

Tax Levy Public Hearing St. Clair Township

DATE: December 13, 2011

TIME: 6:45 p.m.

LOCATION: St. Clair Township
107 Service Street
Swansea, IL 62226

MEMBERS PRESENT: Tim Buchanan, Supervisor
Mary Carroll, Clerk
Mark Burk, Road Commissioner
Dave Barnes, Trustee
Richard Schobert, Trustee
Bob Trentman, Trustee
Greg Bridgman, Trustee

OTHERS PRESENT:	Dean Wallen	Rosevelyn Dale
	Wilton Hataway	Jenna Monroe
	Ken Miller	Linda Walson
	Deborah Dixon	Henry Walson
	Skip Kernan	Keith Sturgis
	Margy Pearson	Sue Gruberman
	Jeff Carmack	

Roll Call:

The Tax Levy Public Hearing of the St. Clair Township was called to order by Supervisor, Tim Buchanan with the Pledge of Allegiance. Assessor Robert Knee was absent but all other board members were present.

Supervisor Buchanan explained the purpose of the meeting and gave some general background. He explained how a levy works. He also told those present that there are two separate budgets and two separate levies for the Township and the Road District. He said that the Township levy would be raised due to two funds that were in need of money: 1) General Assistance Fund; and 2) Park Fund. He gave an overview of why these funds were low. He stated that because the Road District would be lowering its levy, it will offset the increase in the Township Levy and there will be no tax increase for the Township as a whole. He then asked for questions and comments.

Rosevelyn Dale said that the Township should not be worried about going in the hole, because people live in the hole every day.

Deborah Dixon said that she lives in Shiloh, but wasn't sure if she lived in the Township. She said she was taken back when she received a notice that her water would be shut off if she didn't pay her sewer bill. She said it was okay though because her landlord paid it. Supervisor

Buchanan said that he would be willing to talk to her after the meeting, since that topic was not part of the levy hearing.

Skip Kernan asked why the projected beginning balance in the general fund went up some. Supervisor Buchanan said Swansea paid off the loan on the property across the street that was sold. He reminded Mr. Kernan that some balance has to be kept as an emergency fund for unexpected expenses that may come up.

Kernan also asked if the line item for the Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund (IMRF) that was projected was for all the employees. Supervisor Buchanan said the IMRF in the General Fund was for full time elected officials only, not trustees. He explained that the Retirement Fund for regular full time employees is paid through a different fund.

Kernan also asked if the election expense coverage should come from St. Clair County. Supervisor Buchanan said that only some of the expense is covered by the County.

Henry Walson asked who paid for the park maintenance in the past. Supervisor Buchanan said that before this Board took over, the park maintenance was paid through the sewer fund which was not correct. Supervisor Buchanan said we are now doing what we need to do to ensure the right expenses are paid through the correct funds.

Rosevelyn Dale had another question about sewers and made a comment that we should build more penitentiaries because no one would go hungry.

There being no further business, Supervisor Buchanan declared the Hearing closed at 7:23 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:



Mary Carroll
Township Clerk