

Oconee County to address reassessment today

BY CARLOS GALARZA
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WALHALLA — That Oconee County Administrator Scott Moulder is holding a rare news conference today to discuss reassessment is news in itself.

Moulder's office announced the briefing earlier **this week**. It is scheduled for **3 p.m. at County Council Chambers, 415 S. Pine St., in Walhalla.**

Moulder said Wednesday that **the news conference would give him the opportunity to provide**

information about the reassessment appeals process and answer questions that he does not **have time for during council meetings.**

The **council meets** again Tuesday.

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REASSESSMENT: Set up an appointment with Tyler by calling (864) 718-1424

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At last week's council meeting, reassessment took up much of the public comment session.

Residents have peppered council and the administrator with complaints about higher assessments and questions about the appeals process.

Moulder appeared to downplay the reason for the unusual news briefing today that is rarely, if ever, invoked.

"Basically it's an update of the process," he said. "We want to provide data of how the appeals process is going."

Oconee County em-

ployed Tyler Technology Inc. to do its reassessment for \$1.8 million.

It is the first time Oconee officials have ever outsourced the job from its Assessor's Office.

After many complaints, including criticism of Tyler's work by Councilman Wayne McCall, Moulder said last week that the company would no longer be allowed to have access to the reassessment data filed digitally in the county's system.

"The information in the computer is basically locked," Moulder said. "We have taken the data file from Tyler and

put it into the county's system ... We are not allowing Tyler any longer to digitally access the data because it is now the official record."

Instead, the county is insisting that Tyler provide a paper trail of any adjustments made to property owners' assessments.

Moulder encouraged property owners who are not satisfied with

their reassessment to go through the process that begins with setting up an appointment with Tyler. The number to call is (864) 718-1424.

If needed, Moulder said property owners could go to the county for further assistance, if they are not satisfied following the initial interview with Tyler.

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