

Sponsors: Dave Woerpel, 5th District Councilman
Dan Spitale, Councilman at Large

24-19

ORDINANCE NO. 9643

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF HAMMOND ADOPTING A MUNICIPAL VEHICLE
EXCISE TAX AND A CONCURRENT WHEEL TAX PURSUANT TO INDIANA CODE**

WHEREAS, Indiana Code permits eligible municipalities across the state to adopt a municipal vehicle excise tax and a wheel tax ordinance provided they are done concurrently and under the requirements of I.C. 6-3.5-10 et seq. and 6-3.5-11 et seq.; and

WHEREAS, since its initial enactment in 1980, at least fifty-five counties and many cities and towns across the state have enacted the tax to help raise money for local road improvements including local cities and towns such as Crown Point, Dyer, Gary, LaPorte, Merrillville, Munster, Portage, and Valparaiso; and

WHEREAS, in the past the City of Hammond has relied substantially on casino gaming dollars to fund local road projects, however, since the global pandemic and increased competition for gaming consumers in the Chicagoland market, casino revenues have dropped precipitously; and

WHEREAS, as a result of this loss of casino revenue, the Mayor, district Councilmembers, and the Capital Improvement Board have had reduced revenue available to them to fund local road improvements; and

WHEREAS, to help raise funds to support continued road and street construction, reconstruction, repair, and maintenance, the City of Hammond now desires to adopt a Municipal Vehicle Excise Tax and a concurrent Wheel Tax to support the safe all-weather operation of the road and street system in the City of Hammond.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COMMON COUNCIL OF
THE CITY OF HAMMOND, INDIANA, THAT:

Municipal Motor Vehicle License Excise Surtax

SECTION 1. The above recitals are incorporated herein by reference.

SECTION 2. The definitions and provisions set forth in I.C. 6-3.5-10-1 are incorporated herein and shall apply throughout this chapter.

SECTION 3. The following vehicles registered in the City of Hammond and subject to the motor vehicle excise tax shall be subject to a surtax in the amount of twenty-five dollars (\$25) in accordance with the provisions of I.C. 6-3.5-10 et seq. (a) Passenger Motor Vehicles; (b) Motorcycles; (c) Motor Driven Cycles; (d) Collector Vehicles; (e) Trailer vehicles with a declared gross weight of 9,000 pounds or less; and (f) Trucks with a declared weight of 11,000 pounds or less.

SECTION 4. A “City of Hammond Municipal Surtax Fund” is created and the City Controller shall deposit the revenues generated from Section 3 into this fund and shall further utilize the revenue in said fund only for the following purposes:

- a. To construct, reconstruct, repair or maintain streets and roads under the city’s jurisdiction.

SECTION 5. Any Ordinances or parts thereof in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

SECTION 6. Pursuant to I.C. 6-3.5-10-6, a certified copy of this Ordinance and a copy of a letter from the Indiana Department of Transportation approving Hammond’s transportation asset management plan shall be sent to the Indiana Bureau of Motor Vehicles.

SECTION 7. The invalidity of any section, clause, sentence, or provision of this Ordinance shall not affect the validity of any other part of this Ordinance, which shall continue to remain valid and in effect.

Municipal Wheel Tax

SECTION 1. The above recitals are incorporated herein by reference.

SECTION 2. The definitions and provisions set forth in I.C. 6-3.5-11-1 are incorporated herein and shall apply throughout this chapter.

SECTION 3. The following vehicles registered in the City of Hammond and subject to the motor vehicle excise tax, unless otherwise exempted under I.C. 6-3.5-11-4, shall be subject to a municipal wheel tax in the amount of forty dollars (\$40) in accordance with the provisions of I.C. 6-3.5-11 et seq. (a) Buses; (b) Recreational Vehicles; (c) Semitrailers; (d) Trailers with a declared gross weight of more than 9,000 pounds; and (e) Trucks and tractors with a declared gross weight of more than 11,000 pounds.

SECTION 4. A "City of Hammond Wheel Tax Fund" is created and the City Controller shall deposit the revenues generated from Section 3 into this fund and shall further utilize the revenue in said fund only for the following purposes:

- a. To construct, reconstruct, repair or maintain streets and roads under the city's jurisdiction.

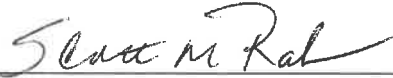
SECTION 5. Any Ordinances or parts thereof in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

SECTION 6. Pursuant to I.C. 6-3.5-11-8, a certified copy of this Ordinance and a copy of a letter from the Indiana Department of Transportation approving Hammond's transportation asset management plan shall be sent to the Indiana Bureau of Motor Vehicles and the Department of State Revenue.

SECTION 7. The invalidity of any section, clause, sentence, or provision of this Ordinance shall not affect the validity of any other part of this Ordinance, which shall continue to remain valid and in effect.


BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED by the Common Council, that this Ordinance shall take effect upon signing by the President of the Common Council and approval by the Mayor, and Publication as provided by law.

ADOPTED AND APPROVED BY the Common Council of the City of Hammond, Indiana, this 15th day of October, 2024.




Scott Rakos, President
Hammond Common Council

ATTEST:




Robert J. Golec, City Clerk
City of Hammond, Indiana

PRESENTED BY ME, the undersigned City Clerk of the City of Hammond, Indiana, to the Mayor, for approval and signature, this 16th day of October, 2024.




Robert J. Golec, City Clerk
City of Hammond, Indiana

The foregoing Ordinance No. 9643 consisting of four (4) typewritten pages, including this page, was APPROVED AND SIGNED BY ME, the undersigned Mayor of the City of Hammond, Indiana, this 16th day of October, 2024.



Thomas M. McDermott, Jr., Mayor
City of Hammond, Indiana

Approved PASSED by the Common Council on the 15th day of October, 2024 and by the Mayor on the 16th day of October, 2024.



Robert J. Golec, City Clerk,
Hammond, Indiana