

Our Tax Money

Newsletter

Read about our news and latest updates.

Two important real-estate tax levy related events are on the horizon for O'Fallon Illinois

Who are you to decide? What do you Know? Your taxes are going up! No voting for you, though!!

I write this knowing the O'Fallon District 90 January 16th Working Cash Bond Hearing at 7 pm at Estelle Kampmeyer Elementary School probably will change nothing. We have until January 18th to turn in the rest of the signed petitions to mandate a Bond Referendum on the November 2024 ballot! The Board of Education vote to issue these bonds won't take place until at least January 23rd, according to the meeting agenda. If you didn't go to the Bond Hearing on Tuesday, you can go the day of the vote. It may still not be too late to influence the outcome. The meeting will likely be at the O'Fallon District 90 administrative offices. Public comment still must be allowed and we can all voice our desire to actually vote on what debt we want to pay off over the next 16 years!

Any debt issued will be paid for by YOU! It's not like they haven't taken a fair amount of your money already. I'm not sure what they are doing with the \$\$ they already have.! Maybe we should ask them.

Their District 90 Board of Education Policy Manual states that at a hearing "the public shall be invited to comment, question, or advise the Board of Education". I'm sure that if we are invited to ask questions, then they will be

more than willing to answer them, right? So be sure to show up and ask those questions that may not have been addressed on the 16th.

Potentially more tax levy in our future...

According to an O'Fallon District 90 committee report "The region is currently considering opening discussions for the County Schools Facilities Tax. This would benefit districts because they could pay off current facilities debt, improve facilities, and hire mental health providers, security officers. If pursued, the issue could be placed on the November 2024 ballot." The 'region' in question is all of St. Clair County.

Well, isn't that just wonderful! An \$18.5 million bond issue that will cost \$30 million to repay and an 8% increase in the tax levy at O'Fallon District 90, 14% at OTHS District 203, 16% at Central District 104 and now a county wide facilities tax? How much money do they need? Let's consider how it's being spent for a moment. Are our class sizes going down? No. Are the student results getting better? No. Less than 50% of O'Fallon District 90's students "Meet or Exceed" state standards in Math and English Language Arts!!

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