

Bill No. 5100

Ordinance No. _____

Requested by: Tracy Bayne

Sponsored by: Nancy Schneider

AN ORDINANCE FIXING AND ESTABLISHING THE RATE AND LEVYING OF TAXES FOR THE GENERAL REVENUE FUND AND FOR VARIOUS SPECIAL FUNDS OF AND FOR THE COUNTY OF ST. CHARLES, MISSOURI, FOR THE YEAR 2022

WHEREAS, pursuant to the laws of the State of Missouri the County must fix rates for the fiscal year period January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2022 by the end of September 2022; and

WHEREAS, in order to fix the General Fund tax rate, the Road and Bridge Fund tax rate and the Dispatch and Alarm Fund tax rate, Chapter 137 RSMo. requires the County to submit each of its calculated tax rates, as authorized by the voters, to the State Auditor for verification; and

WHEREAS, the County Director of Finance has so calculated the rates for the General Fund tax rate, the Road and Bridge Fund tax rate and the Dispatch and Alarm Fund tax rate; and

WHEREAS, the County Director of Finance has submitted the rates for the General Fund tax rate, the Road and Bridge Fund tax rate and the Dispatch and Alarm Fund tax rate to the State Auditor for verification; and

WHEREAS, the State Auditor has verified the calculations submitted by the County for the General Fund tax rate, the Road and Bridge Fund tax rate and the Dispatch and Alarm Fund tax rate and set the ceiling rate of the General Fund

tax rate at Zero (0) Cents on each One Hundred Dollars of assessed valuation, the Road and Bridge Fund tax rate at Nineteen and Eighty-Eight Hundredths (19.88) Cents on each One Hundred Dollars of assessed valuation, and the Dispatch and Alarm Fund tax rate at Three and Eighty-Two Hundredths (3.82) Cents on each One Hundred Dollars of assessed valuation; and

WHEREAS, the Director of Finance, having calculated and submitted the tax rate for the General Fund tax rate, the Road and Bridge Fund tax rate and the Dispatch and Alarm Fund tax rate, and having received the verification of the State Auditor that each rate has been audited by the State Auditor and is so verified, has thus complied with the requirements of Chapter 137 RSMo. and tax rates may now be considered; and

WHEREAS, while the rate setting process would normally thereby be completed, in fact the Missouri statute concerning personal vehicle valuation combined with vehicle supply line shortages has resulted in an unprecedented increase in assessed values of used vehicles, and therefore a potential windfall to each taxing jurisdiction; and

WHEREAS, each taxing jurisdiction can only adjust its overall rate of taxation on all property, real and personal, to account for the one time increase in vehicle values in that Missouri tax law does not allow separate tax rates for motor vehicles and other forms of property; and

WHEREAS, recognizing this windfall would occur, Resolution 22-10 was passed by the County Council on July 11, 2022, indicating that after receipt of the Board of Equalization's final report, St. Charles County intended to set the tax rates for Road and Bridge and Emergency

Communications with the intent to voluntarily lower the overall tax rate to effectively keep flat the amount of tax the County collects in 2022 compared with tax year 2021 in order to address the effects of vehicle value inflation arising from vehicle shortages; and

WHEREAS, the County has now received the final report and reviewed those rates and the increase in the assessed valuation of personal property and has voluntarily recalculated its tax rates to comply with Resolution 22-10, thereby reducing the County's rate of taxation to prevent the windfall which would occur as a result of the increase in personal property taxation; and

WHEREAS, consideration of this bill and the setting of tax rates is subject to a public hearing on these rates of taxation; and

WHEREAS, such public hearing is set for Monday, September 26, 2022 at 7 p.m., prior to this bill being taken up for consideration; and

WHEREAS, the 2022 proposed rate for the General Fund tax rate remains the same as the adopted rate for 2021 at Zero (0) Cents on each One Hundred Dollars of assessed valuation; and

WHEREAS, the 2022 proposed rates for the Road and Bridge Fund tax rate and the Dispatch and Alarm tax rate shall be set at rates less than those adopted in 2021 as the result of voluntary rollbacks to reverse the effect of sharp increases in the value of used vehicles resulting from a shortage of new vehicles brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic: and

WHEREAS, said Road and Bridge Fund and Dispatch and Alarm tax rates, while less than the ceiling rate as calculated by the Missouri State Auditor, are justified, to assure adequate funding of transportation infrastructure and emergency 911 dispatching services which are in the best interests of the citizens of the County.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNTY COUNCIL OF ST. CHARLES COUNTY, MISSOURI, AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Subject to a public hearing on this date, the following tax rates are established and levied for 2022:

- a. For the General Fund of said County being for ordinary purposes, the rate is Zero (0) Cents on each One Hundred Dollars of assessed valuation.
- b. For the Road and Bridge Fund of said County, the rate is fixed at Nineteen and Twenty-Four Hundredths (19.24) Cents on each One Hundred Dollars of assessed valuation.
- c. For the Dispatch and Alarm Fund of said County, the rate is fixed at Three and Seventy Hundredths (3.70) Cents on each One Hundred Dollars of assessed valuation.

Section 2. This ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after the date of its passage and approval.

DATE PASSED

DATE APPROVED BY COUNTY EXECUTIVE

CHAIR OF THE COUNCIL

COUNTY EXECUTIVE

ATTEST:

COUNTY REGISTRAR