

CITY OF BUCKLEY, WASHINGTON

MAY 11 2016

ORDINANCE NO. 14-16

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BUCKLEY, PIERCE COUNTY, WASHINGTON, PROVIDING FOR THE SUBMISSION TO THE QUALIFIED ELECTORS OF THE CITY, AT AN ELECTION TO BE HELD WITHIN THE CITY ON AUGUST 2, 2016, IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE STATE PRIMARY ELECTION TO BE HELD ON THE SAME DATE, A PROPOSITION AUTHORIZING THE PERMANENT LEVY OF A REGULAR PROPERTY TAX IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED FIFTY CENTS (50¢) PER THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$1,000.00) OF THE TRUE AND ASSESSED VALUATION EACH YEAR BEGINNING IN 2017 TO BE COLLECTED IN 2017 AND EACH YEAR THEREAFTER FOR THE PROVISION OF BASIC AND ADVANCED EMERGENCY MEDICAL CARE AND SERVICES, INCLUDING PERSONNEL COSTS, TRAINING FOR SUCH PERSONNEL, AND RELATED EQUIPMENT, SUPPLIES, VEHICLES AND STRUCTURES, ESTABLISHING A REFERENDUM PROCEDURE, PROVIDING FOR AN ACCOUNTING OF THE USE OF THE PROCEEDS, PROVIDING A SEVERABILITY CLAUSE, AND ESTABLISHING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

**WHEREAS**, RCW 84.52.069 authorizes cities to permanently impose an additional regular property tax levy of up to fifty cents per one thousand dollars of assessed valuation in order to provide emergency medical care and services; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Buckley did have approved by the electors in 2010 a regular tax levy in the amount equal to fifty cents per one thousand dollars of assessed value of property to augment the cost of emergency medical care and services; and

**WHEREAS**, the levy will end with the 2016 tax year; and

**WHEREAS**, a stable source of funds will ensure emergency medical care and services and will ensure that such services can be continuously provided, and thus, be in the best interest of the public health, safety and welfare; and

**WHEREAS**, in order for the City of Buckley to impose a permanent levy pursuant to RCW 84.52.069, it must obtain approval of the qualified voters of the City, and the City Council has therefore determined to submit a proposition to the qualified voters authorizing a permanent levy at a rate not to exceed fifty cents per one thousand dollars of assessed valuation at the primary election to be held on August 2, 2016;

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NOW THEREFORE THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BUCKLEY ORDAIN AS  
FOLLOWS:

**Section 1. Calling of Election.** The City Council requests that the Auditor of Pierce County, Washington, as the *ex officio* supervisor of elections, call and conduct an election in the City, in the manner provided by law, to be held therein on August 2, 2016, for the purpose of submitting to the qualified electors of the City for their approval or rejection, the question of whether or not a permanent additional regular property tax levy shall be made in 2017, for collection in 2017 and each year thereafter, a general tax on taxable property in the City in an amount of up to fifty cents per one thousand dollars of the true and assessed valuation of the City, in order to provide emergency medical care and services within the City.

**Section 2. Ballot Proposition.** The City Clerk is authorized and directed to certify, no later than May 13, 2016, to the Auditor, as *ex officio* supervisor of elections in the City, a copy of this ordinance and the proposition to be submitted at that election in the form of ballot title prepared by the City Attorney pursuant to RCW 29A.36.071, as follows:

**CITY OF BUCKLEY  
PROPOSITION NO. 1  
EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES  
PROPERTY TAX LEVY**

Shall the City of Buckley be authorized to impose a permanent regular property tax levy of fifty cents (50¢) or less per thousand dollars (\$1,000.00) of assessed valuation to provide basic and advanced emergency medical care and services?

YES .....   
NO .....

The City Administrator and City Attorney are authorized to make such minor adjustments to the wording of such proposition as may be recommended by the Pierce County Auditor, as long as the intent of the proposition remains clear and as approved by the City Council

**Section 3. Referendum.** A referendum petition to repeal the ordinance which imposes the permanent levy may be filed at any time with the City Clerk. Within ten (10) days, the City Clerk must confer with the petitioner concerning form and style of the petition, issue the petition an identification number, and secure an accurate, concise, and positive ballot title from the Pierce County Auditor. The petitioner has thirty (30) days in which to secure the signatures of not less than fifteen percent (15%) of the registered voters of the city, as of the last general election, upon petition forms which contain the ballot title and the full text of the measure to be referred. The City Clerk and/or designee must verify the sufficiency of the signatures on the petition and, if sufficient valid signatures are properly submitted, must certify the referendum measure to the next election within the city if one is to be held within one hundred eighty days (180) from the date of filing of the referendum petition, or at a special election to be called for that purpose in accordance with RCW 29A.04.330. Pursuant to RCW 84.52.069(4)(b), the

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referendum procedure provided herein is exclusive in all instances and supersedes the procedures provided under all other statutory or charter provisions for initiative or referendum which might otherwise apply.

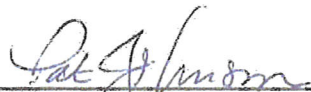
**Section 4. Use of Funds.** If the proposition set forth above is passed by the voters of the City, any and all funds generated as the result of the tax imposed shall be used only for the provision of emergency medical care and emergency medical services, including related personnel costs, training for such personnel, and related equipment, supplies, vehicles and structure needed for the provision of emergency medical care and emergency medical services.

**Section 5. Separate Accounting.** If the proposition is passed, the Mayor and staff are directed to establish for a separate accounting of all expenditures of revenues generated by the levy. The City shall maintain a statement of the accounting and update the accounting at least every two years. The statement of accounting shall be available to the public upon request at no charge.

**Section 6. Severability.** 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 severable from the remaining provisions of this ordinance, and shall in no way affect the validity of the other provisions of this ordinance.

**Section 7. Effective Date.** This Ordinance shall be in full force and effect upon passage and signatures hereon. A summary of this Ordinance may be published in lieu of publishing the Ordinance in its entirety.

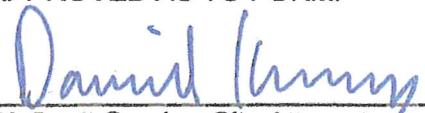
Introduced, passed, and approved this 10<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2016.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor Pat Johnson

ATTEST:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Joanne Starr, City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

for   
\_\_\_\_\_  
W. Scott Snyder, City Attorney

PUBLISHED: May 18, 2016  
EFFECTIVE: Immediately