

CITY OF WHITE SALMON, WASHINGTON

ORDINANCE NO 2012-07-896

AN ORDINANCE of the City Council of the City of White Salmon, Washington, relating to regular property taxes; providing for the submission to the qualified electors of the city at a general election to be held on November 6, 2012, of a proposition authorizing the City to levy regular property taxes in excess of the limitations of Ch. 84.55 RCW; and setting forth the text of the ballot proposition.

WHEREAS, due to budgetary constraints, the White Salmon City Pool has relied heavily on donations in the past number of years; and

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of White Salmon, Washington (the "City") has determined that it is in the interest of the City to ensure long-term pool funding; and

WHEREAS, RCW 84.55.050 provides for the levy of regular property taxes in an amount exceeding the limitations specified in chapter 84.55 RCW if such increased levy is authorized by a ballot proposition approved by a majority of the voters at an election held within the taxing district (a "levy lid lift"); and

WHEREAS, the City Council has determined that it is in the best interest of the City and its residents to submit a levy lid lift proposition under RCW 84.55.050(1) to the voters for their approval or rejection;

NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WHITE SALMON, WASHINGTON, DO ORDAIN AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Calling of Election. The City Council finds that it is in the best interest of the City to submit to the qualified voters of the City, at the general election to be held on November 6, 2012, a proposition authorizing the City to increase its regular property tax levy for collection in 2013 by an amount greater than otherwise permitted under chapter 84.55 RCW for the purposes described in Section 2(a). If this proposition is approved, the City Council will be authorized to adopt, in accordance with its regular budget process, an increased regular property tax as described in Section 2.

Section 2. Purpose and Description of Ballot Proposition (the "Proposition"). For the purposes identified below, the City Council seeks voter approval under RCW 84.55.050 for a levy lid lift, as follows:

(a) Purpose. The amounts collected pursuant to the increase authorized by the Proposition shall be used to pay for pool operations and maintenance.

(b) Increase Authorized in 2012. The Proposition authorizes a maximum increase in the City's total levy rate to the maximum rate otherwise allowed for collection in 2013 under chapter 84.55 RCW plus not to exceed \$0.18 per \$1,000 of assessed value. The total regular property tax rate produced is estimated to be approximately \$1.362 per \$1,000 of assessed value, based on estimated 2012 assessed values.

(c) Increase Authorized in Future Years. Pursuant to RCW 84.55.050(4), the dollar amount of the maximum authorized levy under chapter 84.55 RCW for collection in 2013 shall be used for the purpose of computing the limitations for subsequent levies for five years provided for under chapter 84.55 RCW, and such funds shall be limited to the purposes described in Section 2(a), above.

Section 3. Ballot Proposition. The Auditor of Klickitat County, Washington (the "Auditor"), as *ex officio* supervisor of elections, is hereby requested to call and conduct an election in the City, in the manner provided by law, to be held on the date identified in Section 2, for the purpose of submitting to the voters of the City, a proposition in substantially the following form:

CITY OF WHITE SALMON PROPOSITION NO. 1

Single Year Temporary Levy Lid Lift for Five Years

The City Council of the City of White Salmon adopted Ordinance No. 2012-07-896 concerning property taxes for pool operations and maintenance purposes. If approved this proposition would authorize the City to set its 2013 regular property tax levy rate at \$1.362 per \$1,000 (an increase of \$0.18 per \$1,000 over the current levy) to finance pool operations and maintenance. The newly established dollar limitation would remain in effect for a period of five years. Should this proposition be:

Approved? Rejected?

Section 4. Notices Relating to Ballot Proposition. For purposes of receiving notice of the exact language of the ballot proposition required by RCW 29A.36.080, the City Council hereby designates (1) the Clerk/Treasurer and (2) the City Attorney as the individuals to whom such notice should be provided.


Section 5. Authorization to Deliver Ordinance and Perform Other Necessary Duties. The City Clerk is authorized and directed, no later than August 7, 2012, to certify a copy of this ordinance to the Auditor and to perform such other duties as are necessary or required by law to the end that the Proposition described herein should appear on the ballot at the special election identified in Section 2 of this ordinance.

Section 6. Severability. The recitals stated above (i.e., the "Whereas" clauses) constitute specific findings by the City Council in support of passage of this ordinance. If any provision of this ordinance is declared by any court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid, then such provision shall be null and void and shall be separable from the remaining provisions of this ordinance, and shall in no way affect the validity of the other provisions of this ordinance or of any other ordinance or resolution, or of the levy or collection of the taxes authorized herein.

Section 7. Publication and Effective Date. This ordinance shall take effect and be in force five days after publication as provided by law.

PASSED by the City Council and APPROVED by the Mayor of the City of White Salmon at a regular open public meeting thereof this 18th day of July, 2012.

CITY OF WHITE SALMON


David Poucher, Mayor

ATTEST:


Leana Johnson, City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:


Kenneth B. Woodrich, City Attorney