

*** April 7, 2022 ***
Board of Review Meeting

The Atwater City Council met as a Board of Review on Thursday, April 7, 2022 at the Atwater Community Center – 107 2nd Street North. Mayor Olson called the meeting to order at 6 pm with Council member present were Brian Carlson, Shane Hagstrom, Deb Mickle and Sandy Walsh. Also present were Val Svor, Jennifer Halvorson, Gavin Klein and Chris Jeffords from the Kandiyohi County Assessor's office. Atwater residents present were Patrick Walsh, Cecilia Kurtz, Dale Tagtow, Greg Tauer and Myron Behm.

The purpose of the meeting was to review, and correct if necessary, the assessment of the City of Atwater for the year 2022 payable in 2023.

County Assessor Svor gave a short explanation on how the valuation is determined. There were 14 house sales in Atwater. Houses typically stayed on the market for 1 day and had multiple offers and sold for over list price. Residential had an increase of 16% to 20%, Lake property values had an increase of 25% to 35% and Agriculture increase of 20%.

40-075-3170 – Janet Johnson – 206 Pleasant Avenue West

Halvorson from the assessor's office reviewed this to the City Council, Johnson was not in attendance. Johnson asked the county assessor to come to her property for an assessment of her property. Johnson property was assessed at \$190,090, she had asked for decrease of her property. Johnson property was decreased to \$181,300 for these reasons; assessor removed basement finish because of water getting in the basement, heated garage, heater does not work and decrease of 10% because of being a Highway property. Motion made by Mickle to approve this change and second by Carlson. Motion carried with everyone voting in favor of decrease.

40-075-0580 – Patrick Walsh – 111 5th Street North & Vacant Lot 40-075-0575

Walsh said he bought the property at an auction for \$100,000 and wanted to know why the building was assessed at \$224,000 now. Halvorson said she had walked through the property after it was sold and asked the County Board to decrease the assessed value, which was passed by the county board. Walsh said that the building is being used as a warehouse for tire storage at this time. Since of the usage as a warehouse he would like the value lowered. Motion made by Carlson to lower the value to \$200,000 was second by Hagstrom. Motion was carried with a vote in favor to decrease value. Walsh sustained and did not vote. Motion made by Mickle, second by Carlson for no change on vacant lot value. Motion carried. Walsh again did not vote.

Kurtz had a question about the value increasing, but her question was answered by listening to the discussions. Kurtz also wanted to know about why the County taxes have increased that are on the tax statement, she was told she needed to talk to the County Board.

40-912-0950 – Greg Tauer – 505 Main Street South

Tauer questioned on why his property assessment in 2019 was increased by 50%. County Assessor's office went through the property in 2019 and because of new windows, kitchen remodel and shed in the backyard plus it was valued at a story and a half but is a little taller than that. Also

the affective age went from 1958 to 1970. Assessments in 2020 was the big increase and now the increase is market value. Motion made by Carlson not to change the value and second by Hagstrom.

There was no more public input

A motion by Carlson to adjourn the board of review and second by Hagstrom at 6:50 pm. Motion Carried.

Laurie Torkelson