I argued against my own personal interests, to satisfy that ideal.

The concept of abolishing the village assessor is exactly the same situation. Although my home's village taxes will rise significantly, I believe that consolidation is the right move. More residents will see a decrease than will see an increase. Costs to the village budget will decrease, benefitting even those who may see an increase. You may pooh-pooh the savings as insignificant, but every penny saved is a penny earned.

For those whose taxes will rise, be glad this didn't happen years ago. For those whose taxes will go down, I'm sorry that this didn't happen years ago. What is fair is fair; just as one might not like to subsidize a neighbor, they surely feel the same way.

Why there are discrepancies between village and town may be ascribed to human error or subjective decisions, but that is a different discussion.

Personally, since I am one of the minority whose property taxes will rise under this consolidation, I will use the only remedy available. I plan on appealing my property tax at the Town of Cortlandt on June 17th.