

TOWNSHIP OF CRETE

**Office of the Assessor**

**Mary Margaret Tamez**

Assessor

May 11, 2022

**Township Meeting Notes:**

- Renewal applications have been mailed and we have quite the turnout. We currently have filled out:
  - 122 exemptions and 25 certificate of errors as of 4/13/2022.
  - 310 exemptions and 25 certificate of errors as of 5/11/2022.
  
- We have had quite a few people coming in regarding the increase the tax bills. The responsibility of the Assessor's Office is to discover, list, and determine fair cash value as of January 1 of any given year based on the market. These values are placed on properties at 33.3% of the market. If the assessments are not at this value (higher or lower) the Supervisor of Assessments places a township multiplier on the assessments. From 2010 through 2016 our multipliers were negative. This was a negative percentage that was placed on every property and totaled a reduction of about 35.56% throughout that time frame. Thinking of that, you did not see a reduction in the property tax bill due to the tax rates increasing because we still must pay the taxing bodies to continue to run our town. The reason it is so important for myself and my office to value homes based on the market and equitable based on neighborhood sales is to make sure that the home is paying their fair share based on the amenities they have on the property.

Remembering the reduction of value, we now placed in a THRIVING market. Since 2016, our values have increased about 33.05% to present day. We have not even reached the values we were once at in 2009. I know there is much conversation of the home values increasing, yet we still are lower than the market for the current year. The County is estimating another 9% increase for the 2022 year. I am hopeful we will see another decrease in the tax rate and that the taxing bodies can tighten the belt to have some of the tax burden lifted.

- Our field staff has been out measuring due to permits, homeowner requests, and neighborhood studies. Our field staff has badges, door hangars with our information, as well as a marked car to announce their visit. We have been getting MANY calls when they are coming to the

property. I may order them shirts to wear while they are out to help distinguish them from a stranger.

- I have completed 10 property tax appeal board hearings.
- Leigh has completed her second continuing education course for the 2022 year. Preferential Assessments. To keep our Certified Illinois Assessing Officers designation we must complete 30 hours of continuing education annually.