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DeKalb County Government
Sycamore, Illinois

**Special Forest Preserve Committee Minutes
November 14, 2018**

The DeKalb County Forest Preserve Committee met for a Special Meeting on Wednesday, November 14, 2018 at 8:15 p.m., in the Community Outreach Building's Five Seasons Room in DeKalb, Illinois. Chairman Brown called the meeting to order. Those Members present were Mr. Bagby, Mrs. Haji-Sheikh, Mr. Hughes, Ms. Little, Mr. Porterfield, Mr. Roman, and Chairman Brown. A quorum was established with all seven Members present.

Others present were Gary Hanson and Terry Hannan.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

It was moved by Mr. Bagby, seconded by Ms. Little, and it was carried unanimously to approve the meeting agenda as presented.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

CITY OF DEKALB TIF IGA

Mr. Hanson explained that just as everyone had just heard at the Executive Committee just before the current meeting, the City of DeKalb has written and offered an Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) to the various taxing bodies that encompass their Tax Incremental Financing (TIF) Districts as a means to bring closure to the issue of possibly not spending all TIF monies in accordance with the intent of the State of Illinois TIF legislation. The said IGA offers the various taxing bodies \$11,250,000 to be shared proportionately to their tax levies that currently go into the TIF Districts. The IGA further stipulates that the various taxing bodies will hold the City of DeKalb harmless for any and all matters of wrong-doing, will not demand an audit of funds, will support the boundaries of a proposed TIF #3, including the parcels of property that have already been developed with TIF funds, will not object to administrative expenses that are under the \$2,500,000 (twenty-three year) cap in the new TIF #3, and will not require any pre-approval on proposed TIF projects before projects are considered by the City Council.

It was shared that the DeKalb County State's Attorney had issued a letter of concern over the City of DeKalb's past financial practices regarding TIF and has issued guidance to the City and the Joint Review Board for providing a complete accounting of the use of these public funds.

The resolution before the Forest Preserve Committee for the Forest Preserve District Commissioners would state that:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the DeKalb County Forest Preserve Commission that the Intergovernmental Agreement presented by the City of DeKalb regarding their Tax Incremental Financing Districts is not approved as it is contrary to good public policy in that the basic premise of said Agreement is to pay public funds in exchange for ignoring a full

accounting of the public's money and to not hold individuals accountable for mismanagement of those funds;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the DeKalb County Forest Preserve Commission does hereby call upon the City of DeKalb to publically, and voluntarily, commit to (a) undertake a forensic audit of all TIF dollars, and (b) return to the various taxing bodies any TIF funds that have been spent that was not in compliance with the law or that were not spent for the furtherance of TIF development projects for economic improvement, and (c) suspend any action on the furtherance of establishing, or operating, the proposed TIF #3 District until a full accounting of TIF dollars is completed.

The Committee Members briefly echoed the comments that had been made at the Executive Committee.

It was moved by Mr. Porterfield, seconded by Mr. Roman and approved unanimously to forward the resolution to the full Board of Commissioners recommending its approval.

ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Mr. Porterfield, seconded by Ms. Little and it was carried unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 8:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Chairman _____

Tasha Sims, Recording Secretary