

MINUTES
ORONOCO TOWNSHIP BOARD OF APPEAL & EQUALIZATION
APRIL 20, 2020

This was a teleconference meeting. On April 6, 2020, the Oronoco Town Board adopted Resolution 2020-05, Resolution Establishing the Ability to Conduct Open Meetings by Telephone in response to the Peacetime Emergency Declaration issued by Gov Walz to prevent the transmission of COVID-19.

The Oronoco Township Board of Appeal and Equalization was called to order on April 20, 2020, at 4:30 pm by Chair Charlie Lacy. Supervisors Ken Mergen and Tammy Matzke, Treasurer Kim Stanton and Clerk Lucy Shonyo were present. Also present were Olmsted County appraisers Julie Hackman, Tom Goedken and Josh Dennison.

Caryl Closner, 2190 Whitebridge Rd NW, expressed the belief his property was assessed over its value because it didn't reflect the devaluation caused by the power line going through his property in 2013. County appraisers noted that the 2013 appraisal was for land only, no buildings, that reducing the value was not supported by the market and suggested if a current appraisal could be obtained it could be looked at again.

Charlie Lacy made a motion to make no change to the current valuation of Mr. Closner's property. Ken Mergen second, motion carried 3-0. [Lacy – aye, Mergen - aye, Matzke – aye]. Mr. Closner was informed he could appeal to the county board of appeal & equalization on June 16, 2020.

Mr. Closner also noted his property lost its homestead status. Discussion followed, but a property's homestead / non-homestead status is outside the purview of this local board. Mr. Closner was advised to contact Tom Goedken with further questions.

At this point Charlie Lacy lost phone contact with the meeting.

Supervisor Ken Mergen asked about a call he got from Sharon Erickson, 13314 Sunset Bay Road NE, regarding her property's valuation. (Ms. Erickson was not present.) Tom Goedken, County Appraiser, indicated he had talked with her about one of the properties and will call her back regarding the other. Ken Mergen made a motion to make no change to the current valuation of Ms. Erickson's property. Tammy Matzke second, motion carried 2-0. [Mergen – aye, Matzke – aye].

Ken Mergen made a motion to adjourn at 5:05 pm. Tammy Matzke second, motion carried 2-0. [Mergen – aye, Matzke – aye]

Respectfully Submitted

Lucy Shonyo, Clerk

Charlie Lacy, Chair, Oronoco Town Board