

**Resolution in the Town of Pelican
Oneida County, Wisconsin**

Resolution Number 04-2023

Whereas the Town of Pelican, Oneida County is currently assessed using Computer Assisted Mass Appraisal (CAMA) software, specifically the product Market Drive, a division of CATALIS TAX & CAMA, INC., a non-Governmental agency, and;

Whereas property assessment, taxation, and the administration of that process of will remain in the future of Wisconsin property owners, and

Whereas a CAMA system is required to perform the annual assessment process, and through the history of annual assessment service costs, the municipality has paid for the creation, development, and maintenance of the municipal assessment records and is therefore the rightful owner of said records, and

Whereas due to the lack of available comprehensive CAMA systems for Wisconsin municipalities, Market Drive has an overwhelming market share of Wisconsin municipalities as users, and has recently enforced substantial annual licensing fee increases while simultaneously reducing ongoing development and functionality, and

Whereas when requested to provide an open data set of the municipality's assessment information in standard format, Market Drive has insisted on a charge of \$0.60 per parcel for the information of which the municipality is the rightful owner, and

Whereas this substantial cost and the unavailability of an open data set prohibits the municipality from selecting other reasonably priced CAMA software to perform the annual assessment process, and

Whereas Administrative Code as specified in the Wisconsin Property Assessment Manual states;

- Unacceptable electronic formats are those that cannot be read except by customized or uncommon software. (Ch.7, Pg.20) and,
- Electronic roll data must be transferable out of proprietary software to a standard format (Ch.7, Pg.23) and,
- Software systems that try by contract or otherwise to prevent the municipalities from revealing their own data when the complete data sets are unavailable anywhere else is violation of state law. (Ch.7, Pg.35) and,
- Municipalities can obtain non-copyrighted data without infringement of copyrighted software architecture. (Ch.7, Pg.36) and,
- All electronically captured data must be made available to the municipality, and to the subsequent assessor, in electronic format along with the definitions for all fields on the file upon request. (Ch.7, Pg.36) and,
- CAMA system data needs to transfer from a relational database to a CSV (character separated values), txt file or MS Excel format. (CH.7, Pg.39) and,
- Information exported from a CAMA system must be data mapped and relational in MS Access to provide the subsequent user with identifiers to data within a record. (CH.7, Pg.39) and,

- Photos and sketches residing in a relatable CAMA database such as MS Access must contain identifiers in the file that are relatable to the parcel record. (CH.7, Pg.39) and,
- They must be relatable directly by file name or in a property of the photo or sketch file (CH.7, Pg.39)

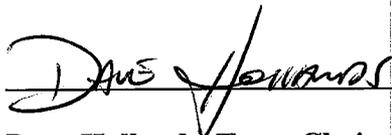
Now Therefore Be It Resolved that the Board of Supervisors of the Oneida County, Wisconsin Town of Pelican does request that the Wisconsin Towns Association, the League of Wisconsin Municipalities, the Wisconsin Counties Association, and all State Officials representing the constituency of the Town of Pelican immediately begin the process of:

- Securing funds through the Non-State Grant Program or other resource either for the development of a new CAMA & Tax Administration software suite, or the acquisition of an existing Wisconsin-based CAMA & Tax Administration software suite, to be owned by Wisconsin Counties and/or Municipalities, and
- To be made available as an option for any Wisconsin County or Municipality, and
- Which will be developed and/or maintained with the cooperation of a panel of experts in the field of Wisconsin Property Assessment and Tax Administration, and
- Be supported mainly by licensing fees held to only reasonable and necessary annual cost changes, and
- To be capable of tax listing, property assessment, and tax collection duties, and
- To resolve the current issue of the municipality's assessment data being unavailable to Market Drive users in an open, standard data format without incurring substantial cost.

Now Therefore Let It Be Known the intent of this resolution is not to provide additional workload to any Town, Village, or City Official or County Staff member, but to instead provide the following;

- A choice for a CAMA & Tax Administration software suite owned by the people of the State of Wisconsin for which it serves, and
- Stability in the ownership and future cost of CAMA & Tax Administration software with ongoing development and training as needed, and
- Permanent availability of the assessment data of which the Municipality is the rightful owner.

• Resolution X approved / rejected on this 20th day of November, 2023 on a vote of 2 ayes, 0 nays and 0 abstentions.



Dave Hollands, Town Chair



Mike Ring, Clerk

* The vote of the Town Board shall be by roll call with the results of such vote being recorded in the minutes of the meeting during which the vote was taken.