

# Washburn Board of Equalization approves updated property values

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ASSOCIATE PUBLISHER

The Washburn City Commission, sitting as the Board of Equalization, approved updated assessed property values during a brief meeting April 13 at City Hall.

Commission President Mark Lelm called the meeting to order at 6 p.m. with Brandon Lazier, Jamie Weber, Keith Hapip Jr., Sharla Kosloski and Lelm present.

McLean County Property Assessor Ryan Oberg and McLean County Assistant Director of Tax Equalization Elizabeth Patterson attended the meeting to answer parcel-related questions from residents.

Dick Bickert questioned why dwelling values continue to increase while land values have not seen the same growth. Oberg explained assessed values are based on recent home sales within the city.

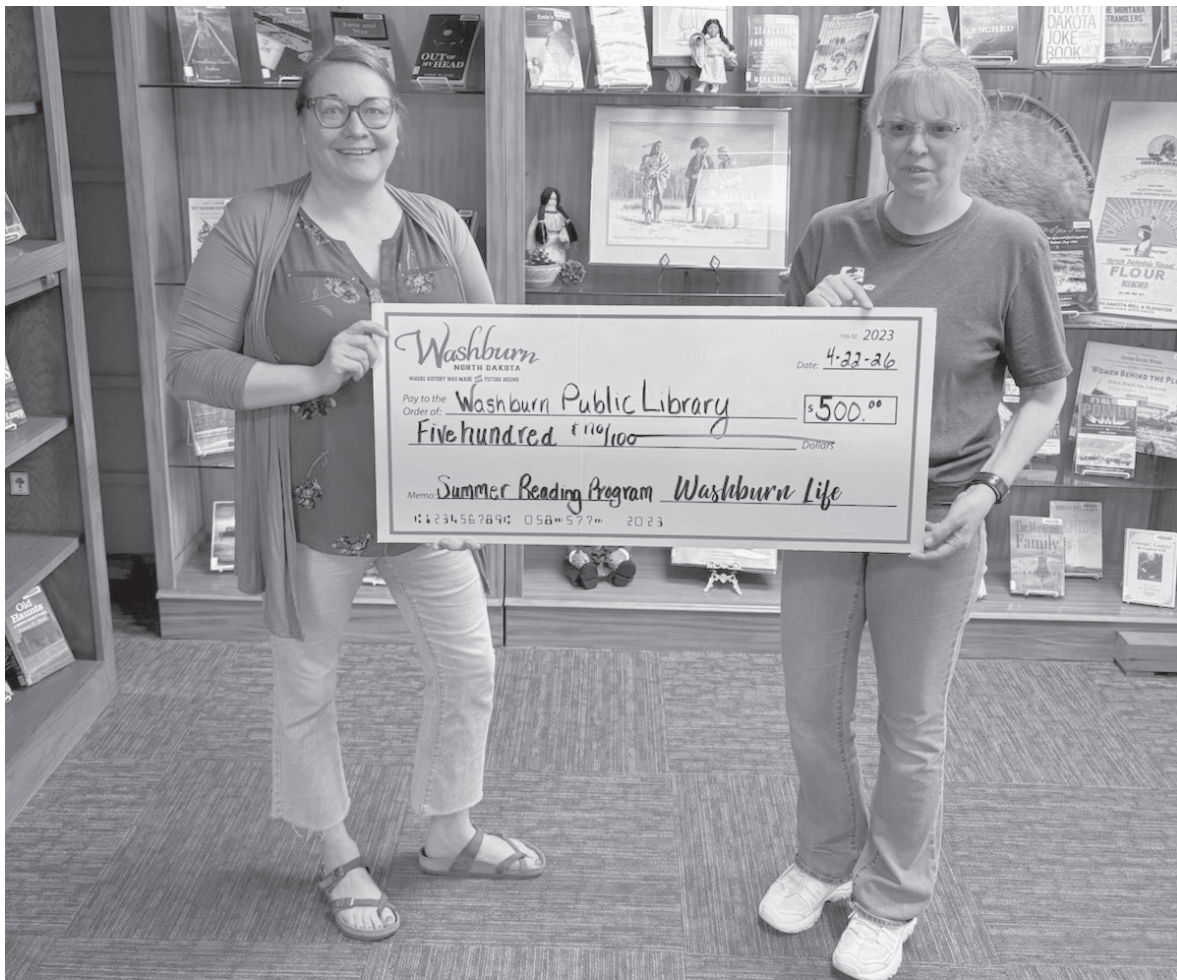
Mike Herdt raised concerns about the assessed value of his empty lot in Heritage Heights, noting that two undeveloped lots in that area had sold for \$500 each. Oberg said each sale and parcel is evaluated differently.

Countywide, residential structure values are increasing by 3%, commercial structure values by 5% and agricultural values by 2%. Agricultural land values are assessed based on soil type. Oberg said assessed values must fall within 90 to 100% of true and full value, as required by state law.

Kosloski expressed concern about rising property values and the impact on residents. Oberg said property values had not been adjusted for a five-year span, which is allowed under century code, and the increases are necessary to remain compliant.

Hapip moved to accept the property values as presented, with Lazier seconding the motion. The motion passed on a 41 vote, with Lazier, Weber, Hapip and Lelm voting "aye" and Kosloski voting "no."

Lelm adjourned the meeting at 6:19 p.m.



## DONATIONS

**SUBMITTED | DONNA SOMMER**

**ABOVE:** Washburn Life has donated \$500 to the Washburn Public Library for their Summer Reading Program. Above Rhonda Johnson - Washburn Life Community Development Director/AmeriCorps Member presents the funds to Kandi Shape - Washburn City Librarian.

**LEFT:** Washburn Life has donated \$500 to the Washburn Riverboat Days Committee in support of the event this summer. Above Rhonda Johnson - Washburn Life Community Coordinator/AmeriCorps Member presents the funds to Lindsay Hoff representing the Riverboat Days Committee.



## LUNCH IS ON

**SUBMITTED | RUTH MCLACHLAN**

The Washburn United Methodist Church held its Soup and Sandwich lunch April 20 to support the Washburn Ambulance purchase of the Lucas device to assist in CPR. The vent provided a variety of soup, sandwiches and desserts at a free-will offering.

## ELECTION

Continued from page 1  
**Wilton**  
Wilton voters will have choices in both city commission races and administrative positions.

**Commission President (four-year term):**

- Dustin Clausen, Washburn
- Leeann DomonoskeKellar, Washburn
- Commissioner (four-year terms):
- Mike Schmit, Washburn
- James Tooke, Washburn
- Sales and Use Tax Administrator (four-year term):
- Robert Ell, Burleigh County
- Park Board (four-year term):
- One position open; no candidate information listed at time of filing

**Wing**  
Wing voters will see races for mayor and city council.  
**Mayor (four-year term):**  
One position open; no candidate information listed at time of filing

Election cont. on 20