

Taxation & Elections Committee
Tuesday, August 1, 2023
5:00 PM, 2nd Floor, Joseph G Cannon Bldg.

MINUTES

Agenda Item 1 - Call to Order and Roll Call

Committee Chairman Tom Morse called the Taxation & Elections Committee meeting to order at 5:00 PM. Upon the call of the roll, the following members were present; Tom Morse, Joel Bird, Jerry Hawker, Phil Jackson and Bruce Stark. Christine LaMar was absent. 5 present, 1 absent. Also, in attendance; Cassy Carter – Financial Resources Director, Cathy Jenkins – County Clerk, Robyn Heffern – Chief Deputy County Clerk’s Office, Carrie Wilson – Supervisor of Elections and Cindy Burton – Chief Deputy Recorder’s Office.

Agenda Item 2 - Adoption/Amendments to the Agenda

Bird motioned, second by Hawker to approve the agenda. Motion passed by acclamation.

Agenda Item 3 - Approval of Minutes – September 20, 2022

Stark motioned to approve minutes, second by Bird. Motion passed by acclamation.

Agenda Item 4 - Audience Comments

None

Agenda Item 5 – Recorder Budget FY 2023-2024

Stark motioned, second by Bird. Cindy Burton explained the budget stayed the same as the previous year with the exception of the salary line increase per the union contract.

Upon the call of the roll the following members voted yes, to wit: Tom Morse, Joel Bird, Jerry Hawker, Phil Jackson and Bruce Stark. 5 yes, 1 absent. Motion passed.

Agenda Item 6 – County Clerk Budget FY 2023-2024

Hawker motioned, second by Bird to discuss. Cathy Jenkins explained the only increases were to the salary line due to union raises, and election lines due to having two elections next year.

Upon the call of the roll the following members voted yes, to wit: Tom Morse, Joel Bird, Jerry Hawker, Phil Jackson and Bruce Stark. 5 yes, 1 absent. Motion passed.

Agenda Item 7 – Resolution – RE: Change in Polling Place - Carroll Township Ordinance

Bird motioned, second by Stark to discuss. Cathy Jenkins explained this is moving polling place to allow a for handicap accessible, refrigerator, restroom and microwave. Since the judges have to be there all day starting at 5:00am, they need access to these amenities.

Upon the call of the roll the following members voted yes, to wit: Tom Morse, Joel Bird, Jerry Hawker, Phil Jackson and Bruce Stark. 5 yes, 1 absent. Motion passed.

Agenda Item 8 – Resolution – RE: Change in Polling Place – Catlin, IL

Stark motioned, second by Jackson to discuss. Cathy Jenkins explained this is moving the polling place across the street from the existing voting place in Catlin. This is due to the church being much larger than the town hall and expecting a large turn out this year in voting.

Upon the call of the roll the following members voted yes, to wit: Tom Morse, Joel Bird, Jerry Hawker, Phil Jackson and Bruce Stark. 5 yes, 1 absent. Motion passed.

Agenda Item 9 – Ordinance – RE: Amendment to the Combined Annual Budget and Appropriation Ordinance for the Vermilion County, County Clerk Department – Out of Category Transfer - \$36,000.00

Bird motioned, second by Hawker to discuss. Cathy Jenkins explained this money in in the budget, but they need to move this from the Election/Personnel line to the Supplies/Elections line to pay on a contract.

Upon the call of the roll the following members voted yes, to wit: Tom Morse, Joel Bird, Jerry Hawker, Phil Jackson and Bruce Stark. 5 yes, 1 absent. Motion passed.

Agenda Item 10 – Ordinance – RE: Amendment to the Combined Annual Budget and Appropriation Ordinance for the Election Commission Office - \$2,212.00

Hawker motioned, second by Bird to discuss. Cassy Carter explained this is adding additional salary to the Department Head's salary line. In an email it stated the Commissioner, Barb Bailey, had approved this raise as of 7/1/2023. Due to no one being there to represent the Election Commission, nor the Department Head, the motion was made to vote to "Deny the Increase"

Upon the call of the roll the following members voted yes, to wit: Tom Morse, Joel Bird, Jerry Hawker, Phil Jackson and Bruce Stark. 5 yes, 1 absent. Motion passed to deny the increase.

Agenda Item 11 – Executive Session

None

Agenda Item 12 - Items of Information

Phil Jackson handed out a proposal for thought, and to have the State's Attorney look into. This would charge a 12% gross tax on commercial power generated in Vermilion County. Carter will reach out to the State's Attorney for her guidance on this request.

Agenda Item 13 – Adjournment

Committee Chairman Tom Morse adjourned the meeting at 5:34 PM.

Minutes by: Cassy Carter, Financial Resources Director