

Floyd County Council
Meeting Minutes
July 26, 2023
6:00 P.M.
Pineview Government Center
Commissioners Meeting Room #104

Denise Konkle called the meeting to order and led the *Pledge of Allegiance*

Roll Call – Full Quorum

Also Present- Attorney, Steve Langdon and Auditor, Diana Topping;

Public Comment

Joseph Moore, Brendan McCormick, Doug Keiter, Bill Kinzer, Sue Speerbrecker, Dale Mann, Scott Fancher, Pat Harrison, Trent Rufing and several other residents spoke out against the tax increase.

New Business

1. Judicial LIT

Ordinance 2023-01 Modifying Income Tax Rates Floyd County, IN

Dale Bagshaw proposed to lower the tax rate to .04% from .07%. He stated he voted for the salary increases last year because it showed that a lot of the employees were severely under paid. He pointed out they are in this position partly because of salaries but also because the County has lost nearly \$1.7 million in state revenue. The state cut \$500,000.00, the county lost \$900,000.00 from housing of federal inmates and the Harrison County Commissioners took away 50% of the Riverboat funds to give to the town of Georgetown, about \$300,000.00. He added if they do nothing they will have to make cuts in services in a couple years.

Jim Freiberger stated he thinks cuts can be made without cutting services. He, Connie Moon and Danny Short have mentioned potential revenue sources that could easily hit \$1 million of the \$1.8 million shortfall. He believes they should look at benefits and other areas of the budget before asking for tax increase.

Danny Short stated they are being asked to vote for a tax that they do not know what is covered and how much will be generated. He stated he will be looking at all the budgets closely. He will scrutinize all the budgets line by line and do what's right for the tax payers.

Connie Moon agreed with Danny Short and Jim Freiberger. She is going to look close at the budgets and look at other sources of revenue.

Denise Konkle stated she believes they have done some of the best planning in this county by hiring consultants, doing five year plans and knew exactly what they were doing. They knew they didn't have the revenue stream needed but lost two sources that they were unprepared for. She said she does not take this lightly. It would be easier to vote against the tax increase. She said she has not seen a full plan to get where they need to be.

Brad Striegel asked Tim Stricker, from the Reedy Group, what the tax payer impact would be with the .04%. He stated about \$28.00 annual on a salary of \$70,000.00. Mr. Striegel stated there will still be a net savings of approximately \$100.00 on income tax. Mr. Stricker stated there is a 20-year sunset clause on the Judicial LIT. Mr. Striegel added the biggest departments in the General Fund is Sheriff's Department and Operations. They will have to cut services and infrastructure even if this passes if they don't find other sources of revenue. This tax will be a positive impact on tax payers since the state has reduced the state income tax.

Danny Short said the public may also be hit with stormwater fee increase and the CCD tax increase. They do not want another tax increase.

Brad Striegel and Denise Konkle stated they will not vote for stormwater fee increase.

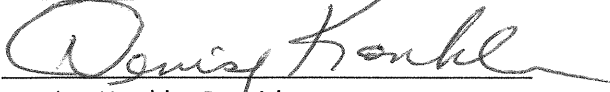
Motion to lower the proposed rate from .07% to .04%. Moved by Dale Bagshaw. Seconded by Tony Toran. Denise Konkle, Brad Striegel, Dale Bagshaw and Tony Toran approved. Connie Moon, Danny Short and Jim Freiberger opposed. Motion passed 4-3.

Motion to suspend the rules for unanimous consent to pass Ordinance 2023-01 two readings. Moved by Tony Toran. Seconded by Dale Bagshaw. Motion passed 4-3. Connie Moon, Danny Short and Jim Freiberger opposed.


Motion to approve .04% Judicial LIT tax and adopt Ordinance 2023-01. Moved by Dale Bagshaw. Seconded by Tony Toran. Motion passed 4-3. Connie Moon, Danny Short and Jim Freiberger opposed.

Motion to adjourn. Moved by Tony Toran. Seconded by Connie Moon. Motion passed unanimously.

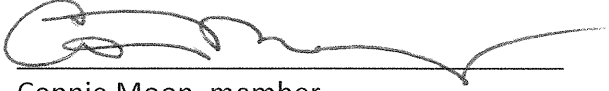
FLOYD COUNTY COUNCIL



Denise Konkle, President



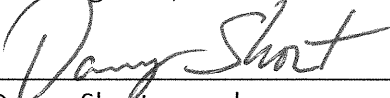
Brad Striegel, Vice President



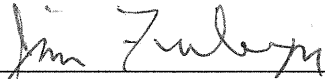
Connie Moon, member



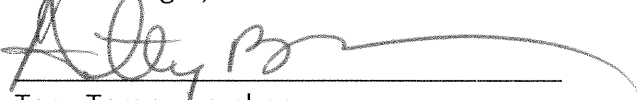
Dale Bagshaw, member



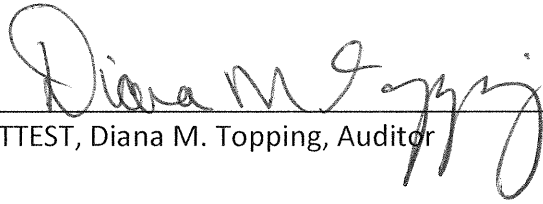
Danny Short, member



Jim Freiburger, member



Tony Toran, member



ATTEST, Diana M. Topping, Auditor