

RESOLUTION 39-2019

Resolution offered by Finance Committee:

WHEREAS, in 2012, the State of Wisconsin imposed limits on town, village, city and county property tax levies under Wis. Stat. §66.0602; and

WHEREAS, Wis. Stat. §66.0602 limits that increase to the local property tax levy to no more than the greater of (a) 0% of last year's actual levy or (b) a percentage to the change in equalized value due to new construction less improvements removed; and

WHEREAS, the percentage of net new construction in Forest County used to calculate the increase in operating levy allowance has significantly lagged the Consumer Price Index over this period; and

WHEREAS, as a result, Forest County has been forced to absorb inflationary increases in normal operating expenditures with no offsetting increase in revenues; and

WHEREAS, unexpected increases in the expenditures for certain items, particularly unfunded mandates such as the cost of Child Protective Services, has compounded this issue; and

WHEREAS, Forest County has taken measures to curb spending by cutting costs, eliminating positions, limiting employee wage increases, reducing program offerings and postponing necessary work on building infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, to continue to provide essential services to county citizens, Forest County will have to resort to using debt to fund qualified expenditures previously funded in its operating levy resulting in a higher cost to Forest County taxpayers; and

WHEREAS, Forest County will not be able to continue to raise revenues using debt.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE FOREST COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, requests complete elimination of the current 0% tax levy cap or replacing it with a levy allowance that adequately

reflects the increases in everyday costs incurred by Wisconsin Counties; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the County Clerk is directed to send a copy of this resolution to Governor Evers, the Joint Finance Committee of the Wisconsin Legislature, the state legislators for Forest County and the Wisconsin Counties Association for consideration at the WCA annual business meeting to become part of the WCA platform.

Resolution approved by Finance Committee, _____, 2019.

Vote: AYE _____, NAY _____

_____ Committee Chair

I, County Clerk, in and for the said County of Forest, State of Wisconsin, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of a Resolution adopted by the County Board of Supervisors of Forest County, Wisconsin, in legal session on the 15 day of August, 2019.

Nora Matuszewski

 Nora Matuszewski, Forest County Clerk

Dated this 15 day of August, 2019.

Thomas Valber

 Supervisor

ROLL CALL SHEET			
COUNTY BOARD			
Date <u>8/15/19</u>			
No. <u>39-2019</u>	Resolution _____	Ordinance _____	
Motion: _____	Adopted _____	Lost _____	
1st <u>Karl</u>		Tabled _____	
2nd <u>Laabs</u>			
	Aye	No	Absent
Berg	✓		
Bunda		✓	
Burl	✓		
Campbell			✓
Chaney	✓		
Dehart	✓		
Gallion			✓
Goode	✓		
Gretzinger	✓		
Houle	✓		
Huettl <i>Perkins</i>			abstain
Karl	✓		
Laabs		✓	
Lukas	✓		
Miller	✓		
Otto			
Savard		✓	
Shaffer	✓		
Stamper	✓		
Tallier	✓		
Tauer	✓		(2) (1)
TOTAL	14	3	