

9:00 a.m. There was no quorum present but the decision was made to meet informally as a County open-book meeting in order to hear from the publics present.

Present were: Councilpersons Cheryl Sanden and Emily Krage. Also present were: Chris Peterson, Audrey Hegland, Cindy Cresswell and Luke Onstad of the Assessor's Office, Steve Rischette and Richard Snow.

Cresswell presented an overview of the property tax system, including property tax changes that have occurred in the past year as well as the process of appeal. Also included were land values, including residential, woods and agricultural, and property sales made during the past year. A written report of the 2018 property tax system is available at City Hall.

Those present voiced their questions including:

- One property owner (Richard Snow) stated he has two lots, with the building sitting on a portion of both. In previous years the taxes for each lot has been similar. This year, taxes on one of the lots went up substantially even though there have been no changes made. Cresswell stated she will look into the matter and report back.
- Inquiry was made whether every property owner's taxes in the City went up 3%. Cresswell replied that the levy went up 9.5% but the overall tax capacity went up 4% due to several factors - the annexation, the addition of Farmer Coop Elevator, as well as due in part to a new program the County instituted that is still being adjusted to.
- Question was voiced as to whether there had been any appraisals done this year. Cresswell replied that there had not been; stating that the Assessor's Office has had a change in personnel, and with the new program being instituted, they are working through the new process and catching up.
- Cresswell was asked to check the valuation of a property, since it had gone up significantly this year. She will check on this and report back.

The meeting adjourned at 9:45 a.m.