

**BELLE PLAINE CITY COUNCIL
TRUTH IN TAXATION
DECEMBER 6, 2022**

1. Call to Order. Roll Call.

The Belle Plaine City council conducted the Truth in Taxation Hearing on Tuesday, December 6, 2022 at 6:00 PM at City Hall, 218 North Meridian Street, Belle Plaine, MN. Mayor Meyer called the meeting to order with Councilmembers Cary Coop, Renee LeMieux, Paul Chard and Patricia Krings present.

Also present was City Administrator Dawn Meyer, Finance Director Jirik and Public Works Superintendent Otto present. Wanda Savage served as the video recording operator.

2. PUBLIC HEARING – TRUTH IN TAXATION.

Mayor Meyer read the truth in taxation statement which explains the purpose of the Truth in Taxation Hearing is to allow public comment on the proposed 2023 budget and levy. The City Council will not discuss property valuations. Questions or concerns with valuation may be addressed with Scott County Assessor's Office.

Finance Director Jirik provided an overview of the proposed levy. Jirik explained the Truth in Taxation is required by the State to receive public comment on the proposed budget and levy. Jirik explained the budget includes State mandates certain expenditures like Police training and elections, maintenance of City infrastructure, planning for long-term capital projects and inflation. Jirik noted the market value increased with City growth resulting in a tax rate decrease of 11.49% and the levy impact is proposed at a 8.5% increase. Jirik reviewed the surrounding cities proposed levies.

Mayor Meyer opened the public hearing at 6:05 PM and asked for public comment.

Tom Schafer, 1300 Linwood Drive, inquired about how valuations are decided. Mayor Meyer explained the assessors look at data on building permits, sales comp, and market to determine the valuation. City Administrator Meyer explained in March property owners receive a notice from Scott County with the projection of the property valuation for the next year. Meyer explained property owners can contact Scott County Assesors office for more information and questions.

Brian Romness, 1373 Robert Creek Curve, inquired how the rate of tax increase is decided. Mayor Meyer explained the valuation is set by Scott County and if one property is going up 40% vs another increase of 14% it could be a lag in the valuations for one property. Romness inquired how the rate is determined. City Administrator Meyer explained the amount levied is a flat rate and property valuations decide how much each person pays. Meyer explained if every house value was the same everyone would pay the same amount. Meyer noted homes whose value is lower pays less than a house that is valued higher.

Romness inquired on the school levy and when it started and when it ends. City Administrator Meyer explained School levy questions should be addressed to the School Administration.

Tom Schafer, inquired on the December 8th Scott County meeting. Mayor Meyer explained the meeting on December 8th will be a Truth in Taxation meeting going over the budget.

MOTION by Councilmember LeMieux, second by Councilmember Coop, to close the public hearing at 6:18 PM. ALL VOTED AYE. MOTION CARRIED.

3. Schedule Continuation Hearing, if necessary.

4. Adjourn.

MOTION by Councilmember Coop, second by Councilmember Krings, to adjourn the meeting at 6:19 PM.
ALL VOTED AYE. MOTION CARRIED.

Respectfully Submitted,

Renee Eyrich
Recording Secretary