



TOWN OF STOUGHTON

OFFICE OF THE TOWN MANAGER

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Statement from Town Manager Thomas J. Calter in response to Finance Committee Chair, Vaughan Enokian: Fiscal 2023 Real Estate Tax Bill Error

I understand that there is some sort of error on the most recent tax bills sent out.

1. Do you have any information on what is going on with the error? How did this error happen?

The Real Estate Property Tax bills for Fiscal 2023 that were mailed on December 31, 2022 displayed Fiscal 2022 assessed values in error instead of Fiscal 2023 assessed values. This error will be rectified by producing and issuing a new bill. Any payments previously made will still be applied.

**** Please note that Personal Property Tax bills were not affected.**

2. Is the error higher or lower than what the bills should be?

In most cases the new and corrected Fiscal 2023 Real Estate Property tax bills will be higher.

3. Does this change the due dates of property taxes?

Yes, Fiscal 2023 Real Estate Property Tax bills for 3rd and 4th quarter will now have a due date of May 1, 2023. Personal Property Tax bills will remain due on February 1st and May 1st, 2023.

4. Is the error percentage based or a flat rate off?

Neither; this issue was the wrong assessed values.

5. How much is the total of all the bills incorrect?

The incorrect bill underestimated the tax liability by approximately \$7.12 million.

6. Is this error based on assessing?

As your Town Manager, I am accountable for the efficient operations of all departments. We have identified the cause of the error, taken action to correct it, and instituted a management control system to ensure that it does not happen again.

7. How does this affect people that have their tax bill paid through a mortgage company?

If your mortgage company is typically notified by the Town, they will be informed of the corrected amount. If they typically request that you provide them with a bill, you will need to provide them the corrected one.

8. When will corrected tax bills be received by taxpayers?

We anticipate that the corrected bill will be issued shortly. This has not been finalized yet and we will provide more details as they are available.

I apologize for the confusion this error may have caused. I assure you that we take these matters very seriously and will always endeavor to do quality work. Most importantly, I am committed to full transparency especially when we fall short of our own quality standards.

Please feel free to contact the Assessor and/or Treasurer/Collector if you have any additional questions.
Finally, I would like to thank Vaughan Enokian for asking all the right questions.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Thomas J. Calter". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Thomas J. Calter,
Town Manager