

MINUTES OF OPEN BOOK MEETING
April 14, 2008

The annual Open Book Meeting (formerly Board of Appeals) was duly called to order on Monday, April 14, 2008 at 5:00 p.m. Members present, Robert Roesler, Carroll Behne, Jim Poirot, Kurt Olson and Brad Ringnell. Mayor Roesler presided. Also present, City Admin/EDA Dir Sack Thongvanh and Deputy Clerk Irene Schlaphoff.

The purpose of the Open Book meeting was to allow citizens to meet with County Assessors Dan Whitman and Deb Eversman to discuss the market values placed on their properties for 2009.

Mrs. Eversman explained to all present that she was able to review and reappraise all homes in Sherburn, and has entered the information and studied comparative sales. As a result, some property values were increased and some were decreased. Land values were lowered by \$10 per frontage foot. She stated that county assessors are held accountable by the State of Minnesota, and are expected to maintain 90-105% accuracy. At this time the State believes local valuations are too low; Assessor Whitman plans to plead their case before the State board.

David and Tammy Smith inquired about the increase in their valuation and were informed that the prior estimated value did not reflect the complete addition and improvements, and had been reappraised this year. As a result of their appearance at this Open Book Meeting, they do have the right to make an appeal to the County Board of Appeal and show evidence that the valuation is too high.

Bruce Haugen inquired about the extreme increase in the valuation of his pole barn, and learned that the previous assessment records showed land only, no building. Mr. Whitman remarked that countywide, the values on storage space are quite high.

Upon property review and per assessor recommendation, adjustments to the following properties were also made: Ruth Lutterman decreased by \$3,400; Bubble Bath Carwash decreased by \$9,100; My Guy decreased by \$2,700.

Motion to adjourn by Poirot, second by Behne, carried. Open Book meeting declared adjourned at 5:40 p.m. at which time Council entered into a workshop session.

Deputy Clerk Irene Schlaphoff