The City of Norwalk Tax Collector's office will be conducting a tax sale of tax delinquent property on Monday, July 23, 2018.

Beginning with our 2016 tax sale, held two years ago, we implemented a policy in order to prevent actual or perceived conflicts of interest. No bidder should have an unfair advantage over any other bidder. All bidders should have access to the same information about what they might be bidding on.

Accordingly, bidder registration will be denied to City of Norwalk officials and employees who, by virtue of their position, *could have* access to information that would give those individuals knowledge not available to the general public.

The Tax Collector has determined that registration and/or the right to bid shall not be allowed for the following City of Norwalk officials: *The Mayor, Chief of Staff, City Clerk, Corporation Counsel, Director of Finance, Assessor, and Tax Collector*. Registration and/or the right to bid shall also not be allowed to *any employees of the City of Norwalk Tax Collector's Office and the City of Norwalk Assessor's Office*. Both of these departments are significantly involved with the tax sale, and therefore, may be privy to certain information or documentation regarding the tax sale that is not widely available to the general public.

Under Connecticut General Statute 12-157, the statute that governs the tax sale, the Tax Collector has the sole discretion and authority to establish the rules of the tax sale. This new rule has been discussed with Mayor Rilling, and has been approved by him, the Director of Finance, and the Corporation Counsel.

Any City official or staff member who will be disqualified from bidding who has any questions, concerns, or issues regarding this policy should contact me <u>no later than Tuesday, July 17, 2018</u> in order that we have time to address and discuss the concerns.

I can be reached at lbiagiar@norwalkct.org.

The link to the tax sale site on line is: http://my.norwalkct.org/etaxsale/

Thank you.

Lisa Biagiarelli, CCMC, Esq. *Tax Collector*



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