

**MINUTES
WELD COUNTY COUNCIL
May 17, 2021**

The Weld County Council met in regular session in full conformity with the Weld County Home Rule Charter at 6:30 p.m., Monday, May 17, 2021, at the Weld County Administration Building, 1150 O Street, Greeley, CO.

ROLL CALL:

The meeting was called to order by President James Welch. Councilmembers Nancy Teksten, Tonya L. Van Beber, Elijah Hatch and Rupert Parchment were present, constituting a quorum of members. Also present was Council Secretary Linda Kane.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA :

Councilmember Teksten made a motion to approve the agenda, seconded by Councilmember Hatch and carried.

APPROVAL OF DOCUMENTATION:

Approval of April 19, 2021, Minutes

Councilmember Welch made a motion to make a correction to the April minutes, the roll call section where he was mentioned twice, the motion was moved as corrected by Councilmember Teksten, it was seconded by Councilmember Van Beber, and the motion carried.

REVIEW PROGRAM:

Brenda Dones, Assessor

Ms. Dones said the actual value of a home is the only thing set by the assessor's office. She said this year was interesting because some years we aren't as concerned with values because mill levies can't go up. A lot of our local taxing authorities and voters have said we can raise our mill levies, Ms. Dones said.

She said they haven't finished oil and gas valuation, but they expect a huge drop. The price of oil went negative in price last year, plus our production was depressed last year. She is expecting a 40 percent drop, which equals about \$4 billion.

Last year, the assessed value of oil and gas was \$15 billion. This year it's expected to be about \$11 billion.

Ms. Dones said there's a strong possibility mill levies will increase again this year. If the county is not getting money from oil and gas, they have to get it from mill levies.

The Assessment Rate is determined by the use of the property on January 1. When Covid hit, property sales dropped drastically and is now spiked back up.

Ms. Dones said when she started working in the assessor's office in 1999, the median price of a home was \$134k. Now, it's \$415k.

In May, her office sent about 160,000 notices of valuation. She said they typically receive about 6,000 appeals.

Brenda: if they get it back and don't like it, can file on to county board of equalization. Can go to county commissioners. Other appeals. Have to do it within deadline.

You can appeal every year.

Her entire presentation is available in Addendum 1.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

There was no public comment.

NEW BUSINESS:

Coordinator Reports/Councilman Reports

Councilmember Teksten said the cold weather shelter for Greeley and Weld County has been in the old State Farm cafeteria in Evans, leased from Sunrise Health. The lease is up and they need to find a new building. She said they are struggling to find a new location.

Bills

Councilmember Van Beber made a motion to approve bills, it was seconded by Councilmember Hatch and carried. The bills were paid as follows:

- Weld County Phone Bill for April \$25.09

Discussion items for 2022 Budget

Councilmember Parchment made a recommendation to accept the budget as proposed, it was seconded by Councilmember Van Beber and carried.

There was discussion about the possibility of a 10 percent reduction in Council's budget, to which councilmembers suggested it could come out of professional services. A motion to recommend a 10 percent reduction in professional services, if necessary, was made by Councilmember Teksten, seconded by Councilmember Parchment and carried.

A budget summary can be found in Addendum 2.

OLD BUSINESS:

There was no old business.

ADJOURNMENT:

By acclamation, the meeting was adjourned at 7:34 p.m.

June 21, 2021

Council President, James Welch

Council Secretary, Linda Kane