

City of Wilmont  
Equalization Meeting  
April 19, 2022

Mayor, Gene Bertrand called to order the special meeting of the Wilmont City Council on Tuesday, April 19, 2022 at 2:30 pm at the Wilmont Community Center. The purpose of this meeting was for the City of Wilmont Equalization hearing. Council members present were Carolyn Penning and Travis Halbur. Others present were City Clerk, Amber Bertrand, County assessor Val Reusch, Local Assessor Erik Skogquist and Chris Larsen who is contracted under Erik.

Merle Rabenberg the Post Commander was in attendance on behalf of the VFW and wanted to know why the value increased so much (went from 32,700 to 39,200). Val discussed some of the reasons behind the increase – time trend increased 17% which she then had to use to determine values, along with the increased cost of construction/materials/etc. So part of increase would be land value which increased around 20%, another part is building rates – cost per square foot has increased (commercial took around a 10% increase across the board) and the other part is there have been more sales on commercial side which is making them look at overall rates which increased. Merle brought in a couple papers showing there might be some help/forms to get them switched to non-profit organization instead of being listed as commercial which should then help with value/cost. Val forwarded Amber the forms that she had to get printed out and told Merle to start with those. No motion was needed since there wasn't a formal request to change values – just wanted information on why it increased which Val had explained and it was understood.

Harlan Unger was in attendance on behalf of his son Donny Unger 703 4<sup>th</sup> Ave to see why the value increased on the home since the home is in such poor condition. Val had explained the reasoning behind the increase which Harlan understood & Erik stated that he has the home down as still being worked on but told Harlan that the next time he is assessing he will reach out so he can get into the house which then may adjust the value. Harlan also brought up that the county does not have the home down for Donny as a Homestead but he has lived there since 2009. Val had Amber print an application for Harlan to fill out and drop off at their office to get that changed over. Motion was made by Travis Halbur and seconded by Carolyn Penning to leave home value/bare lot as is but approved home to be listed as homestead. All in favor, motion carried.

No one else had any other issues or questions so a motion to adjourn the meeting at 3:10 pm was made by Travis Halbur and seconded by Carolyn Penning. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Minutes taken by Amber Bertrand

Clerk/Treasurer  
City of Wilmont