

REAL ESTATE TAX CYCLE COMMITTEE

Tuesday, July 10, 2018

PRESENT: P. Chapman, D. Moore, D. Michael, K. Novacich-Koberna, M. Parkinson
ABSENT: NONE
OTHERS: T. Soland, B. Powers, D. Ming-Mendoza, J. Dauderman, P. McRae, P. Curtin, S. Purcell

Chairman Chapman asked that the June minutes reflect that he withdrew the PTELL resolution from consideration with full consent from the committee in place of “no action was taken” on the second page. Mrs. Novacich-Koberna moved, seconded by Mr. Moore, to approve the amended June meeting minutes.
MOTION CARRIED.

****Chairman Chapman corrected the July agenda with taking the Resolutions section out as there were no resolutions to discuss.**

TREASURER:

P. McRae delivered the Treasurers monthly report saying that the first installment date was July 5th. He said the first installment date is typically the heaviest but due to all of the prepayments this year, that wasn't the case. The Treasurer's Office made three distributions this year totaling in \$54,394,908.13 which is 12.77% of taxes extended with the next distribution scheduled for July 26th. Mr. McRae said that they made an extra distribution since the second distribution was smaller than normal. He said that their new Lock Box Provider, FCB, was still working to get software in place which is why that distribution was smaller so to make up for the smaller distribution, they made that extra distribution to the school districts. Another thing Mr. McRae reported was that for the first time, the refinery has paid their taxes in 1 payment rather than 4 which was roughly 23 million dollars. Mr. Moore asked if there was any interest that was affected with the smaller distribution and Mr. McRae said that since FCB does the Lock Box service for free, the interest goes to them which ultimately did not affect anything.

COUNTY CLERK:

D. Ming-Mendoza reported that they are currently accepting budgets from the taxing districts for the 2018-2019 cycle along with a couple of Levy's. She said they are also completing the Enterprise Zone Abstracts for the TIF District and continue to assist with mobile home corrections.

Mr. Chapman asked Ms. Ming-Mendoza about a concern of his regarding the Tax Cycle and general taxing. He asked, “What would it mean if the Audit was not signed off on? Would it impact the taxing cycle at all?” Ms. Ming-Mendoza replied that the County Clerk's Office will continue to move forward regardless if the Audit is signed off on. P. McRae cautioned that if the Audit is not signed off on, it will have a negative impact on the County in the future. There was some discussion on the ramifications the Audit could potentially cause and then if the total assets would play into a bonding equation.

RECORDER:

P. Curtin reported that the Records Office continues to streamline process change and has changed the former process of same day recording if documents were brought in by 2pm with the potential of documents not being returned up to a week to a new process of 24 hour electronic return. She also says that 3 staff members will be visiting the Marion County Recorder's Office in Indianapolis to observe how electronic submission takes place in their everyday operations.

ASSESSOR:

J. Dauderman says that the office is still working on 2017 tax bill corrections and 2018 exemptions. He says that the research techs on the mapping side are taking May transfers that come from the Records Office and researches to see if anything needs changed which is then sent to their transfer clerks to make any name changes or parcel splits. He touches base with the 2018 reassessment field work and says they are finishing up Holiday Shores area of Moro Township then will be moving to the rural areas. He says Godfrey Township is complete and they are working on building permits. Mr. Dauderman said that he is not having the part timers handle the permits due to the complex nature of them so the more experienced field crew will be handling those. He says that there are a total of 8 townships that are complete and are waiting on publications from those.

Mr. Dauderman wanted to discuss with the committee about his publications that are required to go in the newspapers. He said they have reviewed the publication statute and realized they have been leaving out certain parts in the heading. Mr. Dauderman said one thing they have left out in the past is a section talking about exemptions and how the heading is supposed to be in 11pt. font. He goes on to talk about how expensive this particular heading will be. For example, the most expensive newspaper would be \$797 for one heading entry and there would be 24 entries. The cheapest newspaper would be \$123 per entry. He also said for each parcel published is \$.80. Right now, he says the cost of publications will be upwards of \$82,000. Mr. Dauderman is going to dig deeper into this issue and find exactly which papers cover each area to eliminate unneeded publications. Mr. Parkinson brought up the idea of putting these publications out for bid to the local newspapers to potentially cut down on cost.

Mr. Chapman raised the question of what is anticipated and how the tax cycle will be impacted from retirements and the Alton referendum from an earlier point Mr. Dauderman discussed. In short, Mr. Dauderman answered that the budget process is in the beginning stages and he will be discussing options of how money can be recouped back into the County.

BOARD OF REVIEW:

B. Powers reports that they are continuing to process senior freeze applications and bill corrections. She says they have received several state appeals from large businesses requesting over \$100k in reduction. They also have the renewal certificates in the works and will start being posted soon.

I.T.:

B. Davis was unable to attend the meeting but forwarded his report to the committee. He wrote, "We have been working closely with the Treasurer's Office, as this is the first year for them to use FCB Banks for tax payment processing. We have also been available for any other departments as needed."

Mr. Moore revisited a topic that P. McRae discussed in his report asking why a company such as the Refinery would pay their bill in full instead of paying it in installments to earn interest on that account. Mr. McRae said they simply have a new Processor and paying in one installment is their new preferred method.

Mr. Parkinson moved, seconded by Ms. Novacich-Koberna, to approve the property trustee report as presented. The ayes and nays being called on the motion to approve resulted in a vote as follows: AYES: D. Moore, D. Michael, K. Novacich-Koberna, M. Parkinson NAYS: None. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Mr. Chapman asked Ms. Ming-Mendoza to confirm that the PTELL referendum will not be able to go on the November ballot and why. Ms. Ming-Mendoza, County Clerk, states that there are already 3 public questions on the Ballot and with Madison County being a political subdivision it is maxed at 3 referendums. The 3 public questions that will make the Fall ballot will be the consolidation of the County Clerk and Recorders offices, declaring Madison County a gun sanctuary and the bond indebtedness issue.

Mr. Dauderman had one last thing to report and that was that he had a meeting with American Steel to discuss assistance with their taxes now that their TIF has expired. He said their current assessment is around \$6 million and the total abatement is around \$150,000. The Chairman, Mr. Parkinson and Ms. Novacich-Koberna agreed they would all be willing to attend meetings alongside Mr. Dauderman to discuss assessments.

Mr. Parkinson moved, seconded by Mr. Moore, to adjourn the meeting. **MOTION CARRIED.**

/mds