

**CITY OF CEDARBURG**

**Resolution No. 2015-05 Opposing the County  
Assessment Proposal in the State Budget Bill**

**Whereas**, Governor Walker recommends in his 2015-2017 state budget proposal shifting from municipal assessment to county assessment of property values for property tax purposes by 2017; and

**Whereas**, moving assessment responsibilities from the town, village, and city level to the county, which has never been engaged in the assessment of property, will reduce local control and increase costs to the taxpayers; and

**Whereas**, the costs of a county assessment system accomplishing 100% market valuations annually will be on average \$25 per parcel statewide, which is significantly more than what many communities currently spend on assessment services; and

**Whereas**, The Governor's proposal arbitrarily establishes 2015 as the base year for determining a municipality's payment to the county for assessment services, which will leave some communities who happen to be in the midst of a revaluation that year paying substantially more than other communities; and

**Whereas**, property owners will lose the convenience of board of review proceedings in their own municipality by having to travel to county sites for board of review, and

**Whereas**, the state's concerns over current assessment practices are better addressed outside of the state budget process.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the City of Cedarburg Common Council opposes the provision in the 2015-2017 state budget bill shifting from municipal to county assessment and urges the Wisconsin State Legislature to remove the provision from the state budget,

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the State of Wisconsin, local governments, assessors, and other stakeholders should study how the current assessment system can be improved and jointly recommend a set of changes, if any are found necessary, to improve municipal assessment practices without necessarily eliminating the current system.

Passed and adopted by the Common Council of the City of Cedarburg this 30<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2015

  
Kip Kinzel, Mayor

Attest:

  
Constance K. McHugh, City Clerk

Approved as to form

  
Michael P. Herbrand, City Attorney