GRANT TOWNSHIP ASSESSOR
Jeri J. Barr, C.I.A.O.
26725 W. Molidor Road
Ingleside, IL 60041
(847) 546-8880

Once again this year our efforts have been undermined by the Chief County Assessment Office. A **1.0817%** factor, INCREASING your assessment, was applied to all parcels in Grant Township by the Chief County Assessment Officer, Martin Paulson. In fact, since 2015 your property values have increased as follows:

1.005% in 2015 - Quadrennial
1.0716% in 2016
1.0934% in 2017
1.0817% in 2018

THIS IS A CUMULATIVE INCREASE OF 27.38%.

All of these increases have been applied by the Chief County Assessment Officer of Lake County, which is shown in the final column on your new, blue assessment notice.

Complicating matters further, for 3 years in a row the CCAO prevented any duly ELECTED Township Assessor from equalizing neighborhoods where it was appropriate. Assessors who spent the time and effort to research and apply new and supported assessments, ultimately had their conclusions reversed by the APPOINTED Chief County Assessment Officer. In cases where the local Township Assessor lowered the property assessment, the CCAO, Martin Paulson, eliminated the reduction and then applied the INCREASED factor to all the properties. I have proudly served as the Grant Township Assessor since 2010…and NEVER before has the County intervened in such an intrusive way. It is extremely frustrating being unable to properly carry out the duties of my office, when at the end of the day, it is YOU the homeowner/taxpayer who suffers.

Please note, your County Board Representative, Judy Martini, is fully supporting the Township Assessors with *Senate Bill 2544. I urge all of you to contact your Lake County Board Chairman, Aaron Lawlor, and voice any complaints and/or questions you may have on this matter. Additionally, I would convey to him that the Chief County Assessment Officer in Lake County should be an elected position and ask him NOT to ask the Governor to veto SB2544. This would allow the question to be on the November ballot. This bill was initially passed by a super majority in both the Illinois House and Senate. The only way to hold these officials accountable is by voicing our opinions. Collectively, we can make a difference.

The contact numbers for the Chief County Assessment Officer and Lake County Board Chairman are as follows:

Martin P Paulson, CCAO **847-377-2191**
mpaulson@lakecountyil.gov

Aaron Lawlor, Lake County Board Chairman **847-377-2300**
alawlor@lakecoutyil.gov

Respectfully,

Jeri J. Barr
Grant Township Assessor

*Senate Bill 2544 proposes that a question on the Nov. 6 general election ballot would ask voters to decide whether the Chief County Assessor should be an elected position.