

To: All Residents and business owners

I am writing this letter to explain and hopefully answer questions you may have. All of the residences and businesses did receive a large amount of information talking about a special use tax that is being purposed. This tax will be for 911-dispatch services only.

We have used the Macon Co Dispatch Services which included 911 without any charge for multiple years. When the dispatch center became a separate entity this year we were charged a fee. The fee took the Warrensburg PD from \$0. to 19,565.00. The new Dispatch center is called Central Illinois Regional Dispatch Center. In Macon Co. we have no other choice of providers for this service.

I will now explain how our fee for this service was figured out. The CIRDC is a government organization however does not receive direct taxes for its operations. The CIRDC budget is being paid by the user fees and some money from Macon Co 911. The budget is established and then they divide the amount of calls by all the agencies which comes up with a price per call. The Warrensburg PD had 756 calls for the evaluation period which we were charged for. That is how the \$19,565.00 charge came up. A call is defined as anything that creates an event number in the computer system.

I have looked at alternatives for this service due to the high costs. I did explore Logan Co and the feasibility to have them handle our calls and 911 services. I also looked at having our dispatched services go to another agency. All of these alternatives did not work for several reasons. We have however since February of 2018 been doing day-time radio operations and limited dispatch service from our office. The current savings to date from this is around \$4000.00 using last years formula. I do hope to expand this to both day and night in the future to help reduce the cost of using the CIRDC. We still currently use the CIRDC for 911 services but use our own radio operations for self initiated activity or calls received to our department via our non-emergency line.

How this special use tax will be utilized now and in the future. The special use tax will be figured on the past years bill for the CIRDC. The year to year cost can and will vary with budget of the CIRDC and the total calls for service within the users. We at the Village of Warrensburg PD will continue to utilize our own radio operations and limited dispatch to help reduce the amount of that bill. We have always and will continue to efficiently and effectively run a professional and caring Police Department to provide the residents, business owners, and guest with a safe and secure community.

Warrensburg Police Department
Chief Gregory Wheeler