

TRUTH IN TAXATION HEARING
CITY OF CROSSLAKE
MONDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2001
6:00 P.M. – CITY HALL

The Council for the City of Crosslake, Minnesota met in the Council Chambers of City Hall on Monday, December 3, 2001 for the purpose of holding a Truth in Taxation Hearing. The following Councilmembers were present: Mayor Darrell Swanson, Councilmembers Sandy Eliason, Charles Miller, Irene Schultz and Dean Swanson. Also present was City Administrator Tom Swenson and Clerk/Treasurer Darlene Roach. There was one individual in the audience.

Mayor Swanson called the hearing to order at 6:00 P.M. and stated that the purpose of the hearing was to allow the public the opportunity to review the proposed 2002 budget and proposed tax levy. The requirement for Cities to hold a Truth in Taxation Hearing was waived this year by the Minnesota Department of Revenue due to the number of tax law changes enacted by the Legislature. It was the decision of the City Council to hold the hearing in order to give the public an opportunity to be heard.

City Administrator Tom Swenson stated that a Notice of Hearing, which included the date and time for the hearing, was published in the Lake Country Echo notifying the public of the meeting. The notice was also posted at three locations within the City, namely at City Hall, Crosslake Communications and the Post Office. Generally, the date of the hearing is published on the proposed 2002 tax statements, however due to the number of changes that were made during the Legislative Session, the County will not be mailing out the notices until sometime after December 12, 2001. A handout, prepared by City Administrator Tom Swenson, listed the proposed budget for 2002 at \$2,162,306 in proposed revenues and \$2,162,306 in proposed expenses. This is a 12.97% increase over 2001. The 2002 proposed levy is \$1,511,274 less \$2,040 in taconite aid. This is a 24.93% increase over 2001. A listing showing the budget comparison between 2001 and 2002 for each department and fund was reviewed. A listing showing the 2001 revenue budget and the proposed 2002 revenue budget was also reviewed. The proposed Capital Outlay Budget for each department was reviewed. Information received from Crow Wing County Auditor's Office referenced the Legislative Changes enacted and what effect they will have on the 2002 property taxes. Examples of residential homestead property, seasonal recreational residential property and commercial/industrial property, where the market valuations remained the same between 2001 and 2002, were included as a comparison between 2001 and 2002 for taxes payable. A comparison of surrounding cities' ranks Crosslake 3rd lowest in Average City Tax Rate and 2nd lowest in Average Total Tax Rate in 2001. The League of Minnesota Cities Bulletin included a comparison of tax rates for the County, School District and City for surrounding cities and was provided to the Council for information. A bar chart showing the increase in market valuation between 1994 and November 2001 along with a bar chart showing the number of zoning permits issued during these same years was also included for Council information.

The meeting was opened to the Council and public for questions and comments. Councilmember Schultz complimented the Staff for holding the budget in line. Allen Eliason commented on the chart showing the number of zoning permits issued where a decrease in permits was reflected between 1996 and 1997 in the City.

The resolution adopting the 2002 budget and levy will be on the agenda for the December 10th Regular Council Meeting. Councilmember Miller commended City Administrator Swenson for his work on the budget.

There being no further comments, MOTION PH01-12-01-01 WAS MADE BY CHUCK MILLER AND SECONDED BY DEAN SWANSON TO ADJOURN THIS TRUTH IN TAXATION HEARING AT 6:40 P.M. MOTION CARRIED WITH ALL AYES.

Recorded and transcribed by,



Darlene J. Roach
Clerk/Treasurer

