

CITY OF STEAMBOAT SPRINGS, COLORADO

ORDINANCE NO. _____

AN ORDINANCE FOR THE PURPOSE OF SUBMITTING TO A VOTE OF THE ELECTORS OF THE CITY OF STEAMBOAT SPRINGS, COLORADO THE QUESTION OF WHETHER THE CITY SHOULD IMPOSE A PROPERTY TAX AT A RATE OF UP TO TWO (2) MILLS AND DEDICATE THE INCREASED REVENUES SOLELY TO PROVIDE FIRE PROTECTION AND PREVENTION SERVICES AND EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES.

WHEREAS, the City is charged with protecting the health, safety, and welfare of its approximately 13,000 permanent residents and their property within its roughly 10 square miles corporate boundaries and the significant number of individuals who visit the City each year; and

WHEREAS, over the years, the City Council has continued to monitor and evaluate how best to deliver sustainable, high quality, and cost effective fire protection and prevention services and emergency medical services (together "Emergency Services") to the Steamboat Springs community; and

WHEREAS, the City Council finds that the Emergency Services needs of the Steamboat Springs community have sharply increased over the last decade, with minimal increase in the capacity to respond to such needs, while the costs associated with providing those services to current standards have steadily risen; and

WHEREAS, the City Council has carefully evaluated the options for providing sustainable, high quality, and cost-effective Emergency Services to the citizens and property within the Steamboat Springs community, including adoption of a Steamboat Springs Fire Rescue Strategic Plan in September 2018, and has determined that the health, safety, and welfare of their respective citizens and their property will be best served by imposing a property tax at a rate of two (2) mills for the sole and exclusive purpose of funding the provision of Emergency Services; and

WHEREAS, the City Council finds it necessary to the preservation of the public health, safety, and welfare to refer to the electorate the question whether to impose a property tax at a rate of two (2) mills for the sole and exclusive purpose of funding the provision of Emergency Services.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF STEAMBOAT SPRINGS, COLORADO, THAT:

Section 1

At the regular municipal election on November 5, 2019, there shall be submitted to a vote of the qualified and registered electors of the City the Ballot Issue set forth below, which question shall be similarly stated on the Ballot Label and Notice of Election.

FORM OF BALLOT TITLE AND TEXT

"VOTE YES OR NO ON THE FOLLOWING"

"SHALL CITY OF STEAMBOAT SPRINGS TAXES BE INCREASED BY \$1,561,767 IN 2020, AND BY WHATEVER ADDITIONAL AMOUNTS ARE RAISED ANNUALLY THEREAFTER BY IMPOSING AN AD VALOREM PROPERTY TAX AT A RATE OF UP TO TWO (2) MILLS, AND SHALL THE INCREASED REVENUES BE DEDICATED FOR USE SOLELY TO PROVIDE FIRE PROTECTION AND PREVENTION SERVICES AND EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES, INCLUDING CAPITAL EXPENDITURES, AND SHALL THE CITY BE AUTHORIZED TO RECEIVE AND SPEND THE PROCEEDS OF SUCH TAX AS A VOTER APPROVED REVENUE CHANGE AND AN EXCEPTION TO THE LIMITS THAT WOULD OTHERWISE APPLY UNDER ARTICLE X, SECTION 20 OF THE COLORADO CONSTITUTION OR ANY OTHER LAW?"

- 1. Yes _____
- 2. No _____

Section 2

The qualified and registered electors of the City shall be allowed to vote on the Ballot Issue.

Section 3

The election on the proposed Ballot Issue shall be held as part of a "coordinated election" as such term is defined in the Uniform Election Code of 1992, as amended, by mail ballot or at such polling places within the City as designated by the Clerk and Recorder of Routt County, Colorado.

Section 4

The election on the Ballot Issue shall be conducted by the judges and clerks who shall be designated by the County Clerk and Recorder of Routt County, Colorado.

Section 5

The provisions of registration of electors and for voting by absentee ballot on this Ballot Issue shall be in accordance with the Uniform Election Code of 1992, as currently amended.

Section 6

The votes at said election shall be registered on voting machines or paper ballots and the ballot label shall read similarly to the form of the Ballot Title and Text provided in Section 1 hereof.

Section 7

The election on the Ballot Issue of the proposed tax increase shall be held and conducted, and the votes cast on the Ballot Issue aforesaid shall be returned and canvassed, and the results declared in the same manner as provided by law for the return, canvass and declaration of the officers of the City.

Section 8

The Clerk and Recorder of Routt County, Colorado and the City Clerk of the City are hereby jointly charged with the duty of giving such notice containing such information as is required by law.

Section 9

This ordinance shall take effect five (5) days after publication following final passage.

Section 10

If any section, subsection, sentence, clause, or phrase of this Ordinance is for any reason held to be invalid, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portion of this Ordinance.

Section 11

That pursuant to Section 7-11 of the Charter of the City of Steamboat Springs, Colorado, the second publication of this ordinance may be by reference, utilizing the ordinance title.

Section 12

A public hearing on this ordinance shall be held on August 27, 2019, at any time after the meeting is called to order at approximately 5:00 P.M. in the City Council Chambers at Centennial Hall, at the corner of 10th Street and Oak Street, Steamboat Springs, Colorado.

Section 13

Subject to the approval of the voters as provided in this Ordinance, the City Council is authorized to take all actions necessary or appropriate to effectuate this Ordinance, including the title and text approved by the voters.

INTRODUCED, READ AND ORDERED PUBLISHED, as provided by law, by the City Council of the City of Steamboat Springs, at its regular meeting held on the 23rd day of July, 2019.

**Jason Lacy, President
Steamboat Springs City Council**

ATTEST:

Julie Franklin, City Clerk

FINALLY READ, PASSED AND APPROVED this 27th day of August, 2019.

**Jason Lacy, President
Steamboat Springs City Council**

ATTEST:

Julie Franklin, City Clerk