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October 7, 2010

Hon. Michael Rights
Supervisor
Town of Southeast
1360 Route 22
Brewster, NY 10509

Dear Supervisor Rights:

RE: Consolidation: Town of Southeast Assessment and Tax Collection Functions

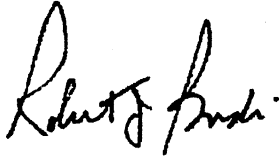
Please accept this memorandum as our response to your request at a meeting held yesterday, October 6, 2010, that the County assume the assessment and tax collection functions for the Town of Southeast for 2011.

We must advise you that we cannot agree to perform these functions at this time for several reasons. First, the County Legislature formally adopted the 2011 County Budget on October 5, 2010. Obviously, this budget did not include the necessary resources to accommodate your request since we did not even know of it until after our budget was adopted. By Law, the County Budget cannot be amended once it is adopted by the County Legislature.

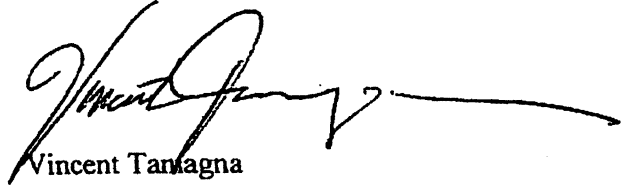
Second, we believe that consolidation proposals such as this have merit, but must be implemented in a well planned, county-wide manner. This will provide the maximum opportunity for the delivery of efficient, effective services at maximum savings to the real property taxpayers of Putnam County. We are expecting a proposal from Pattern for Progress, a not for profit, non political, planning organization to help us in this endeavor. We all know that Government consolidation must happen, but we believe that it will only happen in a well planned fashion, with much discussion and input from the entire community.

On a final note, the County in 2011 will likely be undertaking a wide ranging technology upgrade program that will better enable future consolidations, such as the ones that you mention. We will count on your continued support of these consolidations in the future, once the planning process is concluded and the implementation phase is reached.

Sincerely,



Robert J. Bondi
County Executive



Vincent Tarnagna
Chairman, Legislature

RJB/mf