

**REAL ESTATE TAX CYCLE
MEETING AGENDA**
Tuesday, June 12, 2018
9:00 AM, Room 145
Chairman: Philip W. Chapman

Call to Order – Chairman @ 9:00am

Welcome and Introductions

Roll Call – Chairman

Attending-
Absent-
Guests-

Approval of Minutes

- Public Comments

Reports

- Chris Slusser, County Treasurer
- Ms. Debbie Ming Mendoza, County Clerk
- Amy Meyer, Recorder
 - Board setting Predictable Fees by January 2019 pursuant to statute
- Joe Dauderman, County Assessor
- Bessie Powers, Board of Review
- Mr. Dorman, IT
- Additional As Needed

Purchase Requests - None

Trustee Report

Resolutions

- Resolution to Place a Public Question on the November 2018 Ballot for Consideration in the Matter of the Property Tax Extension Limitation Law
- Resolution to Present an Advisory Public Question via Countywide Referendum on Whether Units of Government in Madison County Shall First Obtain Voter Approval by Advisory Referendum Before Incurring Bond Debt

New Business

Adjournment

**RESOLUTION TO PLACE A PUBLIC QUESTION ON THE NOVEMBER 2018 BALLOT
FOR CONSIDERATION IN THE MATTER OF THE PROPERTY TAX EXTENSION
LIMITATION LAW**

WHEREAS the Property Tax Extension Limitation Law (PTELL) was adopted by the General Assembly of Illinois in 1991, amended in 2006, and signed into law by the Governor; and

WHEREAS Illinois State Statute 35 ILCS 200/18-213, provides that County Boards may submit to the voters of the county the question of whether to make all non-home rule taxing districts that have all or a portion of the equalized assessed valuation subject to PTELL; and,

WHEREAS the legal authority to place a referendum before the voters of Madison County rests with the County Board of Madison County.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the County Board of Madison County, that the County Clerk is hereby authorized to place on the November 6, 2018, General Election Ballot in Madison County, the following public question:

“Shall the Property Tax Extension Limitation Law (35 ILCS 200/18-185 through 18-245), which limits annual property tax extension increases, apply to non-home rule taxing districts with all or a portion of their equalized assessed valuation located in Madison County?”
YES/NO

Respectfully submitted,

Don Moore

Phil Chapman

Judy Kuhn

Don Moore

Mick Madison

David Michael

Michael Holliday

Michael Parkinson

Nick Petrillo

Kristen Novacich-Koberna

Erica Harriss

**Government Relations Committee
June 11, 2018**

**Real Estate Tax Cycle Committee
June 12, 2018**

**RESOLUTION TO PRESENT AN ADVISORY PUBLIC QUESTION VIA A
COUNTYWIDE REFERENDUM ON WHETHER UNITS OF GOVERNMENT IN
MADISON COUNTY SHALL FIRST OBTAIN VOTER APPROVAL BY ADVISORY
REFERENDUM BEFORE INCURRING BOND DEBT**

WHEREAS, Pursuant to the Illinois Election Code, 10 ILCS 5/28-1, et seq., and the Counties Code, 55 ILCS 5/5-1005.5, the corporate authorities of a county have the authority to submit a public question to the electors of the county by means of a referendum; and

WHEREAS, in the past few decades units of governments throughout Madison County have incurred tens of millions of dollars in bond debt without first seeking the approval of the voters and taxpayers; and

WHEREAS, such units of government have been able to incur such bond indebtedness without voter approval through the "backdoor referendum" process, sometimes binding generations of Madison County taxpayers to the repayment of long-term bond debt; and

WHEREAS, the "backdoor referendum" process permits a unit of government to pass an ordinance or resolution to borrow significant sums of money and unless the voters within the said unit circulate petitions and obtain an unreasonably high number of signatures within an unreasonably short period of time the bond debt will be incurred without voter approval; and

WHEREAS, units of government often initiate this process during months in which it is predictably more difficult for interested taxpayers to quickly and successfully conduct a petition drive within the limited amount of time allowed by law, including during the holidays or in the hottest months of the year; and

WHEREAS, the use of such a process by units of government of all types, including park districts, school districts, library districts, and municipalities among others, has become far too common in Madison County, having resulted in taxpayers being responsible for the repayment of millions upon millions of dollars in bond debt; and

WHEREAS, such bond debt nearly always requires the repayment of the debt with interest, sometimes at high rates, and with excessive consultant fees and other expenses for which taxpayers are also obligated to pay; and

WHEREAS, despite several successful efforts by Madison County taxpayers to combat this problem by circulating petitions, forcing the referendum onto the election ballot, and then defeating the proposed bond debt at the polls, units of government have persisted in attempts to take more bond debt without first seeking the approval of the voters; and

WHEREAS, officers and employees of such units of government attempting to issue bond debt without voter approval have been known to expend taxpayer funds and use taxpayer supported resources and personnel to oppose citizen petition efforts, potentially in violation of state law; and

WHEREAS, the units of government located within Madison County could elect not to use the backdoor referendum process and instead place advisory referendums on the ballot to first seek approval of the voters before passing any ordinance or resolution in which bond debt is incurred; and

WHEREAS, as a matter of public policy in Madison County, no bond debt of any type should be incurred by any unit of government unless the voters first grant their consent at the polls through an advisory referendum; and

WHEREAS, the voters of Madison County should have the opportunity to express their views on this important issue to the units of government to which they pay taxes and reside; and

WHEREAS, 55 ILCS 5/5-1005.5 states, "By a vote of the majority of the members of the county board, the board may authorize an advisory question of public policy to be placed on the ballot at the next regularly scheduled election in the county."; and

WHEREAS, the Madison County Board seeks to place an advisory public question before the electorate via a referendum on the November 6, 2018, countywide ballot seeking to ask Madison County voters if all units of government shall first seek the approval of voters by advisory referendum before incurring any bond debt, as follows:

"Shall all units of governments within Madison County first seek approval from the voters by advisory referendum before incurring any bond debt?"

Yes

No

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Madison County Board that the aforementioned advisory question be presented to the electorate via a countywide advisory referendum on the November 6, 2018 ballot;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Madison County Clerk shall certify the advisory public question referenced herein and notifies the Secretary of State, and the Attorney General of this request for action in accordance with Article 28 of the Election Code.

Approved and adopted this ____ day of June 2018.