





Alpena County Treasurer's Office

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FINANCE MEMO

May 15, 2019

As many of you are aware Alpena County currently offers Property and Property Tax information free at BS&A Online. We have a yearly contract with BS&A to have our information on their website. The annual contract costs the County \$11,550.00 per year. The current contract expires August 1, 2019. The cost to renew this contract is *not* budgeted in the 2019 budget. If the County is not going to renew this contract the County will need to contact BS&A to set up a new contract.

In 2016 when the County initially removed the free online Property and Property Tax information it caused quite an issue. Several county business owners (Title Companies, Realtors, Banks, Credit Unions, Accountants, etc.) were very upset that they would now have to pay for the information they previously got online for free. The business owners will still be able to get verbal information for free from the County Treasurers office. But if they want something in writing they will have to pay as they always have.

I strongly recommend that if it is the intention of the County Commissioners to no longer provide the Property and Property Tax information free online this information be provided to the public as soon as possible.

Sincerely,

Kimberly Ludlow
Alpena County Treasurer