Arlington Fire District Property Tax Data

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The following table shows the taxable market value, tax levy, and true value tax rate for the Arlington Fire District in Dutchess County, New York, for each year since 2001, including proposed 2012 values (in yellow). It also shows the year-to-year changes in each of these parameters. The data in table form:

Arlington Fire District						
Year of Tax Bill	Taxable Market Value		Tax Levy		Tax Rate	
	Market Value	Percent Increase	Tax Levy	Percent Increase	Tax Rate per \$K of Market Value	Percent Increase
2001	\$1,714,614,339		\$6,177,022		\$3.60	
2002	\$1,887,300,626	10.1%	\$6,945,754	12.4%	\$3.68	2.2%
2003	\$2,294,012,847	21.5%	\$7,654,583	10.2%	\$3.34	-9.3%
2004	\$2,481,036,568	8.2%	\$8,400,614	9.7%	\$3.39	1.5%
2005	\$2,665,631,901	7.4%	\$9,231,315	9.9%	\$3.46	2.3%
2006	\$3,131,847,240	17.5%	\$10,045,400	8.8%	\$3.21	-7.4%
2007	\$3,482,582,238	11.2%	\$10,944,726	9.0%	\$3.14	-2.0%
2008	\$4,048,729,025	16.3%	\$12,962,599	18.4%	\$3.20	1.9%
2009	\$3,754,211,297	-7.3%	\$14,123,892	9.0%	\$3.76	17.5%
2010	\$3,605,994,801	-3.9%	\$15,190,713	7.6%	\$4.21	12.0%
2011	\$3,369,609,014	-6.6%	\$14,921,066	-1.8%	\$4.43	5.1%
2012	\$3,155,137,574	-6.4%	\$15,377,720	3.1%	\$4.87	10.1%

The source of the above data is the yearly <u>tax rate pamphlets</u> published by the Dutchess County <u>Real Property Tax Service Agency</u> (RPTSA), except for 2012. The 2012 market value and tax levy are from the <u>Arlington Fire District</u>'s <u>Proposed 2012 Operating Budget</u> approved 9/19/2011.

Taxpayer's Viewpoint versus District Viewpoint

The data from 2001 to 2011 is from the taxpayer's viewpoint. That is, it shows the same tax rates that appear on every property owner's tax bills. (For convenience in presentation, I've rounded these rates to the nearest penny, but all calculations are performed to high precision.) The taxpayer's viewpoint isn't available for 2012 yet, because neither the market value nor the tax levy for 2012 taxes will be finalized until later this year. The best data currently available for 2012 is from the fire district government's perspective.

The 2012 market value is the so-called "final" market for Arlington, as established by the Town of Poughkeepsie Assessor on July 1, 2011. It is the best available estimate of the market value that will be used to calculate the fire tax rate in January 2012. This "final" value is typically adjusted – usually downward, and usually by less than one percent – before January 2012 to account for tax certiorari proceedings. The Arlington Board of Fire Commissioners has no control over Arlington's market value determination.

The 2012 tax levy is the amount to be collected from property taxpayers proposed by Arlington's commissioners on 9/19/2011. The commissioners have the power to change this value any way they want (within budgetary constraints) before November 4, 2011. As with the "final" market value, the Town of Poughkeepsie can make adjustments to the fire district's tax levy for technical reasons. These adjustments are usually small.

What this all means is that the property tax history in this report is from the taxpayer's viewpoint for all but 2012, and as close to the taxpayer's viewpoint for 2012 as is known at this writing. The 2012 tax levy and data derived from it are in yellow to show that these values are only proposed, and are subject to change until November 4.

Observations for 2012

The taxable market value for Arlington is down 6.4 percent. This is the fourth year in a row that Arlington's market value has decreased. This pattern is typical of most areas of Dutchess County, New York State, and indeed the country.

The proposed tax levy is the highest in Arlington's history. It follows an almost unbroken pattern of year-over-year increases throughout this millennium. The only exception to this pattern is 2011, which saw a small decrease in tax levy.

Arlington's proposed tax rate of \$4.87 is the highest in recent history. Arlington's tax rate has been increasing steadily since 2007.

Bar Charts

The following pages chart each of the 6 columns of the above table, for easy viewing. The 2012 tax levy and parameters derived from it are shown in yellow to indicate that they are only proposed.











