

Item Title: Tax Committee Recommendations for Value Adjustments, Penalty Waivers, Tax Relief Applications, Refund Requests and Various Reports

Specific Action Requested:

That the Board of Commissioners approves the attached recommendations by the Tax Committee.

Item Summary:

Purpose: The Board of Commissioners approves all tax relief actions requested by taxpayers. On a monthly basis, the Tax Committee meets to consider taxpayer requests and makes recommendations to the Board.

Background: If a taxpayer believes they have been billed incorrectly, wish to appeal a decision of the Revenue Department, seek relief of penalties or submit a late request for exemption, exclusion or deferment, they can request a hearing before the Tax Committee.

The Tax Committee meets monthly and makes recommendations to the Board of Commissioners. The Board approves all tax relief actions. The Tax Committee meets on the third Thursday of each month at 1 p.m. in the Revenue Department's Conference Room to review requests and make a recommendation to the Board of Commissioners. This meeting is publicized and open to the public.

The Tax Committee presents information to the Wake County Board of Commissioners each month for review, showing the name of the taxpayer, description of property, account number, tax year, relief sought, and recommended action.

Board Goal: This item supports routine business of the County as required by North Carolina General Statutes and does not relate to a specific Board initiative.

Fiscal Impact: The fiscal impact of this item varies from month to month based on requests but is generally negligible as a percent of the total County budget.

Additional Information:

The Tax Committee is comprised of Seth Larson, Accountant with the Town of Cary; Natasha Baldwin, Finance Manager with the City of Raleigh and Karen Thiessen, Investment Analyst with Wake County Finance. Gwendolyn Nicholson, Wake County Appraisal/Collection Manager, serves as the clerk to the Tax Committee.

Some reasons a property owner may request a hearing before the Tax Committee are:

- They were penalized for listing personal property after January 31.
- They take exception to the value placed on their property and received notice of the value after the Board of Equalization and Review adjourned.
- Their personal property listing was audited and they are seeking relief of discovered value or applicable penalties.
- They filed a late application for an exemption, exclusion or deferment on a property.
- An application for exemption, exclusion or deferment was denied by the Revenue Department and the wish to appeal that decision.
- A penalty was imposed for the late filing or late payment of a gross receipt tax and penalty relief is requested.
- A refund has been requested for a tax imposed through a clerical error, an illegal tax, or a tax levied for an illegal purpose.
- A refund exceeding the threshold the finance officer is authorized to issue has been requested.

Attachments:

1. Tax Committee Agenda Process
2. Executive Summary 1 and 2
3. Refunds Under/Over \$500.00
4. Daily Updates for Exemptions, Penalties, Tax Relief, Special Situations and Tax Deferments
5. Municipal Collection Report
6. Wake County Collection Report
7. Monthly In-Rem Foreclosure Report
8. PFB Summary Report