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Hi Ken, Paul, Pat and Jean

Would you let me know what your comments are about this letter to the editor. The Enterprise likes to have letters no later than Tuesday.

Thanks.

Don Reeb  
#####

To: The Editor, Altamont Enterprise  
From: Don Reeb  
Subject: Your Editorial, February 28, 2008  
Date: March 1, 2008

I believe that your newspaper is not being fair to our very popular (she had run unopposed) and elected assessor, Carol Wysomski, in your editorial on page 2, February 28, 2008 Altamont Enterprise.

You called for a workshop to lay out the perceived problems in the property tax assessment process.

Normally, no one calls for surgery until something wrong is pretty much proven. And then, usually, the surgery is done only if there is both the problem and a solution that can be put in place by action of the surgeon.

Carol Wysomski, to the best of my information, has run an exemplary office of assessment for the Town of Guilderland. She follows the State laws on property tax assessment faithfully.

Recent comments about property taxes, I believe, stem mostly from the fact that property taxes are higher than people desire and that the economy is either in a recession or about to enter one. Property owners are feeling pinched.

But Carol does not control the property tax rate or the property tax bill—those are set by actions of the school boards, the county legislators, the Town Board, the library board and the host of special districts and the fire districts. And she certainly does not control the economy.

Carol should not be asked to defend herself and the assessment process until someone can point to some administrative flaw in her work or her office--something she should have done and did not do. Or maybe something that the law says she should not have been done and she did it anyway. Nothing even close to either of these has appeared.

The Enterprise should apologize to Carol Wysomski—I believe she is an exceptionally fine assessor.

If you or anyone else has evidence to the contrary then your newspaper  
uld certainly publish that information at which time there will be many  
many people calling for a thorough investigation of what went wrong in the  
Town of Guilderland assessment process. Until that happens, I would  
suggest that you and others should call 356-1980 and ask for Carol  
Wysomski and apologize for implying that she has done something wrong.

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