

Village of St. Paris  
July 7, 2025  
Tax Budget Hearing

The Tax Budget Hearing was called to order at 7:09 PM followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Roll call was taken by Mayor Susan Prince. Frank Blair, Terry Ervin II, Tony Hoyt, and Joe Curran were present. Fiscal Officer Gina Verlaney was also present. Steve Lett and Village Administrator Jay Lewis were absent.

Councilor Hoyt reviewed the 2026 proposed Tax (Revenue) Budget for the Village of St. Paris. The proposed revenue for 2026 is estimated at \$4,176,642.44. Councilor Hoyt noted that the proposed revenue budget is a conservative budget and the revenue is not over estimated.

Public Comments: none

There being no further business, **motion** was made by Councilor Curran and seconded by Councilor Ervin to adjourn at 7:15 PM. Motion passed.

Village of St. Paris  
July 7, 2025  
Council Meeting

The meeting was called to order at 7:16 PM.

Roll call was taken by Mayor Susan Prince. Frank Blair, Terry Ervin II, Tony Hoyt, and Joe Curran were present. Fiscal Officer Gina Verlaney was also present. Steve Lett and Village Administrator Jay Lewis were absent.

**Motion** was made by Councilor Ervin and seconded by Councilor Blair to approve the Council agenda, as amended. Motion passed.

Public Comments on Agenda Items: none

**Motion** was made by Councilor Blair and seconded by Councilor Hoyt to approve the Council meeting minutes dated June 16, 2025. Motion passed.

Mayor’s Notes:

- Mayor Prince announced the next Community Breakfast is July 19, 2025.

Appointment to Vacant Council Seat:

Mayor Prince asked each of the candidates to give a brief speech. Tony Whitman talked about being a local business owner, the need to generate funds and building trust. Drake Huffman talked about his military background and his government involvement. Charlene Hess talked about being invested in the St. Paris Community. **Motion** was made by Councilor Ervin and second by Councilor Blair to appoint Tony Whitman to the vacant council seat. A roll call vote was taken and Council voted 2-2. Motion vote was tied. **Motion** was made by Councilor Blair to appoint Charlene Hess to the vacant seat. With no second, the motion failed. **Motion** was made by Councilor Hoyt and seconded by Councilor Curran to appoint Drake Huffman to the vacant seat. A roll call vote was taken and Council voted in favor 3-1 with Council Blair voting against. Motion passed. Drake Huffman will be sworn in on or before the next council meeting.

Old Business:

Councilor Ervin talked about placing a Police Personnel Levy on the ballot this November. He emphasized it would be for police personnel and not to bring back the St. Paris Police Dept. Councilor Hoyt talked about not hearing any negative comments with the Sheriff’s Dept. patrolling the Village. Councilor Hoyt felt that the Village did not need a levy at this time. Councilor Curran suggested this topic could be brought up again next year.

New Business:

A **motion** was made by Councilor Curran and second by Councilor Ervin to accept the 2026 Tax Revenue Budget. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed 4-0.

Public Comments:

None

There being no further business, **motion** was made by Councilor Curran and seconded by Councilor Ervin to adjourn at 7:49 PM. Motion passed.

Gina Verlaney, Fiscal Officer

Susan Prince, Mayor

Date