

CITY OF VERGAS
Board of Review
Wednesday, April 01, 2020 1:00 P.M.

The City Council of Vergas met for the annual board of review at 1:00 p.m., Wednesday, April 1, 2020 in a virtual meeting due to state of emergency addressing CORVID-19 with the following members present: Mayor Dean Haarstick, Council Members Julie Bruhn, Logan Dahlgren and Natalie Fisher. Absent: Paul Pinke. Also present: Clerk-Treasurer Julie Lammers, Otter Tail County Assessor Joel Dulski, Otter Tail County Review Appraiser Brandy Hanson, Tom Wollin and Barbie Porter of the Frazee-Vergas Forum.

Mayor Dean Haarstick called the meeting to order.

County Assessor's reviewed rate changes for the City of Vergas and provided home sales for October 2018 to September 30, 2019. Eight properties were purchased in Vergas. Vergas property increased in value by 4.68%. Land value on Long Lake increased by \$100 and buildings increased by 5%. Commercial property doubled in value.

Tom Wollin owner of parcel 82000990186000 located at 101 Park View Drive asked for his appraisal to be lowered. This is a back lot on Long lake with a stand-alone garage. The garage was built in 2018 and was added to the taxes for 2020. County Assessor Joel Dulski explained the garage was a level 4 out 10 and the amount assessed is in line with others in the County. Dulski recommended no change in value assessed. Motion by Dahlgren, seconded by Bruhn to deny the appeal for property at 101 Park View and leave value as recommended by the County Assessor. Voting yes: Dahlgren, Bruhn and Fischer. Voting No: none. Motion carried.

Bruhn thanked Wollin for attending and stated she has heard from many citizens with comments regarding the County is taxing people out of the values of their property. Wollin encouraged Council members to work with the County to lower the tax values in the city.

Dulski stated he has received 2 property value appeals from Meryl Quam owner of parcel 8200099089000 at 131 1st Ave N and parcel 82000990122000 at 125 W Mill St. Otter Tail County increased all double wide homes in 2018 and the assessor recommended we not change the value of the home.

Dulski recommended no change in value assessed at 125 W Mill due to the increase in value of all double wide homes in Otter Tail County. Motion by Dahlgren, seconded by Bruhn to deny the appeal for property at 125 W Mill and leave value as recommended by the County Assessor. Voting yes: Dahlgren, Bruhn and Fischer. Voting No: none. Motion carried.

Dulski recommended lowering the tax value by 10% for 131 1st Ave N as it is under construction. They can lower the taxes under the title slow construction until the house has completed its remodel. Motion by Dahlgren, seconded by Bruhn to allow a 10% deduction in tax value for the property at 131 1st Ave N as recommended by the County Assessor. Voting yes: Dahlgren, Bruhn and Fischer. Voting No: none. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 1:45 pm.

Clerk-Treasurer Julie Lammers, CMC