The Round Lake Board of Review was held on Friday, April 22nd, 2022 at 2:30pm. Val Ruesch, Nobles County Assessor was host of the meeting. Councilmembers present were Paul Cunningham, Jennifer Rehnelt, Walon Habben and Mayor Timothy Kennedy. Others present were Martin and Cindy Waage, John Meyer and Linda Pospisil from the Nobles County Assessor’s office, Bryce Wendling, Keith Stubbe, Bruce Bentele, Derek Nelson and Clerk Elaine Walker.

Meeting was called to order by the Mayor at 2:30pm.

Nobles County Assessor, Val Ruesch presented the 2021 statistics to the Council. We had 8 qualified sales in the city of Round Lake in 2021 and if you have 6 you need to make sure every property is valued correctly, based on the sales in your town. We are now at the required %, so we are in compliance with the State requirements.

They will continue to do the quintile assessing, which means they will be individually assessing the property in 1/5 of the town each year.

Bryce Wendling asked if the double in taxable value would increase the tax equally and Val said no, that it would not increase by equal amount. There is a formula that is used to determine the tax amount that takes multiple things into consideration when calculating the taxes.

Martin Waage spoke up and feels that his parcel was unfairly increased in value over the years. His property was in the quintile in 2019 and his shop had a big jump in previous years. Martin’s parcel had a finished basement and bathroom, that were not recorded previously. Round Lake, as well as many other small towns in the area, enjoyed many years of discounts that were not merited and it will level out in the future, since these discounts have been removed.

Keith Stubbe felt that his value should have gone down since he removed most of his garage. John stated that the garage was not on the valuation, due to the condition of the structure in previous years. So the value stayed the same once it was removed.

Derek Nelson asked about square footage info of his house. You can request list from the county of what they have on their records for your property. He was wondering about an area of his basement as to whether or not it was considered living space on the taxable value calculation.

Elaine Walker asked questions about how the homestead allowance is figured. The taxable value of their property had gone up 66%, but the homestead value had decreased by 21%. Since they own multiple properties, the homestead value is shared between them.

Motion by Habben, second by Rehnelt to adjourn. All ayes: Motion carried.

Meeting was adjourned at 3:13pm.