

## ATTENTION BUYOUT PARTICIPANTS

### Why are we required to sign the Grievance Form?

All property owners who have signed up for the buy-out program have been sent grievance forms to sign and return to the City before May 1, 2016. May 1st is the deadline for changes to assessments for the 2016-2017 taxes (2016 school tax, 2017 City and County taxes). Because the City will not have completed the purchase of your property by the May 1st deadline, we will lower your assessment to \$100 for calculating the 2016-2017 taxes.

The City is required to pay the Oneida City School District and Madison County the full amount of taxes owed to them (make them whole), regardless of the fact that these homes are in the buy-out program and you, as the owner, will not be paying any taxes for the 2016-2017 tax year. By lowering the assessment to \$100, the City will decrease the amount of taxes to be paid to make the County and School District whole.

If, after your purchase offer is determined, you decide to opt out of the buy-out program and remain in your home, your assessment will revert back to its current amount. We understand that this process can seem very involved and overwhelming. We are trying to ensure the homeowners' best interests are protected, and that the process is done efficiently. Please feel free to call the Assessor's Office at 363-7579 if you have any further questions concerning this form. Also, please sign and send in or drop off to us the grievance forms so that we can continue to move forward with this program.