

**ROCK ISLAND COUNTY CLERK'S OFFICE
TAX EXTENSION DEPARTMENT**

FOREST PRESERVE 2023-2024 TAX LEVY ERROR

Bonds & Interest Levy should have been abated, but was included in the tax extension and the rate on the tax bill.

- 1) The mistake: The abatements for the Forest Preserve bonds & interest were mistakenly omitted when calculating the tax rates and are taxed on the bill. The total amount extended in error is \$694,574.73. This represents an extra \$7.27 in taxes for every \$100,000 of fair market value per property. The omission was a human error operating the County Clerk's tax extension and rate calculation software that was not properly verified and confirmed.
- 2) The fix: There is a plan in place to credit next year's tax bill with the amount paid this year through the Prior Year Adjustment method, which is allowed by state law, and is commonly used throughout Illinois by County Clerk's to fix errors. We owe it to the tax payers to get this made right as soon as possible, and the Prior Year Adjustment method is the best remedy.
- 3) The future: We want to reduce the chances that human errors like this happen again. Going forward, new layers of proofing and verification are going to be implemented within the County Clerk's Office, including revamping the tax levy confirmation with each taxing body. Additionally, in the spirit of teamwork, the Treasurer's Office and Assessment Office will assist in reviewing calculated figures.

To calculate the amount of extra tax you are paying this year that will be corrected and credited back on next year's tax bill, use this formula:

- For further information call the County Clerk's Tax Extension Department at 309-558-3559.
- For other information about property assessments and exemptions call the County Assessment Office at 309-558-3660.
- For other information about the collection & distribution of taxes or changing billing information call the Treasurer's Office at 309-558-3510.

Dated: May 1, 2024.

