

March 24, 2025

The Poweshiek County Board of Supervisors met in special session at 6:00 p.m. Members present Jason Roudabush, Jacki Bolen, and Jeff Tindle.

Moved by Roudabush, 2nd by Bolen to approve agenda. 3 ayes. Motion carried.

Moved by Bolen, 2nd by Roudabush at 6:00 p.m. to go into a public hearing regarding the property tax levy for FY26. 3 ayes. Motion carried.

Present at public hearing: Jason Roudabush, Jacki Bolen, Jeff Tindle, Supervisors; Missy Eilander, Auditor; Derek Bates, The Record; Kevin Smith, Steve Spencer, Curt Turner, Kerry Turner, Dick Weiler, Chris Nolte, Larry Massengale.

Chairman Tindle asked for comments or questions from those attending. Questions were asked concerning the budget year statement sent to owners and taxpayers as required by Iowa Code 24.2A and what exactly the mailing meant. It was explained that the statement is intended to show taxpayers the current property tax dollars and tax rate for the current fiscal year as well as the proposed property tax dollars and tax rate proposed for the next fiscal year for county, city & school. The statement also provides a hypothetical example of a residential property and a commercial property. The example is just that and does not represent the true information because the example assumes a value increase and does not factor in any assessment limitation. This statement also does not show other taxing authorities, such as assessor, ag extension, townships, or community colleges.

The board explained the increase in total county valuation and how that increase led the county to a mandatory reduction in general basic and rural basic levies pursuant to HF718 legislation. Tindle stated the increase in valuation was mainly due to the wind farms and the phase-in of their values.

The proposed tax rate is lower than the current year, but the proposed property taxes are a little higher, and this is due to that increase in value. The increase in the dollars is needed due to increases in insurance costs, an increase in employee wages averaging 3%, secondary road projects, and adding two deputies to public safety. It was asked why an increase to deputies and board explained the county has had the same number of deputies for over 20 years. The two additional deputies would add one for additional regular patrol, to increase the number of weekend deputies to two for the safety of the deputies and the second solely dedicated to drug task force.

Further conversations were regarding property values, overall property taxes, the different taxing authorities, and how property tax money is distributed.

Moved by Roudabush, 2nd by Bolen at 6:53 p.m. to close public hearing. 3 ayes. Motion carried.

Moved by Bolen, 2nd by Roudabush at 6:54 p.m. to adjourn.

Melissa Eilander, Poweshiek County Auditor

Jeff Tindle, Chairman