

CITY OF LINCOLN, ILLINOIS

700 Broadway St., P.O. Box 509, Lincoln, IL 62656

Named for and Christened by Abraham Lincoln, 1853—Incorporated February 16, 1865 CITY COUNCIL MEETS FIRST AND THIRD MONDAY NIGHTS EACH MONTH

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE December 8, 2015

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City of Lincoln Approves 0% Increase to Property Tax Levy for 2016

Lincoln, IL – For the second consecutive year, the Lincoln City Council approved the city's 2016 property tax levy without any increase. The measure was approved by the City Council at their December 7th regular meeting.

By law, the City can approve an increase to taxes equal to the Consumer Price Index (CPI) each year. The City Council chose to forgo implementing a 0.8% increase to the tax levy. This amount would be equivalent to approximately \$30 to \$40 thousand dollars to the City in the property tax payment year. Even with the flat levy, the City is able to meet all of its financial obligations for 2016.

"I am pleased that as a result of good management of finances and long-term planning the City Council was able to approve a 0% increase in the tax levy for the second year in a row," stated Tracy Welch, Ward 1 Aldermen. "I feel that holding the levy at the current rate is the right thing to do for taxpayers."

When reviewing its finances, city leaders believed that the revenues receipted to the community will allow for city operations to continue with no negative impact. While increasing daily expenses, unfunded mandates, and other obligations continue to impact municipal budgets, the City has made it clear that it will act in the best interests of citizens, visitors, and businesses by keeping its property tax levy flat.

"The City Council wanted to send a clear message to our residents and business community, even in the face of state budget uncertainty, that the City of Lincoln is conscientious of everyone's financial needs," said Mayor Marty Neitzel.

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CITY COUNCIL