

Meeting Agenda
Finance Committee
June 7, 2016, 5:30 p.m.
Hampshire Village Hall
234 S. State Street

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call for Attendance
3. Public Comments
4. Approval of March 21, 2016 Minutes
5. Approval of March 29, 2016 Minutes
6. Randy Ross Project
7. Current & Possible Future Rate & Fee Adjustments
8. Police Pension Fund Assessment & Other New Sources of Revenue
9. Review Priority of Village Needs
 - Building Department
 - Public Works Department
 - Police Department
 - Finance Department
10. Discussion of Moving to Home Rule Status
11. Other Business
12. Adjourn

Finance Committee
March 21, 2016
Minutes

Meeting was called to order at 5:33pm.

Roll Call was taken

Present:

Chairman Michael Armato
Committeeperson Mike Reid
Village President Jeffrey Magnussen
Finance Director Lori Lyons
Trustee Toby Koth

Absent: Committeeperson Jan Kraus

A quorum was established

Public Comments: None

The minutes of the March 1, 2016 meeting were reviewed. Committeeperson Reid made a motion to approve the minutes as is. Chairman Armato seconded the motion. Hearing no further discussion a voice vote was called. Ayes 2, Nays 0. The motion passed.

A possible cost increases for the 2016-2017 budget were discussed. The discussion centered on possible increases in payroll. Increases for all departments and all personnel were considered. The committee decided that certain increases should be considered by the Village Trustees. Finance Director Lyons will reflect them in the budget proposal.

The discussion then centered on the current shortfall of revenue relating to the cost of providing certain services. This then lead into a discussion of the appropriateness and feasibility of various means of increasing revenue. The possibilities included certain current and new Taxes, Registration Fees, Permit Fees, Application Fees and License Fees. It was decided that any recommendations would be held in reserve until Finance Director Lyons presented the first draft of the 2016-2017 budget on March 29th.

The last business item was a discussion about the Randy Ross proposal. The desirability and the value to the Village along with the mechanism that could be used to assist the project were discussed. Points were made both for and against the proposal. It was decided that a recommendation for or against the proposal would be tabled until it was determined if funds would be available in the 2016-2017 budget.

The committee was reminded that a budget review is scheduled for Tuesday, March 29 at 5:00pm.

Having no other business, Committeeman Reid made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Chairman Armato. A voice vote was taken and the motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 8:29pm.

Finance Committee
March 29, 2016
Minutes

Meeting was called to order at 5:02pm.

Roll Call was taken

Present:

Chairman Michael Armato
Committeeperson Jan Kraus
Village President Jeffrey Magnussen
Finance Director Lori Lyons
Police Chief Brian Thompson

Absent: Committeeperson Mike Reid

A quorum was established

Public Comments: None

The minutes of the March 21, 2016 meeting were tabled to be reviewed at the next meeting.

Finance Director Lyons presented a revised draft of the 2016-2017 budget. Director Lyons then proceeded to review and explain each line item in the budget. As the committee reviewed the budget, certain changes were suggested. After a discussion, certain line items were amended.

Committeeperson Kraus made a motion to approve and present the amended budget to the Village Trustees, on April 7, 2016. Chairman Armato seconded the motion. A voice vote was taken and the motion passed Ayes 2, Nays 0

Having no other business, Committeeman Kraus made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Chairman Armato. A voice vote was taken and the motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 7:43pm.

Here is my view on the Ross project

1-Ross needs to approach the Village to get assistance to repair or rebuild the sidewalk on the North & East sides of his property. Estimate is \$6,000.00. The Village & Ross would each pay 50%.

2-This leaves a balance of \$15,000.00 that Ross is requesting.

3-We need to get rid of the downtown eyesores & the video store is one of them. If we want people to locate in the downtown area, it needs to look like a prosperous location. Right now, if you are entering the area from the north, what you see along the train tracts and what you see north & west of Randy's gas station is blight. What you see west is a burned out building and a vacant lot. With these views, it does not encourage one to want to locate in a town that looks like it is rundown.

2-The real estate value will increase along with the taxes. Current estimated tax is \$1900.00/year which the village gets about \$95.00 of it. With an investment of approx. \$110,000.00, the estimated tax will be, at least, \$3,800.00/year. Since this building is in the TIF district, the Village, for each of the next 15 years, gets 100% of that increase tax money (\$1,900.00) which will be placed in the TIF for use of future improvements or for paying back the money that the TIF owes the village. That is a total of \$28,500, assuming the assessed value does not increase. With the Village's investment of \$15,000.00 that will be a 12.7% per year return on our money, guaranteed for the next 15 years. This shows, that if for no other reason it is financially prudent for the Village to do this deal and make this investment.

3-Whether Randy need the space for business expansion, to lease out the space for storage or to attract another business, it will be useable space. We want to encourage expansion. Where I am sure that Randy does not want to relocate, if we don't work with him, he may look to get a better deal somewhere else. He is a business man, and he could decide to leave. We want to encourage business retention not give a business a reason to leave.

4-Remember, economic development is not free. It does cost money. The communities that have been the most successful in economic expansion are those that have either set up Enterprise Zones, TIF Districts and especially those that create Public/Private Partnerships. Check with East Dundee, IL, Rockford, IL, Beloit, WI, Oshkosh, WI, Portland, OR, Waukesha, WI or Dubuque, IA. They have all done Public/Private partnerships and they have been very successful.

Mike

Potential Revenue

Listed are Taxes, License Fees, Registration Fees & Permit Fees.

Questions are the current tax rates & fees?

Which would we want to consider raising?

What is the procedure necessary to raise them?

Real Estate Property Tax

Sales Tax

Motor Fuel Tax

Business License Fee

Contractor's License Fee

Water & Sewer Tap on Fees

Sign Permit Fee

Building Permit Fee

Zoning Change or Special Use Application Fees

Gaming License Fee

Charitable Games License Fees

Vehicle Registration Fees

Suppliers of Gaming Equipment License Fees

Randy Ross Project Costs

Purchase of the building	\$18,000
Removal of collapsed roof	\$6,500
New roof	\$39,000
Brick columns in front of building	\$4,700
Brick repair & tuck pointing	\$10,000
Glass block installation for north side windows	\$3,100
Total for building restoration	<u>\$81,800</u>
Driveway & walk repair	\$18,500
Total project cost (investment)	<u>\$100,300</u>



Statutory Sources of Municipal Revenue

BY ROGER HUEBNER, DEPUTY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR/GENERAL COUNSEL, IML

This column lists various revenue sources that municipalities may impose based on the authority of the Illinois statutes. These taxes apply both to home rule and to non-home rule municipalities. Home rule municipalities have additional authority over some of these taxes, but this column does not set out that additional authority.

While the revenue sources are numerous, each municipality, when making local decisions, has the opportunity to determine an overall philosophy of meeting the community's needs with an appropriate tax policy.

Additionally, if your municipality is subject to tax caps under the Property Tax Extension Limitation Law (PTELL), then the property tax rates are subject to the restrictions under that Law. The interaction of these property tax rates and PTELL should be reviewed in the context of the overall tax extension. Additionally, the Truth in Taxation Law sets forth certain requirements that you must adhere to when increasing prior levy amounts of property taxes.

When imposing a tax, please review the statutory authority and any relevant case law so that your local ordinance complies with those sources of law.

I. PROPERTY TAXES

A. MUNICIPAL PROPERTY TAXES WITHOUT REFERENDUM REQUIREMENT

1. Auditing Tax (65 ILCS 5/8-8-8)

Rate: Tax is levied at whatever rate is necessary to produce a sum sufficient to meet the cost of the required audit.

2. Chlorination of Sewage (65 ILCS 5/11-142-3)

Rate: 0.02%

[For treatment of sewage to meet requirements of the Pollution Control Board.]

3. City Sewage Fund Tax (65 ILCS 5/11-143-1)

Rate: 0.01666%. With 2/3 vote may increase .10%.

[For the extension and maintenance of sewers.]

4. City Water Fund Tax (65 ILCS 5/11-131-1)

Rate: 0.0166%. With 2/3 vote may increase.

[For the extension and maintenance of waterworks systems.]

5. Corporate Fund Property Tax (65 ILCS 5/8-3-1)

Rate: 0.25% or at the rate limit that was in effect on July 1, 1967, whichever is greater. The tax may be increased to 0.4375% with referendum.

[This tax is the one most frequently levied by municipalities. The proceeds of this tax levy can be used for any corporate purpose.]

6. Fire Protection Tax (65 ILCS 5/11-7-1)

Rate: 0.075% without referendum—but if the municipality was authorized to levy this tax on July 1, 1967, then the rate limit is the greater of 0.15% or the limit that was in effect on July 31, 1969.

[This tax may be increased to 0.60% with referendum.]

7. Firefighters' Pension Fund (40 ILCS 5/4-118)

Rate: Levy whatever rate is necessary to produce the amount needed to meet the requirements of the pension fund.

8. Garbage Tax (65 ILCS 5/11-19-4)

Rate: 0.10% if population over 25,000 or the rate in effect on July 1, 1969.

Rate: 0.20% if population less than 25,001 or the rate in effect on July 24, 1969.

[For the collection and disposal of garbage; in addition, a service charge may be levied by ordinance.]

9. Harbor Construction Tax (65 ILCS 5/11-123-11)

Rate: 0.0125%

[For each of four consecutive years for the construction of the harbor.]

10. Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund (40 ILCS 5/7-171)

Rate: Municipality may levy a tax which shall not exceed amount appropriated for municipality's contributions.

- * 11. Installment Contracts (65 ILCS 5/11-76.1-2)
Rate: Municipality may levy whatever rate is necessary to pay annual amount due or rent on purchase or lease of real or personal property for public purposes pursuant to contracts providing for payments in annual installments during a period not exceeding 20 years.
[Can be made subject to a referendum if an appropriate petition is filed within 60 days after newspaper publication of the ordinance authorizing the tax (back-door referendum).]
- 12. Insurance and Tort Judgments (745 ILCS 10/9-107)
Rate: Levy whatever rate is necessary to pay liability and property insurance or self-insurance costs, create reserves, pay the cost of risk management programs, to pay for legal services in protecting against liability and to pay judgments or settlements.
- 13. Joint Recreation Programs for the Handicapped (65 ILCS 5/11-95-14)
Rate: 0.04%, cannot be levied if a tax is levied under §5-8 of Park District Code in area.
- * 14. Lease of Building from Public Commission (50 ILCS 20/18)
Rate: Levy whatever rate is necessary to pay the annual rent.
- 15. Library Tax (75 ILCS 5/3-1 and 3-2):
Rate: 0.15% 0.60% with referendum
[For the establishment and maintenance of a free public library.]
- 16. Library Building Tax (75 ILCS 5/3-1 and 3-4)
Rate: 0.02%
[Subject to back-door referendum each year that the tax is levied.]
- 17. Medicare Tax (40 ILCS 5/21-110.1)
Rate: Levy amount necessary to meet cost of participating in Federal Medicare Program.
- 18. Mentally Deficient Persons Facilities (65 ILCS 5/11-29.1-1)
Rate: 0.10%
[Subject to back-door referendum.]
- * 19. Police Pension Fund (40 ILCS 5/3-125)
Rate: Whatever rate is necessary to produce a sum sufficient to meet the requirements of the fund.
- 20. Police Protection Tax (65 ILCS 5/11-1-3 and 11-1-5.1)
Rate: 0.075% without referendum—but if the municipality was authorized to levy this tax on July 1, 1967, then the rate limit is the greater of 0.15% or the limit that was in effect on July 31, 1969.
[This tax may be increased to 0.60% with referendum.]
- 21. Public Building Restoration (65 ILCS 5/11-70-1)
Rate: 0.08333%
[May not exceed 10 consecutive years.]
- 22. Public Comfort Station Tax (65 ILCS 5/11-21-4)
Rate: 0.0333%
[To be used for the establishment, equipment, and maintenance of public comfort stations.]
- * 23. School Crossing Guards Tax (65 ILCS 5/11-80-23)
Rate: 0.02%
[To be used to hire part-time school crossing guards.]
- * 24. Social Security Tax (40 ILCS 5/21-110)
Rate: Levy whatever rate is necessary to meet the cost of participation in the Social Security Act.
- 25. Special Assessment Public Benefit Tax (65 ILCS 5/9-2-39 and 9-2-49)
Rate: The greater of 0.05% or the rate that was in effect on July 1, 1967.
[For the sole purpose of paying the amounts assessed, or to be assessed, against the municipality for public benefits.]
- 26. Street and Bridge Tax (65 ILCS 5/11-81-1 and 11-81-2)
Rate: 0.060%
[This tax may be increased to 0.10% by a 3/4 vote of the governing body.
If, on July 1, 1967, a municipality had a rate that exceeded 0.10%, then that municipality may continue to levy the tax at that higher rate.]
- 27. Street Lighting Tax (65 ILCS 5/11-80-5)
Rate: 0.05%
[This tax requires the vote of at least 2/3 of governing body.]
- 28. Unemployment Insurance (745 ILCS 10/9-107)
Rate: Levy whatever rate is necessary to meet the costs of unemployment insurance.
- 29. Wastewater Disposal System (65 ILCS 90/3(g) and 22)
Rate: No limit but user charge may also be assessed.

STATUTORY SOURCES OF MUNICIPAL REVENUE CONTINUES ON PAGE 20

30. Workers' Compensation and Occupational Diseases Claims (745 ILCS 10/9-107)

Rate: Levy whatever rate is necessary to pay for legal services, purchase insurance, purchase claim services, pay for judgments and settlements, or otherwise to provide protection against liability under the Workers' Compensation Act or Workers' Occupational Diseases Act.

B. MUNICIPAL PROPERTY TAXES REQUIRING REFERENDUM:

1. Airport Tax (65 ILCS 5/11-103-16, 17)
Rate: 0.10%

2. Ambulance Tax (65 ILCS 5/11-5-7)
Rate: 0.15% original
Rate: 0.25% increased with additional referendum. In addition to the tax, the municipality may establish a service charge.

3. Bridge & Terminal Tax (605 ILCS 5/10-605)
Rate: 0.25%

4. Community Building Tax (65 ILCS 5/11-63-1)
Rate: 0.075%

5. Community Mental Health Facilities (405 ILCS 20/4 and 5)
Rate: 0.15%

6. Community Nurse Tax (65 ILCS 5/11-18-2)
Rate: 0.0075%
[This tax applies to populations from 5,000 to 100,000.]

7. Corporate Fund Property Tax (65 ILCS 5/8-3-1)
Rate: 0.25% or at the rate limit that was in effect on July 1, 1967, whichever is greater without referendum. The tax may be increased to 0.4375% with referendum.
[This tax is the one most frequently levied by municipalities. The proceeds of this tax levy can be used for any corporate purpose.]

8. Cultural Activities Tax (65 ILCS 5/11-45-1)
Rate: 0.04%
[For municipal band or programs in performing arts.]

9. Cultural Centers (65 ILCS 5/11-45.1-4)
Rate: 0.25%

10. Fire Protection Tax (65 ILCS 5/11-7-1 and 11-7-3)
Rate: 0.075% without referendum—but if the municipality was authorized to levy this tax on July 1, 1967, then the rate limit is the greater of 0.15% or the limit that was in effect on July 31, 1969.
[This tax may be increased to 0.60% with referendum.]

11. Forestry Program Tax (65 ILCS 5/11-73-1)
Rate: 0.05%

12. Levee Tax (65 ILCS 5/11-112-1 and 11-112-2)
Rate: 0.1666% limited to a period of not more than seven years; §11-112-3 authorizes annual levy of 0.1666% for municipalities subject to floods.

13. Library Tax (75 ILCS 5/3-1 through 3-4)
Rate: 0.15% without referendum, 0.60% with referendum

14. Library and Gymnasium Tax (75 ILCS 50/1 and 2)
Rate: 0.15% for villages of 2,500 population or less.

15. Monuments and Memorials Tax (65 ILCS 5/11-116-1)
Rate: 0.01%
[This tax is available only to municipalities with a population of 100,000 or less.]

16. Municipal Buildings (65 ILCS 5/11-64-1, 11-64-2, 8-4-1, and 8-4-2)
Rate: Amount sufficient to service bonds.

17. Municipal Coliseum Tax (65 ILCS 5/11-66-1)
Rate: 0.25% for a municipality with a population of less than 500,000 to establish a coliseum and 0.05% to maintain the coliseum.

18. Municipal Coliseum Tax (65 ILCS 5/11-67-4)
Rate: 0.025% for a municipality with a population of less than 75,000 to establish and maintain a coliseum.

19. Parks and Boulevards Tax (65 ILCS 5/11-99-1)
Rate: 0.03%
[This tax applies only for municipalities of not less than 5,000 or more than 100,000.]

20. Playground and Recreation Tax (65 ILCS 5/11-95-7 and 11-95-8)
Rate: 0.09% with referendum 0.20% authorized increased rate.

21. Police Protection Tax (65 ILCS 5/11-1-3 and 11-1-5.1)
Rate: 0.075% without referendum—but if the municipality was authorized to levy this tax on July 1, 1967, then the rate limit is the greater of 0.15% or the limit that was in effect on July 31, 1969.
[This tax may be increased to 0.60% with referendum.]

22. Public Health Board Tax (65 ILCS 5/11-17-1)
Rate: 0.075%
[This tax applies only for municipalities of more than 100,000 and less than 200,000.]

23. Public Hospital Tax (65 ILCS 5/11-23-1)
Rate: 0.06%
[This tax applies only for municipalities of less than 100,000.]

24. Public Parks Tax (65 ILCS 5/11-98-1)

Rate: 0.075%

[This tax is limited to municipalities less than 85,000 population.]

25. Railroad Grade Separation Tax (65 ILCS 5/11-58-2 and 11-58-6)

Rate: 0.5% Limited to a 10-year period.

[A supplemental deficiency tax at a rate of 1.25% may be levied for no more than five successive years.]

26. Recreational Programs for the Handicapped provided jointly by two or more municipalities. (65 ILCS 5/11-95-14)

Rate: 0.04%

[This tax may not be levied in an area where it is levied by the park district.]

27. Restoration of Neglected Cemeteries Tax (65 ILCS 5/11-50-1)

Rate: 0.025%

[This tax applies only for municipalities of less than 25,000.]

28. Sewage Disposal Plant Additional Tax (65 ILCS 5/11-143-2)

Rate: 0.075%

[This tax applies only to municipalities of less than 100,000 that are not in a sanitary district.

This tax is in addition to the tax levied under the City Sewerage Fund Tax (65 ILCS 5/11-143-1.)]

29. Sewage Treatment and Disposal (65 ILCS 5/11-142-1 and 11-142-2)

Rate: 0.075%

[This tax applies for municipalities that are not in a sanitary district.]

30. Stormwater Management Tax (65 ILCS 5/11-113.1-1)

Rate: 0.06% if the municipality owns and operates a wastewater treatment plant and .03% otherwise. Municipality must be at least partly in county under 1.5 million in population that is served by the Northeastern Illinois Planning Commission.

31. Transportation System Tax (65 ILCS 5/11-120-1)

Rate: 0.03%

32. Tuberculosis Sanatoriums Tax (65 ILCS 5/11-29-1)

Rate: 0.025% for municipalities of less than 75,000 and 0.05% for municipalities of 75,000 or more.

33. Waterworks Purchase—Construction or Enlargement (65 ILCS 5/11-128-1)

Rate: 0.1666%, not more than 30 years.

II. NON-PROPERTY TAXES

1. Amusement Taxes (65 ILCS 5/11-42-1, 11-42-5, 11-54-1, and 11-55-1)

2. Auto Leasing and Rentals (65 ILCS 5/8-11-7, 8-11-8, and 8-11-11)

Rate: 1% and \$2.75 per vehicle per rental period.

3. Cable TV (65 ILCS 5/11-42-11)

4. Cable and Video Competition (220 ILCS 5/21-801)

5. Foreign Fire Insurance Tax (65 ILCS 5/11-10-1)

Rate: 2% of the gross receipts of foreign fire insurance on property in the municipality. Expenditure of fees (65 ILCS 5/11-10-2)

6. Hotel Occupation/Use Tax (65 ILCS 5/8-3-14, 5/8-3-14a)

Rate: 5% on the gross receipts from room rentals. To promote tourism.

7. Motor Fuel Tax (65 ILCS 5/8-11-15)

Rate: \$0.01 per gallon.

[This tax is limited to municipalities of more than 100,000. Referendum is required.]

8. Motor Vehicle Tax/License Fee (65 ILCS 5/8-11-4).

9. Replacement Vehicle Tax (65 ILCS 5/8-11-9)

Rate: \$50 per vehicle

10. Home Rule Retailers' Occupation Tax, Service Occupation Tax, Use Tax, and Service Use Tax (65 ILCS 5/8-11-1, 8-11-5, and 8-11-6)

11. Non-Home Rule Retailer Occupation Tax, Service Occupation Tax, Use Tax (65 ILCS 5/8-11-1.3, 8-11-1.4 and 8-11-1.5)

[Referendum is required to impose or increase.]

12. Simplified Municipal Telecommunications Tax (35 ILCS 636/5-1 *et seq.*)

13. Home Rule Real Estate Transfer Tax (65 ILCS 5/8-3-19)

[Referendum is required.]

12. Utility Taxes (65 ILCS 5/8-11-2)

[Gas: 65 ILCS 5/8-11-2(2)]

[Electricity: 65 ILCS 5/8-11-2(3)]

[Water: 65 ILCS 5/8-11-2(4)]

III. MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS TAXES

Division 42 of Article 11 of the Illinois Municipal Code sets forth various other businesses and occupations that a municipality has the power to tax. (See generally, 65 ILCS 5/11-42-1 through 11/42-14).

Additional Special Sources of Potential Revenue

A referendum is not required in a Non-Home Rule Community

Auditing Tax

Rate equal to the cost of a required audit

Municipal Retirement Fund Tax

Equal to municipal contributions

Lease of a Building Tax

Police Station

Police Pension Fund Tax

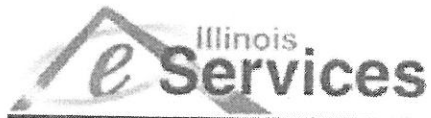
Equal to required contribution

A Referendum is required in a Non-Home Ruled Community

Hotel Occupation Tax

A referendum is required and you must be a Home Ruled Community

Real Estate Transfer Tax



Illinois Tax Rate Finder

Rates

Local Government	HAMPSHIRE
County	KANE
Location Code	045 0011 3
Liability Period	03 2016

Sales and related taxes

Sales Taxes (retailers' and service occupation taxes)

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> General merchandise	7.000%
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Qualifying food and drugs	1.750%
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Vehicle (ST-556 and ST-556-LSE)	7.000%

↳ If the vehicle or trailer is titled and registered to

- a Chicago address, a Chicago Home Rule tax of **1.250%** is imposed in addition to the vehicle rate listed above, making the total tax rate **8.250%**.
- an out-of-state location, you (the dealer) may be required to collect tax. Refer to "Information for Vehicle Dealers" on the Welcome Page.

Use Taxes (use and service use taxes)

General merchandise	6.250%
Qualifying food and drugs	1.000%
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Vehicle (RUT-25 and RUT-25-LSE)	7.000%

Other related sales taxes

County Motor Fuel Tax	\$0.04 per gallon
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Automobile renting taxes

Automobile renting tax (occupation)	5.000%
Automobile renting tax (use)	5.000%

Telecommunication taxes

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Telecommunication taxes	13.000%
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* Use the State-wide Fixed Rate Finder for all other taxes we administer.

Charity Gaming

Charitable Games Tax & License Fees

License fees

One annual application is good for four events. However, if all four dates are not requested at application time, an organization may amend or add dates by requesting an amendment in writing 30 days prior to an event.

- Organizations conducting charitable games are required to pay a \$400 license fee. Licenses are valid for two years.
- Suppliers of gaming equipment are required to purchase an annual license for \$500 or \$1,500 for three years.
- An annual "provider's fee" of \$50 or \$150 for three years is imposed on anyone who rents space to be used for a charitable game. Use the "**Tax Rate Finder**" to determine the fee.

Questions?

- Call us at: 1 217 785-5864
- Call TDD: 1 800 544-5304

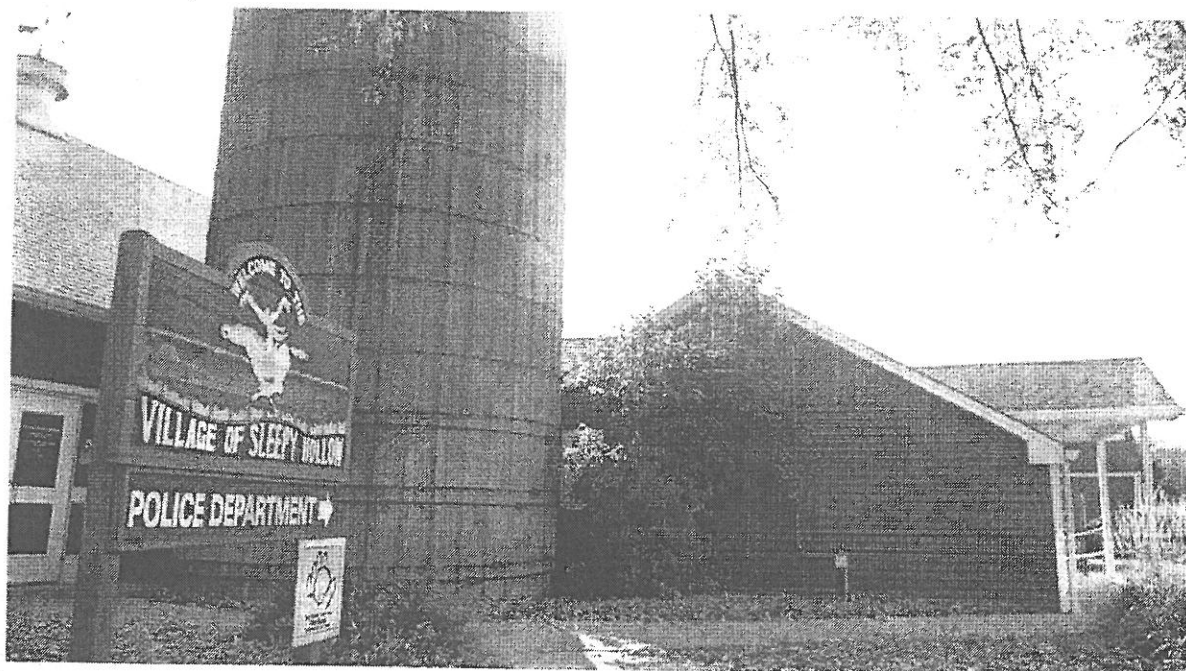
Daily Herald

Politics updated: 3/24/2016 3:34 PM

Village president: Tax hike gives Sleepy Hollow 'breathing room'

Success - Article sent!

close



On March 15, voters narrowly approved a 33 percent property tax hike in Sleepy Hollow.

Rick West | Staff Photographer

**Sle
inc
Ric**



Lauren Rohr

A referendum proposal to raise property taxes in Sleepy Hollow narrowly passed last week, but Village President Stephan Pickett isn't getting ahead of himself.

ADVERTISING

4

Image provided by Teads

On March 15, voters approved a 33 percent property tax hike 610 to 588 votes, according to unofficial election results. Village officials are operating under the assumption the 22-vote lead will hold, Pickett said, but the results could shift depending on how many mail-in ballots Kane County receives from voters.

"The caveat to this whole thing is that the county has yet to certify the election results," he said. "There's still a possibility that things could change."

The tax increase is expected to generate an additional \$180,000 in annual revenue from the village's more than 3,300 residents. The owner of a home with an assessed value of \$200,000 would pay \$132 more in property taxes per year.

The additional revenue will go toward the village's general fund, road improvements and a depleting five-year

capital fund for long-term expenses.

But it'll be a while before Sleepy Hollow will reap the benefits of a tax hike, Pickett said, as the village won't start collecting the additional funds until June 2017.

"There's not some spending spree coming up. We've still got to be prudent and watch the bottom line and watch our expenditures," he said. "It gives us some breathing room now in planning, but it won't be immediate."

The village's third request in two years for a property tax hike was its only successful attempt. Last April, a referendum proposal asking for an 82 percent increase was shot down by more than 80 percent of voters, and a similar request was denied in November 2014.

Fearing voters would deny a third request, officials this time requested a smaller increase that would temporarily hold over the village. Fortunately, Pickett said, the election played out in Sleepy Hollow's favor.

"I'm pleasantly surprised," he said. "I was really holding my breath on that one."

The tax increase is enough to keep the village afloat for two to three years, at which point officials will likely have to return to the voters with another request, Pickett said.

"We're kicking the can down the road," he said. "And we're going to come back up on that can very shortly."

Article Continues (P)

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Tophatter

Ron Paul: "Buying Gold Will Not Be Enough – Here's Next Step To Take"

Stansberry Research

Illinois updated: 3/31/2016 8:57 PM

New gasoline tax takes effect in Decatur on Friday

AP Associated Press

DECATUR, Ill. -- A new gas tax taking effect in the central Illinois city of Decatur on Friday will fund street repairs. The (Decatur) Herald & Review reports (<http://bit.ly/IVaqyLR>) owners of gas stations in the city hope they won't lose too many customers.

The tax is 5 cents per gallon for unleaded gasoline and 1 cent per gallon for diesel.

John Phillips, owner of University Service, tells the newspaper he thinks competitors outside of the city eventually will match Decatur's prices.

Decatur officials say the tax will pay for repairs on secondary streets. Public Works Director Rick Marley says his staff is developing a list of a dozen or more streets where the gas tax will pay for improvements.

Information from: Herald & Review, <http://www.herald-review.com>

Article Comments (0)

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