

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS
ON THE PROPOSED ESTABLISHMENT
OF THE ST. JOSEPH COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION TERRITORY**

Notice is hereby given to the taxpayers of the Warren Township and Portage Township in St. Joseph County, Indiana, that a joint public hearing will be held before the Portage Township and Warren Township Boards on February 27, 2024 at 6:00 P.M. at Fire Station #41, 23626 Fillmore Road, South Bend, IN 46619 to consider a proposed resolution and an interlocal agreement for the establishment of the St. Joseph County Fire Protection Territory beginning with taxes payable in 2025. Additional joint public hearings of the Portage Township Board and Warren Township Board will be held on March 5, 2024 at 6:00 P.M. at Fire Station #41, 23626 Fillmore Road, South Bend, IN 46619 and on March 28, 2024 at 6:00 P.M. at Fire Station #41, 23626 Fillmore Road, South Bend, IN 46619. After the third and final public hearing, the Portage Township Board and Warren Township Board will meet on March 28, 2024 at 7:00 P.M. at Fire Station #41, 23626 Fillmore Road, South Bend, IN 46619 to vote to either adopt, reject, or table the resolutions and interlocal agreement for the establishment of the St. Joseph County Fire Protection Territory. If enacted, the ordinance, resolution, and interlocal agreement will establish the St. Joseph County Fire Protection Territory between Portage Township (Provider Unit) and Warren Township (Participating Unit) and will provide for a uniform tax rate within the territory.

The proposed budget, property tax levy and rate for the St. Joseph County Fire Protection Territory for the next three years are shown below. Proposed levies represent maximum amounts. Tax rates are estimates and could vary based on certified net assessed values.

Levies

	<u>2025</u>	<u>2026</u>	<u>2027</u>
Fire Operating	\$5,246,914	\$5,456,791	\$5,675,062
Equipment Replacement	\$199,880	\$205,876	\$212,052
Total	\$5,446,794	\$5,662,667	\$5,887,115

Rates

	<u>2025</u>	<u>2026</u>	<u>2027</u>
Fire Operating	0.8741	0.8826	0.8912
Equipment Replacement	0.0333	0.0333	0.0333
Total	0.9074	0.9159	0.9245

Unit Share of Levy Based on Net Assessed Value

Portage Township	\$1,259,335	\$1,309,246	\$1,361,140
Warren Township	\$4,187,459	\$4,353,421	\$4,525,975

Budget

	<u>2025</u>	<u>2026</u>	<u>2027</u>
Fire Operating	\$6,000,000	\$6,285,000	\$6,583,800
Equipment Replacement	\$210,000	\$220,000	\$225,000
Total	\$6,210,000	\$6,505,000	\$6,808,800

A copy of the proposed resolutions and interlocal agreement will be made available for inspection at the public hearings. Persons seeking additional information may contact 574-233-2126. If you would like to submit written comments to any of the participants, you may do so at the following email addresses: info@portagetownship71.in.gov

PORTAGE TOWNSHIP BOARD
WARREN TOWNSHIP BOARD

DATED this 8TH day of February, 2024.