

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE MEETING OF THE FERN TOWN
BOARD OF REVIEW
October 15, 2021**

Chairman Erwin called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. Also present were Supervisor Drewa, Clerk De Clark. Supervisor Daymond Saak and Assessor Ryan Raatz.

Constituents present were James Mohr, Richard Mraz, Laura Gemmel and Gary Gemmel.

Chairman Erwin called the meeting to order at 7:00.

Quorum present? Yes.

Chairman Erwin asked the Clerk De Clark if the tape recorder was on. Clerk De Clark stated that the recorder was in good working order and recording as was her personal cell phone.

James Mohr

Clerk De Clark swore in Complainant Mohr and Assessor Raatz.

Clerk De Clark had the Complainant Mohr state his name and address which is as follows:
James Mohr, 3761 Charleston Drive, Green Bay, WI 54304

Clerk De Clark had Assessor Raatz state his name and address which is as follows:
Ryan Raatz, 307 North Chestnut Drive, Oconto Falls, WI 54154

Constituent Mohr stated that he had submitted his complaint. Clerk De Clark distributed this information to the board and assessor Raatz which she had marked as Exhibit 1. This information included copies of MLS listings which were at arms-length exhibits.

Constituent Mohr stated that his property was half the size of his neighbors and did not have the improvements his neighbor did but were assessed the same amount. Constituent Mohr stated that he paid \$25,000 for the property yet it's assessed at \$65,000 and he feels this is assessed way too high.

Assessor Raatz stated that the basis for the assessment is based on uniformity of other area pieces of property. Assessor Raatz provided an arial photo of the properties on Price Lake. He also reminded all that this was a maintenance assessment not an assessment year. Assessor Raatz stated that the assessment cannot be based on the sale price and that it was assessed properly.

Supervisor Drewa stated that everyone is taxed the same and he could not see disagreeing with the Assessor based on the information provided.

Chairman Erwin stated that because this is a maintenance year the board should not change the taxation from what was assessed. He also stated that the board was required to uphold the Assessors decision and that it was up to the landowner to provide burden of proof that the assessment was wrong. Chairman Erwin stated that Mr. Mohr can come back again when the actual assessment is done.

Chairman Erwin also stated that because the prior assessor wasn't very efficient at her work the community had not been properly assessed for many years.

Supervisor Saak stated that he agreed with the statement made by Supervisor Drewa and based on this he too was agreeing with the Assessor's assessment.

Chairman Erwin stated that he is standing with the assessor's decision
Supervisor Drewa stated that he is standing with the assessor's decision
Supervisor Saak stated that he is standing with the assessor's decision

A motion was made to adjourn the assessment for constituent Mohr.

Before Constituent Mohr left the meeting, Clerk De Clark gave him paperwork for pursuing the continuation of his complaint after the board's decision.

Richard Mraz stated that he did not understand why his taxes doubled in one year from \$14,000 to \$28,000 and that the addition was a three seasons porch not an actual addition.

Because constituent Mraz had not filed a formal complaint he was not sworn in by the Clerk.

Chairman Erwin stated that this concern should have been brought to the Open Book format and not the Board of Review.

Assessor Raatz pulled up Constituent Mraz's information and agreed that the out-building wasn't made very well, and he would reassess the assessment and make the proper adjustment. He stated that he would change the assessment from \$35,000 to \$27,500. Constituent Mraz agreed with the change.

Laura and Gary Gemmell also had a question about their tax increase but stated that because of the information they heard during the previous complaints they understood the reasons for their increase.

Motion made to adjourn the meeting by Supervisor Drewa
Supervisor Saak seconded the motion.
All in favor of adjournment "aye".

Respectfully submitted,

Patti De Clark, Town Clerk