

Homeowners' group to fight Oconee County tax

New bill is \$4,570.74 more than previous four years combined

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SENECA — A homeowners' association is questioning a dozen tax bills from Oconee County it blames on shoddy reassessment. An official with the Waterside Crossing Homeowners Association said the group is appealing 2 of 19 tax bills it has received from the county. One of the tax bills jumps out like a sore thumb. Carey "Bo" Horne, treasurer

of the Waterside Crossing HOA said this year's tax on the 8.3 acre clubhouse property came out to \$4,792.88.

However, in each of the previous four years the tax on the same property was \$52.03, \$53.83, \$54.18 and \$62.10.

Furthermore, Waterside Crossing identified 10 public roads accepted by the county's Roads Department long ago, but are being taxed to the Association by Oconee.

On the flip side, Horne said

the Association is responsible for one private road, but it did not get a tax bill for it.

He plans to point out that error to the county even though it would cost the Association money because it's the right thing to do.

Asked whether the county or Tyler Technologies Inc. is blame for the mix up, Horne said there is enough blame to go around.

Oconee paid Tyler \$1.8 million to do its reassessment.

"I think it's a mess from both," Horne said.

Councilman Wayne McCall has been an outspoken critic of

the job done by Tyler.

"It's a mess ... it's an absolute disaster," McCall said at a County Council meeting earlier this week. "There's no other way to say it nicely."

McCall and others on council are calling for Tyler to extend its daily hours, and perhaps open on weekend, to handle a mounting numbers of complaints.

Property owners have three months from the date of receiving their reassessment notices to file an appeal.

