COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MARCH 26, 2007

PROPERTY ASSESSMENT APPEALS - 2007

Recommendation

The Commissioner of Finance & Corporate Services and the Director of Finance, in consultation with the Manager of Property Tax & Assessment recommends:

That Council approve the attached list of properties for appeal to the Assessment Review Board.

Economic Impact

The correction of assessments which are too low will generate additional funding for the City and provide for a more equitable distribution of the property tax burden.

Communications Plan

As required by the Act, notification of the assessment appeal will be sent to the property owner when the appeal is actually filed with the Board.

Purpose

To appeal vacant land properties (no residential homes) which for a variety of reasons have significant errors in their assessment as returned on the roll.

Background - Analysis and Options

Section 40 of the Assessment Act allows that any person, including a municipality, may appeal assessments to the Assessment Review Board (ARB). Finance staff, together with the Municipal Property Assessment Corporation (MPAC), identified a number of significant errors on the assessment roll provided to the City for 2007 taxation purposes. If these errors are not appealed to the ARB, the City will lose significant assessment value. These errors will affect the 2007 tax year only as MPAC will have them properly added to the 2008 assessment roll.

Once the assessment roll has been provided to the municipality, there are a number of mechanisms available to property owners to potentially correct errors that may have caused their property assessment to be over-assessed. However, property assessments which are under-assessed would not normally be corrected by the property owner, therefore, the City has to appeal in order to have the corrections made.

The types of appeals that can be filed include:

- □ Unoccupied, enclosed buildings where the value was omitted from the roll
- Errors in property class
- Exemptions for properties that do not qualify
- □ Property that is no longer farmed

Relationship to Vaughan Vision 2007

This report is consistent with Vaughan Vision 2007 through item B-2 Expand Revenues & Tax Base and is consistant with the priorities previously set by Council. The necessary resources have been allocated and approved.

Regional Implications

The correction of assessments which are too low will also generate additional funding for the Region and provide for a more equitable distribution of the Regional property tax burden.

Conclusion

Reaching an agreement with the property owner and MPAC on the correction required and processing an adjustment to the property tax account will conclude these appeals. Should the City, MPAC and the property owner not be able to reach an agreement the appeal will be heard and decided by the Assessment Review Board (ARB). Finance staff do not anticipate that many would reach this stage as the appeals have primarily been launched in order to correct obvious errors to the roll.

Attachments

Attachment 1 - Vaughan Assessment Appeals 2007 Tax Year

Report prepared by:

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Respectfully submitted,

Clayton D. Harris, CA Commissioner of Finance & Corporate Services Barry E. Jackson, CGA Director of Finance

Vaughan Assessment Appeals – 2007 Tax Year:

Property Roll Number	Address	Reason for Appeal
1928.000.231.07510	Highway 407 S/S	Assessment too Low;
		Error on roll
1928.000.212.10500	10400 Bathurst Street	Assessment too Low
1928.000.212.10510	Bathurst Street W/S	Assessment too Low
1928.000.212.10520	Bathurst Street W/S	Assessment too Low
1928.000.210.56600	Major Mackenzie S/S	Assessment too Low
1928.000.210.56620	Major Mackenzie rear	Assessment too Low
1928.000.210.56700	Major Mackenzie rear	Assessment too Low
1928.000.210.96500	9980 Dufferin Street	Assessment too Low
1928.000.210.99000	Major Mackenzie S/S	Assessment too Low
1928.000.210.99100	Major Mackenzie S/S	Assessment too Low
1928.000.210.99150	Major Mackenzie rear	Assessment too Low
1928.000.211.00000	Major Mackenzie S/S	Assessment too Low
1928.000.213.65200	Dufferin Street W/S	Assessment too Low
1928.000.213.65220	Dufferin Street W/S	Assessment too Low
1928.000.213.65240	Dufferin Street W/S	Assessment too Low
1928.000.213.65260	Dufferin Street W/S	Assessment too Low
1928.000.214.50000	Keele Street E/S	Assessment too Low
1928.000.220.00500	2041-2053 Major Mackenzie	Assessment too Low
1928.000.214.41000	Dufferin Street	Assessment too Low
1928.000.213.62500	9630 Dufferin Street	Assesment too Low
1928.000.213.62600	Dufferin Street W/S	Assessment too Low
1928.000.213.62620	Dufferin Street rear	Assessment too Low
1928.000.213.62635	Dufferin Street W/S	Assessment too Low
1928.000.213.62640	Dufferin Street rear	Assessment too Low
1928.000.281.57000	7543 Kipling Avenue	Incorrect Property class
1928.000.281.58000	7465 Kipling Avenue	Incorrect Property class