



Sarah Kenney &lt;skenney@barringtonhills-il.gov&gt;

---

## VBH BOT ePacket Finance FYI

1 message

---

**Robert Kosin** <rkosin@barringtonhills-il.gov>

Sat, Nov 26, 2011 at 9:03 AM

To: Dolores Trandel <clerk@barringtonhills-il.gov>

Cc: Sarah Kenney <skenney@barringtonhills-il.gov>

Complex tax process looms in 2 townships

By JANE HUH - [jhuh@shawmedia.com](mailto:jhuh@shawmedia.com)

NW Herald

November 26, 2011

HUNTLEY – Next year’s property tax bills could stir yet another round of headaches for some residents in Rutland and Grafton townships.

The property tax season is well under way with the annual levy process moving forward and townships listing assessed values for 2011.

And for the five taxing districts throughout Huntley overlapping the two townships – fire, public library, park, school and village – calculating the 2012 tax bills will be doubly complex.

What’s more, the village of Huntley’s director of finance recently learned from the Illinois Department of Revenue that the equalized assessed values in Kane and McHenry counties would be adjusted by 3 percent – a 3 percent decrease for Kane and a 3 percent increase for McHenry.

Last year’s property assessments varied significantly for the five districts straddling the two counties.

Some residents from Rutland Township in Kane County were hit hard with much higher tax bills because of a tax burden shift that primarily stemmed from lowered property assessments in Grafton Township in McHenry County.

Among the variety of factors, inequitable assessment levels between the two counties were mainly attributed to the disparity in which McHenry County’s assessed valuation dropped by 18.13 percent while Kane County’s dropped by only 4.28 percent.

School District 158 officials faced frustrated taxpayers at board meetings. The school district receives a larger portion of each tax bill than other taxing bodies in the area.

One man from Del Webb’s Sun City, within Rutland Township’s borders, told school board members that over a three-year period, his taxes, “just for District 158,” had increased by more than \$1,000.

The Kane County Assessor’s Office has filed a petition for apportionment. The method, allowed in the Illinois Property Tax Code, calculates the next tax bills based on 2009-10 assessment levels, not solely on the current year’s figures. Apportionment is applied to

correct previous intercounty inequities.

At last week's Huntley Village Board meeting, officials recommended that trustees freeze the tax levy at \$3.8 million, the same as last's year's levy.

Although the village's portion of the tax bill should remain flat, that doesn't necessarily mean the entire tax bill will, as well.

With the apportionment pending, the same group of taxpayers who were entangled with the intercounty tax bill disparities last year could see a similar situation in reverse.

"Ultimately, this will decrease the burden of the Kane County parcels while increasing the burden on the McHenry County parcel," according to the village's summary of apportionment's potential effect.

Only the affected five taxing bodies can block the Illinois Department of Revenue from apportioning its levy. The deadline to file its opposition is Dec. 31.

District 158 already has adopted a resolution stating that it would not oppose the petition. The village of Huntley likely is taking the same route.

"We can only request the dollar amount," said Jennifer Chernak, village director of finance. "We have no control over how the township assessors come up with the assessed values. We have no control over the tax rate."

###

---