

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further testimony, Mayor Johnson closed the Public Hearing by consensus at 6:58 P.M.

APPROVE:

ATTEST:

Blair Johnson
Mayor

David A. Lang
Clerk-Administrator

**ORTONVILLE CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
PUBLIC HEARING
CITY MEETING ROOM
315 Madison Avenue, Ortonville, MN
Monday, December 7, 2009
6:30 P.M.**

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL:

Mayor Blair Johnson called the Public Hearing to order at 6:30 P.M. Roll Call was taken with the following present: Blair Johnson, Mike Dorry, Craig Randleman, Steve Berkner, Bill Powell. Absent: Bob Meyer, Nick Anderson. Staff Present: Clerk-Administrator David Lang, Deputy City Clerk Susan Lundell, Police Chief Jason Mork, Public Works Director Tim Scherer, Water Plant Operator Matt Hipple, Public Works Worker Wade Swezey, Park Attendant Nick Golden, Ortonville Ambulance Members Kathy Korth and Rusty Dimberg, Airport Manager Todd Verheul. Media Present: Mike Swenson (*Ortonville Independent*). Also Present: Mark Block, Elsie Perrine, Scott Nelson, David Dinnel, Jim Sester and other interested citizens.

Mayor Johnson called the special meeting to order at 6:32 P.M.

2009 TRUTH IN TAXATION PUBLIC HEARING FOR TAXES COLLECTED & PAYABLE IN 2010

Tim Scherer presented a handout regarding the City wage scale. The handout proposes to raise water and sewer rates to increase revenue approximately \$34,770 to offset a wage increase of 5.8% as compared to the 2.0% in 2010 and 3% in 2011 that was previously offered by the Budget Committee. Discussion and questions followed. The total LGA reduction over 2009 and 2010 is approximately \$146,000.

Discussion and questions followed regarding the wage scale annual step increases, and the pay equity system. It was also noted that the community development functions of the EDA, Planning and Zoning, and Heritage Preservation are an investment in the future of the City.

Mark Block asked a question about the assessed value of an empty lot that he owns. Mayor Johnson noted that the County Assessor assigned a notable increase in the assessed value of vacant lots within the City of Ortonville.