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MACOUPIN COUNTY SALARIES NOW ONLINE

Online Checkbook Relunched to Provide Easier Access to Information

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Carlinville - This past month, Macoupin County Clerk Pete Duncan announced his office had launched the newest effort towards more open and accountable government in an online payroll database. (www.macoupinpayroll.com) In conjunction with the new payroll website, the County's online checkbook (www.macoupincheckbook.com) was also relaunched with a new, more user-friendly, format. Both websites include charts, graphs, and images that help make the financial data attractive, navigable, and easy to understand.

The online payroll database follows in the footsteps of the State of Illinois' salary website. The name of virtually all County employees and their yearly wage is listed as well as the department they work in and their job title, similar to the State's site. However, Macoupin's payroll website adds additional information such as overtime pay, employer-paid benefit compensation packages, mileage reimbursements, as well as employee information such as hire date and bargaining unit information.

Duncan explained that the data going back to 2011 is available, which is currently two more years than the State has online. The County will also add data shortly to go back to the calendar year 2006.

"There is no doubt that with local government budgets shrinking the largest piece of the budget is employee salary and benefits," said Duncan. "By launching this salary database, Macoupin is inviting all taxpayers to be an active participant in understanding how their tax dollars are being spent. On a daily basis, those interested will be able to understand better the tough choices Macoupin County is making to provide better service for less cost."

Duncan also announced that the County's online checkbook had been given a fresh look to coincide with the launch of the payroll database. The Checkbook has the same appearance as the salary website, facilitating an easier path for taxpayers to find more quickly information on either website. Duncan explained the current plan called for both websites to be updated at least once a month with new data to keep taxpayers fully up-to-date.

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