

**BELLE PLAINE CITY COUNCIL
TRUTH IN TAXATION HEARING
DECEMBER 3, 2012**

TRUTH IN TAXATION HEARING.

1. CALL TO ORDER.ROLL CALL.

The Belle Plaine City Council conducted the Truth in Taxation hearing on Monday, December 3, 2012 at 6:00 p.m. at City Hall, 218 North Meridian Street, Belle Plaine, MN. Mayor Tim Lies called the meeting to order with Councilmembers Gary Trost, Cary Coop, Paul Chard, Scott Schneider and Michael Pingalore present. Also present were City Administrator David Murphy and Finance Director Dawn Meyer.

Mayor Lies explained the purpose of the Truth in Taxation Hearing is to allow public comment on the proposed 2013 budget and levy. Mayor Lies explained that comments regarding valuation will be addressed at the Board of Review held in April of each year.

City Administrator Murphy provided an overview of the status of the proposed budget for 2013. A copy of the proposed budget, levy and capital improvement plan were available for public review.

2. TRUTH IN TAXATION HEARING.

Mayor Lies opened the public hearing at 6:03 p.m. and asked for public comment.

Scott Kruger, 922 Deer Creek Parkway, explained that while his property valuation decreased, the property taxes increased. He asked what would occur if he improved his property, thus increasing the valuation. Staff explained that property taxes on his property would most likely increase. Finance Director Meyer briefly explained contributing factors to the city's budget, including the removal of State aid to cities and the homestead credit reduction.

Mike Jacobs, 1310 Quail Court, explained that he would like a better understanding of the city's budget and levy. He would like to become more involved in the community and help to improve city services. Mr. Jacobs was advised to stop by city hall to speak with staff in more detail.

3. ADJOURN.

MOTION by Councilmember Coop, second by Councilmember Chard, to close the Truth in Taxation hearing and adjourn the meeting at 6:06 p.m. Furthermore, a continuation hearing is not necessary. ALL VOTED AYE. MOTION CARRIED.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Krings
Recording Secretary