

**STEVENS COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
Truth in Taxation
Official Proceedings
Thursday, December 6, 2007
7:00 p.m.**

The Truth in Taxation Hearing for Taxes Payable 2008 was called to order at 7:00 p.m. Thursday, December 6, 2007 by Board Chairman Paul Watzke. Commissioners present were Watzke, Hofland, Kloos, Sayre and Munsterman. County officials present were County Assessor Judy Thorstad, Sheriff Randy Willis, Auditor/Treasurer Neil Weise and the County Coordinator.

The audience was comprised of five citizens and the reporter for the Chokio Review newspaper.

The County Coordinator reviewed information regarding the purpose of the hearing and offered observations that previous Truth in Taxation Hearings were dominated by citizens' concerns related to the value of their property, and that should such questions arise the Assessor will assist in the explanation of values.

Auditor/Treasurer Neil Weise reviewed the proposed 2008 budget and summary, offering notations regarding the modest level of expenditures from 2007 as well as the underlying rationale for the levy increase of approximately 9.9% for the coming year.

Chairman Watzke requested comments from the audience. One citizen, a local business owner, voiced concern regarding the large increase in taxes on his business property. The staff reviewed with him the history of the values of his downtown property.

The Coordinator announced that the County Board will consider the final budget and levy at 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday, December 18 during its regular Board meeting. No continued T'nT Hearing will be necessary.

Having no further business the Chairman adjourned the meeting at 7:17 p.m.

Jim Thoreen, County Coordinator

Paul Watzke, Chair