



### **Why did Biron issue two Tax Statements?**

Simply put, we made an error with information provided to Wood County. That information in error was the Village of Biron tax levy total – we provided Wood County with a number that was 245,000 under what it should have been. Not only did this result in an incorrect Tax Statement, but it also resulted in Biron's tax being 33% less than it should have been. This is why most Tax Statements originally reflected less taxes than 2015's Tax Statements a year ago.

### **I received my new Tax Statement, and it increased significantly – not just from the original Tax Statement, but up from 2015 as well.**

With the help of Wood County and the State of Wisconsin Department of Revenue – we've checked into this and can explain exactly why. Most of our taxable property stayed very similar from 2015 to 2016. The one major exception was the Personal Property – Machinery Tools & Patterns category, in the Manufacturing Property segment. This taxable property category reduced 39% from 2015 to 2016, from 11,881,300.00 to 7,191,400.00. The reason for the change was the sale of the Biron Paper Mill to Catalyst Paper. This sale – like all other large manufacturing property sales, results in a revaluation of taxable Personal Property within the Mill. Many communities like Biron, are faced with similar reductions in Personal Property associated with these types of business sales. This revaluation is conducted by the State of Wisconsin, and Biron must accept the value determinations of the State.

### **Is this a one time adjustment, or will these changes have similar impacts in the future?**

While we can't predict future Manufacturing facility sales and revaluations, we can say that we are hopeful that this valuation will now remain stable. Regretfully, the loss of revenue from this Personal Property – Machinery Tools & Patterns category, results in all other tax payers having to make up this revenue lost. As Biron gains taxable property, eventually this Personal Property value loss will be replaced with new sources of revenue.

### **Biron has built a Business Park, has rebuilt part of South Biron Drive, and has make many Park and Trail improvements. What role do these projects have in the recent Tax increase?**

We can honestly say that all of these projects have had little or no impact on taxes. These projects have been funded with Grants, Biron's designated Non-Lapsing Accounts, and with Tax Increment from Biron's three Tax Incremental Districts. Biron has not increased staff because of these projects. Biron's debt service budget did not increase from 2015 to 2016. Biron has been very cautious to hold it spending from year to year, increasing only 1.3% from 2015 to 2016, from 742,000 to 752,000. To accomplish this, Biron has also been very careful to fund projects with revenues not derived from residential taxpayers.