CITY OF BURTON
SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
JUNE 17, 2002, 7:00 P.M., 2002, COUNCIL CHAMBERS

Council President Larry Brawner called the Special Meeting to order at 7:10 P.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Bement, Brawner, Centilli, Cross, Martinbianco, Tinnin and Wells.

MEMBERS ABSENT: None.

OTHERS PRESENT: Mayor C. Smiley; B. Becker, Controller; D. Lowthian, Assessor; Attorney R. Austin and G. Webster, City Clerk.

PURPOSE OF THE MEETING: TRUTH AND TAXATION PUBLIC HEARING

PRESENTATION:

Mr. Lowthian said Truth-in-Taxation is a procedural process established by state law. He explained that if the taxable value has increased due to an increase in property value, excluding new construction, then that increase in taxable value has to be expressed as a millage rate increase. If the hearing did not take place, Council would have to rollback the millage to reflect a general fund loss.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION:

Carl Fenner, 1146 Kettering, wanted to know if this was a millage or bond issue increase for the residents.

Mr. Lowthian said it was not a bond issue millage.

Roberta Compton, 5347 Lapeer Rd, wanted to know if we would see an increase on our taxes. In addition, she wanted to know what Council would be acting on tonight.

Mr. Lowthian wanted to know if Mrs. Compton received a notice of change of assessment in taxable value. He said if your taxable value increased, you would have been notified in February. In that notification it would have given you the change in your taxable value and given you the estimated tax increase as a result of the change in taxable value.

Mr. Lowthian explained that twenty years ago Public Act 5 of 1982 was passed. The Act states if the taxable value for the City as a whole increased over the previous year, then that change in taxable value had to be expressed in terms of a millage rate. Before Council could levy that change in millage rate due to taxable value change, they had to hold a Truth-in-Taxation hearing and post notification in the paper.

COUNCIL DISCUSSION:

Mr. Martinbianco asked for further clarification on this issue. He thought this involved two topics, the Headlee Amendment and Truth-in-Taxation. The Headlee Amendment is incorporated automatically, so there is a rollback irrespective. Truth-in-Taxation talks about a total tax levy in dollars and cents.

Mr. Lowthian said essentially that was correct. Truth-in Taxation actually factors in a millage rate. We take the total equation and work on the millage aspect of it.

Mrs. Tinnin asked if the maximum additional millage was not levied, and not voted on by the City Council, what would that equate to per homeowner as a tax savings.

Mr. Lowthian said that amount would very according to the taxable value of their property. He used an example of a $100,000 home with $50,000 taxable value. In operation it would save them $7.37.

Meeting Adjourned at 7:10 P.M.

Gayle Webster
Burton City Clerk

GW/cml