



OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK
808 W. SPOKANE FALLS BLVD.
SPOKANE, WASHINGTON 99201-3342
509.625.6350

November 28, 2016

Ms. Vicky Dalton
Spokane County Auditor
County Courthouse
1116 W. Broadway
Spokane, WA 99260

Re: RESOLUTION 2016-0093 OF THE CITY OF SPOKANE PROPOSING AN INCREASE IN THE REGULAR PROPERTY TAX LEVY FOR A PERIOD OF SEVEN YEARS BEGINNING IN 2018 IN AN AMOUNT EXCEEDING THE LIMITATIONS OF CHAPTER 84.55 RCW TO PROVIDE FUNDING FOR LIBRARY OPERATIONS; PROVIDING FOR THE SUBMISSION OF THE MEASURE TO THE QUALIFIED ELECTORS OF THE CITY AT A SPECIAL ELECTION; REQUESTING THAT THE SPOKANE COUNTY AUDITOR HOLD A SPECIAL ELECTION FOR THE MEASURE ON APRIL 25, 2017; AND PROVIDING FOR OTHER MATTERS PROPERLY RELATED THERETO.

The Spokane City Council adopted and passed the above-described resolution during its regularly scheduled 6:00 p.m. Legislative Session held November 14, 2016. Enclosed is a certified copy of the resolution.

Resolution 2016-0093 provides for the form of Measure No. 1 regarding Library Operations Levy.

Please advise if you need anything additional regarding the placement of this matter on the April 25, 2017, ballot.

As always, thank you for your services.

Sincerely,

Terri L. Pfister, MMC
Spokane City Clerk

Enclosure



City Clerk File No.:
RES 2016-0093

November 17, 2016

COUNCIL ACTION MEMORANDUM

RE: RESOLUTION 2016-0093 PROPOSING AN INCREASE IN THE REGULAR PROPERTY TAX LEVY...REQUESTING THAT THE SPOKANE COUNTY AUDITOR HOLD A SPECIAL ELECTION FOR THE MEASURE ON APRIL 25, 2017; AND PROVIDING FOR OTHER MATTERS PROPERLY RELATED THERETO

During its 6:00 p.m. Legislative Session held Monday, November 14, 2016, the City Council considered the above described resolution.

Council President Stuckart requested a motion to accept a substitute version of the resolution which reflects the date of election on April 25, 2017 (to replace the previously filed version which had the election on February 14, 2017). The following action was taken:

Motion by Council Member Stratton, seconded by Council Member Waldref, to so move (to accept the substitute version of the resolution which reflects the date of election on April 25, 2017); **carried unanimously.**

Subsequent to Council inquiry and commentary and response by staff, commentary by Spokane Public Library Board Trustee Lara Hemingway, and public testimony; the following action was taken:

Upon 6-1 Roll Call Vote (Council Member Fagan voting "no"), the City Council adopted Resolution 2016-0093, as amended, of the City of Spokane proposing an increase in the regular property tax levy for a period of seven years beginning in 2018 in an amount exceeding the limitations of Chapter 84.55 RCW to provide funding for library operations; providing for the submission of the measure to the qualified electors of the City at a special election; requesting that the Spokane County Auditor hold a special election for the measure on April 25, 2017; and providing for other matters properly related thereto.

Terri L. Pfister, MMC
Spokane City Clerk



Agenda Sheet for City Council Meeting of:
11/14/2016

Date Rec'd	10/28/2016
Clerk's File #	RES 2016-0093
Renews #	
Cross Ref #	
Project #	
Bid #	
Requisition #	

Submitting Dept	CITY COUNCIL
Contact Name/Phone	COUNCIL 509-625-6258 PRESIDENT BEN STUCKART
Contact E-Mail	BSTUCKART@SPOKANECITY.ORG
Agenda Item Type	Resolutions
Agenda Item Name	0320 - LIBRARY LEVY LID LIFT PLACEMENT ON FEBRUARY 2017 BALLOT

Agenda Wording
 A Resolution proposing to place on the ^{April 25 - April 11/15/16} February 14, 2017 ballot increase in the property tax levy for seven years beginning in 2018 in an amount exceeding the limits in chapter 84.55 RCW to fund library operations.

Summary (Background)
 Chapter 84.55 RCW provides for an election to raise the regular annual property taxes above the limits stated in that chapter by a simple majority election. To place this measure on the ^{April 25} February 14, 2017 special election ballot, the City Council must pass and deliver this resolution to the county elections office prior to ^{February 24} December 16, 2016. This proposal increases the regular property tax rate starting in 2018 at the rate of \$0.07 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation to fund library operations. *q/p 11/15/16*

Fiscal Impact	Budget Account
Neutral \$ continues existing levy	# various
Select \$	#
Select \$	#
Select \$	#

Approvals		Council Notifications	
Dept Head	MCCLATCHEY, BRIAN	Study Session	Finance Comm: 11/7/2016
Division Director		Other	Joint mtg: 9/29/2016
Finance	KECK, KATHLEEN	Distribution List	
Legal	PICCOLO, MIKE	<i>M. Piccolo - Legal</i>	
For the Mayor	SANDERS, THERESA		
Additional Approvals			
Purchasing			

ADOPTED BY
 SPOKANE CITY COUNCIL:
11/14/2016

 CITY CLERK

RESOLUTION NO. 2016 - 0093

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF SPOKANE PROPOSING AN INCREASE IN THE REGULAR PROPERTY TAX LEVY FOR A PERIOD OF SEVEN YEARS BEGINNING IN 2018 IN AN AMOUNT EXCEEDING THE LIMITATIONS OF CHAPTER 84.55 RCW TO PROVIDE FUNDING FOR LIBRARY OPERATIONS; PROVIDING FOR THE SUBMISSION OF THE MEASURE TO THE QUALIFIED ELECTORS OF THE CITY AT A SPECIAL ELECTION; REQUESTING THAT THE SPOKANE COUNTY AUDITOR HOLD A SPECIAL ELECTION FOR THE MEASURE ON APRIL 25, 2017; AND PROVIDING FOR OTHER MATTERS PROPERLY RELATED THERETO.

WHEREAS, the City of Spokane, Washington ("City") is a first-class city duly organized and existing by virtue of the Constitution and laws of the state of Washington and its city charter; and

WHEREAS, the City has authority to enact a regular annual property tax levy and such other levies as may be approved by the electorate of the City, subject to applicable limitations, as required by law; and

WHEREAS, Chapter 84.55 RCW reflects a limitation that the annual rate of increase of the dollar amount of the regular property tax levy set by the City Council may not exceed the lesser of the rate of inflation or one percent (1%), all as further reflected in Chapter 84.55 RCW; and

WHEREAS, RCW 84.55.050 permits an election to authorize a levy above the limit factor specified in Chapter 84.55 RCW upon majority approval by the voters, subject to any otherwise applicable statutory dollar rate limitation, said election to be held not more than twelve months prior to the date on which the proposed excess levy is to be made, except as further provided in said statute for multi-year levies; and

WHEREAS, in the February 2013 special election, 66% of the voters of the City of Spokane approved an increase in the regular property tax levy in the amount of \$0.07 per \$1,000 of property valuation, for the purpose of funding library operations beginning in 2014 and extending through 2017; and

WHEREAS, on July 28, 2016, the Spokane Public Library Board of Trustees voted unanimously to recommend the City Council place a measure on the February 14, 2017 ballot that would allow for the renewal of the current levy lid lift in order to continue the improvements to library services resulting from the passage of the 2013 levy lid lift and to implement new practices to make the Library more efficient and responsive to its customers' educational, business and cultural interests; and

WHEREAS, the City Council desires to continue the levy lid lift approved by the voters in February 2013 to continue funding for library operations by submitting to the voters a measure to increase the regular property tax levy in excess of the amount

permitted by state law of \$0.07 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation in 2018 and to have the increased levy amount remain in place for seven years to raise approximately \$1,200,000 per year; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 84 of the City Charter, the City Council of its motion may submit to popular vote for adoption or rejection at any election any proposed ordinance or measure.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Spokane City Council that:

Section 1. The Spokane County Auditor is hereby requested pursuant to RCW 29A.04.330 to hold a special election on April 25, 2017, in conjunction with the scheduled special election for the purpose of submitting to the voters of the City of Spokane for the approval or rejection of a property tax levy to provide funding for library operations.

Section 2. The following measure shall be submitted in the following form:

CITY OF SPOKANE

MEASURE NO. 1

LIBRARY OPERATIONS LEVY

THE CITY OF SPOKANE ADOPTED RESOLUTION NO. 2016-0093 PROVIDING FOR AN INCREASE IN THE REGULAR PROPERTY TAX LEVY IN EXCESS OF STATE LAW BEGINNING IN 2018 IN WHICH THE FUNDING WOULD BE ALLOCATED ONE HUNDRED PERCENT FOR LIBRARY OPERATIONS. THIS MEASURE AUTHORIZES AN INCREASE IN THE REGULAR PROPERTY TAX LEVY FOR 2018 BY \$0.07 PER \$1,000 OF ASSESSED VALUATION FOR A LEVY RATE NOT TO EXCEED \$3.52. THE INCREASE IN THE PROPERTY TAX LEVY WOULD REMAIN IN EFFECT FOR A PERIOD OF SEVEN YEARS.

SHOULD THIS MEASURE BE APPROVED?

YES

NO

Section 3. In the event the measure specified in Section 2 above is approved by the qualified electors of the City as required by the Constitution and laws of the state of Washington, there shall be levied and collected annual excess property tax levies in the amount as authorized by said voter approval. Such tax levies will be in excess of the regular annual tax levies permitted by law without voter approval.

Section 4. The City hereby requests pursuant to RCW 29A.04.330 the Spokane County Auditor, as *ex officio*, Supervisor of Elections of the City, to call, conduct and hold within the City a special election on Tuesday, April 25, 2017, for the purpose of submitting to the qualified electors of the City for their approval or rejection, the proposal set forth above. The City Clerk of the City of Spokane is hereby authorized and directed to deliver a certified copy of this resolution to the Spokane County Auditor, as *ex officio* Supervisor of Elections for the City, no later than February 24, 2017.

Section 5. If any one or more of the provisions of this resolution shall be declared by any court of competent jurisdiction to be unconstitutional or invalid for any reason, then such provision shall be null and void, and shall be deemed separable from the remaining provisions of this resolution, and shall in no way affect the validity of the other provisions of this resolution.

Section 6. The levy lid lift in the property tax levy rate shall be a temporary single year increase, which shall begin in 2018 and continue through 2024.

Section 7. The City Attorney is authorized to make such minor adjustments to the wording of the measure as may be necessary to effectuate the intent of the resolution or upon recommendation of the Spokane County Auditor, as long as the intent of the measure remains clear and consistent with the intent of this resolution as approved by the City Council.

Section 8. This resolution shall take effect and be in full force immediately upon its passage.

ADOPTED by the City Council this 14th day of November, 2016.



City Clerk

Approved as to form:



Assistant City Attorney

DATE: 11/28/2016
I HEREBY CERTIFY THIS IS A TRUE AND ACCURATE COPY OF THE ORIGINAL WHICH IS ON FILE IN THE OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK.



CITY CLERK
SEAL: CITY OF SPOKANE
COUNTY OF SPOKANE
STATE OF WA

