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Tobolski calls for County Board to roll back sales tax increase

“Maybe if the 16th District had a Commissioner who was more concerned about getting the job done instead of getting his name in the paper, it wouldn’t have taken Springfield to reform the County Board,” -Jeff Tobolski

LaGrange, IL-- Citing double-digit unemployment and a County Board that has been hamstrung by arcane bureaucratic procedure, McCook Mayor Jeff Tobolski applauded Governor Quinn’s decision to sign HB4625, the Veto Override bill into law, and urged the Cook County Board to repeal the sales tax increase.

“Over the past few years, families everywhere have tightened their belts, and trimmed their budgets. Instead of following suit, the Cook County Board decided to impose the highest sales tax in the nation in order to fund a bloated, patronage-filled budget. I call on the Commissioners to use this opportunity to institute meaningful reform by rolling back the sales tax increase. Further, I stand with the Civic Federation in saying that it is time that the County government accept the dim economic reality that so many of its citizens and local governments already have,” said Tobolski.

The Cook County Board has institutionalized a system of waste and patronage. The most recent budget calls for the creation of a Film Office for the County that would pay its Executive Director \$100,000 a year and its two administrative assistants a combined salary of \$78,361. Such a move is ludicrous considering both the current economic climate and the fact that such an office already exists at the state and city levels. Commissioner Peraica has been very vocal about wasteful spending, but the fact of the matter is that he has failed to curb any of it. “Maybe if the 16th District had a Commissioner who was more concerned about getting the job done instead of getting his name in the paper, it wouldn’t have taken Springfield to reform the County Board,” said Mayor Tobolski.

Cook County District 16 includes the villages of Berwyn, Cicero, Schiller Park, Franklin Park, McCook, Hodgkins, Lyons, Summit, Willow Springs, Countryside, Western Springs, LaGrange, LaGrange Park, Northlake, Forest Park, Westchester, Stone Park, Berkley, Broadview, Hillside, Melrose Park, Brookfield, Riverside, North Riverside, and Stickney.

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