ASSESSMENT TERMINOLGY

1. ASSSESSOR: An elected or appointed official of a Town or Village whose function is to value real property for the purpose of taxation.

2. ASSESSMENT: A dollar value determined by an assessor which is a percentage of a property's market value as of a certain date. This value is used to compute the taxes due on a parcel by multiplying it by a tax rate.

3. ASSESSMENT ROLL: A document listing all of the parcels in an assessment jurisdiction together with their land and total assessments. The names and addresses of the property owners, property descriptions and types, along with other pertinent information is also listed.

4. BOARD OF ASSESSMENT REVIEW: A quasi-judicial panel of five members appointed by the Town Board to hear and make determinations on assessment grievances.

5. EQUALIZATION RATE: This rate is determined by the New York State Board of Equalization. The objective of the rate is to equalize assessed values across several Towns for Town and County taxes. It is a weighted average ratio of total assessed value of a Town divided by the total market value. This figure is determined by a market survey conducted by the State, and is several years behind current market conditions.

6. MARKET VALUE: That price in an open market, at which a willing buyer would buy and a willing seller would sell, neither being under abnormal pressure and both being fully informed.

7. RELELY: The amount of unpaid taxes which are added to the next School or County tax bill.

8. RESIDENTIAL ASSESSMENT RATIO: The sum of the assessments of all one, two and three family residences that have sold during a one year period of time, divided by the sum of their sales prices.
9. SECTION/BLOCK/LOT: A parcel identifier, which corresponds to the portion of a tax map that a parcel is located on.

10. TAX LEVY: The total amount of money to be raised by property taxes by a taxing jurisdiction in a given year. The amount is determined by the budget of the local government or tax levying body.

11. TAX RATE: The tax levy divided by the total assessed value of a taxing authority, expressed as dollars per thousand.