

**City of Elmore Council
Truth In Taxation Meeting Minutes
December 4th, 2023, 6:00 pm
Library Community Room**

Mayor Clara Vereide called the Truth In Taxation meeting of the Elmore City Council to order at 6:00 pm. Council present was Lorman Jahnke, Sue Dickson and Elton Rhoda via Zoom from Apache Junction, Arizona. Jennifer Williams was absent. Also present was Marlys Jagerson, Roger Holland, Vicki Boeckman, Mike Schutta, Marlin Krupp and Bobbi Huston.

MINUTES

Roger Holland is wondering why Elmore's taxes are so much higher than other communities. His house value compared to his daughter's in Fairmont, Minnesota, is similar but her taxes are around \$900 and his proposed around \$2,000. Vereide and the council stated that Fairmont has large businesses to offset the tax needed to run the city.

The general consensus among the present citizens was that Elmore house values and taxes are too high for the amenities available. Vereide explained how the county calculates the tax rate for each city. The state of Minnesota has also mandated the county increase home and land values another 7.5% each.

The council explained that the 4.5% levy increase is only proposed, not final. The levy proposal is set high since the council cannot go higher than they voted in September if needed but they can lower the levy amount before finalized. They also stated that the levy was set before they knew how much the police contract with the Faribault County Sheriff's Department would be. Since it would be saving the City money, they believed the final levy will go down before finalized.

No voting can take place at Truth In Taxation meetings. After listening to all present citizen concerns, it was moved by Jahnke to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Dickson and all present voted aye. As there was no further business, Mayor Vereide adjourned the meeting.

ATTEST:

CITY CLERK