

# Wilton Board of Equalization approves 2026 property values

## Residential, commercial increases accepted following public discussion

BY KELLI AMELING  
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The Wilton City Commission, acting as the Board of Equalization, approved 2026 property values during a meeting April 1 at the City Meeting Room.

According to meeting minutes published in the April 16 edition of The Leader-news, Commission President LeeAnn DomonoskeKellar called the meeting to order at 6:45 p.m. Present were Commissioners Jim Tooke, Bernell Hedstrom, Lisa Hedstrom and Mike Schmidt.

Ryan Oberg of the McLean County Assessor's Office attended the meeting and answered general questions from both the commission and members of the public regarding property assessments.

The board approved the property values proposed by Oberg, which include a 3% countywide increase to residential structures and a 5% increase to commercial structures in both McLean and Burleigh counties. Other changes to 2026 property values reflect new construction, demolition, property improvements or changes in property status from exempt to non-exempt, as outlined in supplemental materials provided by the assessor.

The motion to accept the proposed values was made by Lisa Hedstrom and seconded by Mike Schmidt. All members present voted in favor, and the motion carried.

During the meeting, Kristine Ell and Rodney Speten formally protested the assessed values of their properties.

DomonoskeKellar adjourned the meeting at 7:17 p.m.

## Way Back in Wilton

Compiled by Shelly Wallace from the files of the Wilton News and the Washburn Leader

### 100 Years Ago April 30, 1926

Elizabeth Monroe, 14-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. Monroe of Baldwin, decided she wanted to see something of the world. Leaving home Friday she walked as far as Wilton where she slept by the oil tanks. She was found Saturday morning and returned to her home.

Mr. and Mrs. Jack Lenihan announced the birth of a fine baby boy last Monday. Mrs. Lenihan and little son are getting along fine, and Jack is passing out cigars.

Work was begun this week on the cleaning and fixing up of the Wilton Tourist Camp in Stewart Cummings' large grove in the west part of town. Monday evening many the Boy Scouts with a few of the businessmen, worked after supper and made a very fine showing in the way of cleaning up. Mr. Danielson treated all the boys that helped to a free movie.

### 90 Years Ago April 24, 1936

Nufrey Wykenko was rather surprised Thursday noon when he walked out to the barn and found that one of his milk cows (Gurnsey) had a set of twin calves. She also had twin calves last year. This cow is eleven years old and has had fourteen calves.

Miss Elsie Ghylin, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Dave Ghylin, became the bride of Oscar Bierman, son of Fred Bierman, Mansfield, South Dakota, on March 16. The newlyweds will live in Chelsea, South Dakota.

Mr. and Mrs. Sofat Krush are the parents of a baby girl born to them Monday evening at the home of Mrs. Krush's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Mike Kabylnick.

Oshanyk's Cash Store specials are: flour sack, 98-lb. size, 10 cents each; salt, 50-lb. block for 50 cents; brown sugar, 4 lbs., for 21 cents; and Van Camp pork and beans, six 1-lb. cans for 29 cents.

### 80 Years Ago April 25, 1946

The Albert Hagstrom farm four miles south of Wilton was a regular "mechanical beehive" on Saturday, when we visited shortly after the dinner hour. Hagstrom has been in poor health this spring, doctoring at the famous Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minn., which had delayed him with his spring's work. Showing the "good neighbor policy," 19 farmers started gathering at the farm about 7:30 a.m. with equipment estimated to cost \$30,000. By 5 o'clock in the afternoon they had plowed, disked and seeded 300 acres of land.

Wilton's largest industry discontinued business on Friday, April 19, when the Truax-Traer Coal Co. of three miles east of town put out its last ton of coal. It was not only the largest, but one of the oldest firms here. It started in 1901 and by the 1920's it was one of the largest lignite coal mines in the world.

### 70 Years Ago May 4, 1956

Funeral services were held Tuesday at the First Presbyterian Church, Wil-

ton, for Richard (Jake) Dennis, 79. Burial was made at St. Mary's Cemetery, Bismarck. Mr. Dennis was born in Frenchburg, Kentucky, on October 9, 1876. He married Josephine Range November 25, 1896, who preceded him in death on June 2, 1955. He came to the Wilton community in 1920 and farmed all his life. His wife, parents, one sister and one brother preceded him in death. He leaves three sisters and three brothers.

While .17 inches of rain fell Tuesday, the ground is still hard and a good soaker would be appreciated by McLean County farmers, it was reported Wednesday. About 50 percent of the wheat in the county has been seeded. Perhaps 10 percent of the oats and barley has been seeded. A heavy rain would make it easier for farmers to plow; the ground is exceptionally hard this spring.

### 60 Years Ago April 28, 1966

Tom Cleveland Jr., son of Mr. and Mrs. Tom Cleveland Sr. of Wilton, and Lawrence L. Maslowski, son of Mr. and Mrs. Carl Maslowski of Wilton, have been selected by the Louis Ousley American Legion Post of Wilton to attend Boys State. Lorin Franklund, son of Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Franklund of rural Wilton, has been selected as well and is sponsored by the Wilton Get-together Club.

Karen Speten, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Orville Speten of Wilton, has been selected by the Wilton American Legion Auxiliary as their delegate to

Girls State. Beverly Hruby, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William Hruby of rural Wilton, has been selected to attend Girls State and is being sponsored by the Study Club of Wilton.

Honor students of the Wing High School are Barbara Eckholm, valedictorian, and Linda Trusty, salutatorian.

### 50 Years Ago April 29, 1976

Plans continue for Wilton's participation in the Bicentennial this summer, with several projects underway or being discussed. Bernita Gill presided at the meeting last week. Mayor Bartholomew suggested the city involve itself with a pick-up clean-up campaign. A yard beautification contest will be staged, and the win-

ner, or the "House of the Month" will be pictured in The News.

Mrs. Donald Lange, Wilton American Legion Auxiliary President, and Mrs. Kenneth M. Johnson, Girls State Chairman, announce the selection of Sheila Bartholomew and Mary Beth Johnson as Girl Staters from Wilton for the week of June 3-11 at Grand Forks. Both girls are Junior American Legion Auxiliary members. First alternate is Brenda Spitzer and second alternate is Kathy McCallum.

Supt. Carl Maslowski of Wilton High School today announced that Pamela Werre and Calvin Johnson have been selected as Valedictorian and Salutatorian respectively of the 1976 graduating class of Wilton High School.

## Miner Minute

### Apr. 30

Softball: Varsity Game vs Velva (Home) 4:30 PM

### May 8

Softball: Varsity Game vs TBA @ Fargo

### May 1

Softball: Varsity Game vs Beulah (Home) (Rescheduled from 04-06-26) 4:30 PM

### May 9

Softball: Varsity Game vs TBA (Away) @ Fargo

### May 2

Softball: Varsity Game vs Garrison (Home) 1:00 PM

### May 12

Softball: Varsity Game vs Washburn Public School (Away) 4:30 PM

### May 4

Softball: Varsity Game vs New England (Away) 4:30 PM

### May 18

Softball: Varsity Regionals vs TBA vs. TBA (Away)

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