WEDNESDAY A.M.

STATE OF ILLINOIS)) SS COUNTY OF PIATT)

The County Board of Piatt County convened for a Special Meeting in the Monticello Community Building in the City of Monticello, County of Piatt and State of Illinois on Wednesday, the 13th day of November, A.D. 2019, at the hour of 8:30 o'clock in the morning and was called to order by Chairman Ray Spencer.

The following Board Members and County Officers were in attendance: County Board Members: Shannon Carroll, Renee Fruendt, Dale Lattz, Robert Murrell, Randy Shumard and Ray Spencer; State's Attorney Dana Rhoades, Sheriff David Hunt, County Clerk Jennifer Harper, Finance Officer Linda Leach, Treasurer Debbie Marshall, Assessor Jennifer Bryant, County Board Secretary Keri Nusbaum.

TRUTH IN TAXATION HEARING

A Public Hearing was held to receive comments and address any questions about the proposed property tax levy increase for the County of Piatt for the tax year 2019. The County published a notice in the local newspaper and conducted the hearing in accordance with the requirements of the Truth in Taxation Law. The proposed 2019 tax levy request exceeds 5% of the previous year's extension. The Certificate of Publication is recorded on page

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Evan Smith of Willow Branch Township, would like clarity of the 9.4% tax increase and asks the County Board to vote no on the Tax Levy. He also said having a meeting at 8:30 a.m. is not a public hearing and encourages the County Board to find other ways to fund the government. Assessor Bryant addressed his question.

Sheila Maloney of Sangamon Township, would like more clarity of the tax increase. She said there is a budget deficit and would like to know how are we going to get out of it.

Linda Bailey of Sangamon Township, asked how often levies are done and when are you going to do a levy again?

Jake Lieb of Monticello Township, asked what can we expect next year and what is it going to take to fill that same line item for next year. He also asked what the rate of increase on farm land is? Assessor Bryant addressed his question.

Kathleen Piatt of Sangamon Township, Thanked everyone for the work to try and resolve the problem at hand. Let everyone know that the increase would also impose a hardship on some property owners that may not be able to absorb the increase. Brandon Boyd of Willow Branch Township, would like clarity on the retirement increase for the county and the average increase for the taxpayers. Finance Officer Leach addressed his question.

Steve Shreffler of Monticello Township, Wants to know how much money does the county have in reserves and how much of a deficit there is before the tax levy. He would like answers, more transparency and the county to consider changes on how the board is operating. He would like the audience to know they will not be given another opportunity to speak as public comments are at the end of the County Board meeting and not before any votes are taken. Finance Officer Leach and Treasurer Marshall and County Board Member Lattz addressed his questions.

Dana Rhoades, Piatt County States Attorney, Commented she did not learn about the tax levy from the County Board Chairman but did from Facebook and was not given an opportunity to conduct research for the citizens of Piatt County.

Kyle Gerlach of Sangamon Township, asked where can the taxpayers go to get a report of accounting of what is spent and accountability.

At 9:02 a.m., Chairman Ray Spencer announced a 5 minute recess, then County Board reconvened at 9:15 a.m. on the same day, Wednesday, November 13, 2019.

County Clerk