

**City of Menahga**  
**Board of Review City Council Minutes**  
**Monday, April 18, 2022**

**1:00 pm**

**1. Call to Order**

The Menahga City Council held their annual Board of Review Meeting Monday, April 18, 2022, at 1:00 pm.

Mayor Liz Olson called the Board of Review Meeting to order at 1:25 pm due to the late arrival of Wadena County Assessor Lee Brekke. The purpose of the meeting was for the City taxpayers to be heard regarding their assessed value for taxes payable in 2023.

**2. Roll Call**

Comprising a quorum of the council, the following members were present:  
Mayor Elizabeth Olson      Durwin Tomperi      Dan Warmbold

Absent: Robyn Keranen and Art Huebner

**3. Pledge of Allegiance**

**4. Action Items**

Lee Brekke, Wadena County assessor took over the meeting based on the fact that the City of Menahga did not have a trained equalizer in attendance.

Mirja Maninga (parcel #R176300050) questioned the value of her house. She stated that in the last three years her house has went up about \$20,000 a year. She has lived in her house for 21 years. Lee Brekke said that in the City of Menahga there have been 32 sales from 10-01-20 to 9-30-21. Her current value that is assessed is \$168,000. Lee Brekke stated the reason for the property in Menahga being raised so much, is because of the 32 sales that sold so much more than they were being assessed. Maninga stated that there are better

neighborhoods in Menahga than her location. Mayor Olson asked if the city is valued as a whole and not by neighborhoods? Lee Brekke said that is the case.

Kathleen Shepersky (parcel #R176800150) came forward stating that her value has increased from \$187,800 to \$234,200. Lee Brekke said that one of the issues that is happening is that the more a property is valued, the property loses homestead exclusion. Any property over \$76,000 starts to lose their homestead exclusion which is decided by the State Legislators. County Commissioners have been lobbying the Legislators to raise the homestead exclusion, which would then provide tax relief for all residents.

County Assessor Lee Brekke stated that because the City of Menahga did not have any trained equalizers (Huebner and Keranen) in attendance, the city will lose their appeal rights for 2022 and 2023, and it will revert to the county for appeals.

Matthew Johnson (parcel #R173300470) had contacted Brekke and he had visited Johnson’s house and there were a couple of corrections that would amount to a \$7400 reduction in his valuation.

Carmen Lockhart (parcel #R170224120) had called the county and stated she had value and classification concerns. Brekke will follow up with her.

Lee Brekke informed the city that there are jurisdictions that do not have local Board of Review Meetings and have the county take over the Board of Review with an “open book” review.

**17. Adjournment**

**Main Motion: To adjourn at 2:10 pm**

Moved by:	Warmbold
Seconded by:	Tomperi
Action:	Motion carried by a 3-0 voice vote
In favor:	Tomperi, Warmbold, Olson
Opposed:	None.

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Temporary Administrative Support Tech.  
Jensine Kurtti

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Mayor Elizabeth Olson