

MIAMI COUNTY COUNCIL
25 NORTH BROADWAY
PERU, INDIANA 46970
June 20, 2023

Councilwoman Chittum – Present
Councilman Fruth – Present
Councilman Donaldson – Present
Councilman Wiles – Present
Councilman Allen – Present
Councilman Sailors – Absent
Councilman Nutt – Present

President Chittum called the public hearing to order to discuss the elimination of the property tax relief credits. President Chittum reviewed the following regarding the elimination of property tax relief credits.

- Property tax relief credits were eliminated in 2017. Miami County is one of 6 counties that did not eliminate.
- Property tax relief credits currently provided by Miami County \$7,223,580
- Currently, some taxpayers are hitting the circuit breaker credits AND receiving a credit for property tax relief. This was never intended to happen and the state is requiring we make the necessary corrections.
- THIS CHANGE DOES NOT INCREASE OUR OVERALL INCOME TAX RATE. The change adjusts the allocation of the income tax distributions.
- The County Council, based on the requirements of statute is considered the taxing board for the county. The Council started having conversations last year and strategizing on the best way to make the change and have suggested to phase out property tax relief credits over 3 years.
- With the changes in the PTRC, the county will move a portion to 9-1-1 with the change. This will help fund 9-1-1 for future years. Our current distribution from the state has remained the same for the last several years, yet costs of providing services continue to rise.
- The Council recommends making adjustments to the allocations to Shares, CEDIT and add PSAP (9-1-1). It would allow all units to use the additional revenue for any purpose and not limit the funds only for Public Safety, 9-1-1, CEDIT, etc.
- Changes would be made to the local credits and will vary for each taxpayer. For example, if you phased the credit out over 3 years, the PTRC credits would be reduced by 35%.

3-Year Phase Out:

- Under the 3-year phase out, it would create \$1,705,757 additional revenue, without about 40-45% distributed to units

President Chittum introduced Darren Bates with Data Pit Stop, who has worked with the county on how to adjust the credits and available to answer any questions.

Elaine Anderson asked about what would happen to those with agricultural land due to the increase in assessed value. Mr. Bates noted that when analyzing the data, it appeared that most people would only see a change in the 1st year and then hit the caps after. That is with current year data and not allowing for increase/decrease in assessed value or tax rates.

With no further questions or discussion, President Chittum closed the public hearing to discuss the elimination of the property tax relief credits.

President Chittum called the regular meeting of the Miami County Council to order.

Councilman Wiles led the group in prayer and President Chittum led the Pledge of Allegiance.

MINUTES

Councilman Fruth made a motion to approve the May 16, 2023 minutes. Councilman Allen 2nd the motion and it passed 6-0.

ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION/TRANSFERS

None

ITEMS FOR COUNCIL ACTION

President Chittum stated a correction was necessary to the 2023 Salary Ordinance. The ordinance incorrectly lists the part-time rate for 9-1-1 Dispatchers at \$15.00 per an hour and should be listed at \$17.00 per hour. Councilman Fruth made a motion to approve Amendment #6 to the 2023 Salary Ordinance, part-time rate for 9-1-1 Dispatchers at \$15.00 per an hour and should be listed at \$17.00 per hour. Councilman Wiles 2nd the motion and it passed 6-0.

President Chittum presented Ordinance 6/20/23 Modifying Local Income Tax Rates. President Chittum noted the public hearing to review the proposed changes was held prior to the regular Council meeting. President Chittum reviewed the details of the property tax relief credit elimination and noted if there was not a unanimous vote by quorum, it would go to a vote again in July. Councilman Nutt made a motion to approve Ordinance 6/20/23 Modifying Local Income Tax Rates. Councilman Fruth 2nd the motion and it passed 6-0.

REQUEST FOR AUDIENCE

None

COUNCIL DISCUSSION & COMMITTEE UPDATE

Auditor Mary Brown provided an update on the status of the county health insurance plan. The total plan costs to date are \$372,519, which is 50% less than anticipated. Our current prescription ration is 82/18 and no claimant has met the stop loss at this time. Auditor Brown noted the county is currently trending at 26.5% below where we were last year in costs.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

Councilman Fruth made a motion to adjourn. Councilman Nutt 2nd the motion and it passed 6-0.

Respectfully submitted

Mary Brown

Miami County Auditor