

CITY OF BURTON
SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
JUNE 18, 2007, 6:45 P.M., COUNCIL CHAMBERS
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The Meeting is called to order by Council President Gary Isham at 7:03 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: LaDuke, Major, Isham, Wells and Tinnin.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Cross and Conley.

OTHERS PRESENT: R. Austin, Attorney, D. Heidenberger, Assessor, and J. Adams, Deputy City Clerk.

PURPOSE OF THE MEETING: TRUTH AND TAXATION PUBLIC HEARING

PRESENTATION:

Mrs. Heidenberger stated the Truth & Taxation hearing is a procedural hearing required by Public Act 5 of 1982. It is required prior to Council adopting its fully authorized millage for operating purposes. Act 5 states if a local unit's taxable value increases over the previous year, excluding new construction, the increase in value must be expressed in the terms of an additional millage. The proposed additional millage will be an agenda item at your regular meeting this evening.

Mrs. Heidenberger stated further, the City operating and the first Police Millage, if you adopt this, those millages will not have changed over last year, the change will be the additional 1 mill.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION: None.

COUNCIL DISCUSSION:

Mrs. Tinnin said since she has been on Council, she does not believe she has ever seen our taxable value in our City decrease.

Mrs. Heidenberger responded the taxable value did not decrease, it just didn't increase at the rate of inflation which is why we didn't have the Headlee rollback on the ad valorem roll. It increased about 3.4%, but it did not increase as much as the inflation rate which was 3.7%, but in order to collect the difference, you have to have the Truth & Taxation hearings.

Mrs. Tinnin asked if she foresees in the future our taxable value ever decreasing.

Mrs. Heidenberger said probably not. It is a nationwide figure we get from the State. It may not increase as much as it has this year but she doesn't foresee it in the near future decreasing. Sales has slowed down tremendously and our overall sales last year we are down about 9% from the previous year.

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Mrs. Tinnin said a resident stated they filed for some tax relief and they were denied. They did not receive a letter of explanation stating why they were denied. She asked if this is typical.

Mrs. Heidenberger said she does not know what type of relief, whether it was just a typical Board of Review, appeal on the value or whether it was a poverty. We don't usually give the Board action at that time. It is within the Board minutes, but they are standard letters if they are approved or denied.

Meeting adjourned at 6:55 p.m.

jra