#### **ORDINANCE #2-2015**

# ESTABLISH PROCEDURES AND CRITERIA FOR ALLOWING ALTERNATIVE FORMS OF SWORN TESTIMONY AT BOARD OF REVIEW HEARINGS

**WHEREAS**, sec. 70.47(8), Wis. Stat. authorizes the Board of Review (BOR) to consider requests from a property owner or the property owner's representative to appear before the Board under oath by telephone or to submit written statements under oath to the board of review;

**NOW THEREFORE** the Town Board of the Town of Holland, La Crosse County does ordain as follows:

### 1. PROCEDURE

In order for a property owner or property owner's representative to submit a request to testify by phone or submit a sworn written statement, he or she must first comply with the following procedures:

- a. the legal requirement to provide notice of intent to appear at BOR must be satisfied; and
- b. an Objection Form for Real Property Assessment (PA-115A) must be completed and submitted to the BOR as required by law.

After the two requirements outlined above have been met, a Request to Testify by Telephone or Submit a Sworn Written Statement at Board of Review (Form PA-814) may be submitted to the Town Clerk. Such requests must be submitted in time to be considered by the board at the first meeting of the BOR.

## 2. CRITERIA TO BE CONSIDERED

The Board may consider any or all of the following factors when deciding whether to grant or deny the request:

- a. The requester's stated reason(s) for the request as indicated on the PA-814.
- b. Fairness to the parties.
- c. Ability of the requester to procure in-person oral testimony and any due diligence exhibited by the requester in procuring such testimony.
- d. Ability to cross examine the person providing the testimony.
- e. The BOR's technical capacity to honor the request.
- f. Any other factors that the board deems pertinent to deciding the request.

#### 3. EFFECTIVE DATE

This ordinance shall be effective upon posting as provided by law. Adopted by the Holland Town Board of the Township of Holland, La Crosse County, Wisconsin, this  $8^{th}$  day of July, 2015.

APPROVED BY: Katherine Warzynski

ATTEST:

Marilyn J. Pedretti, Clerk

Posted: 7/13/15