



**CITY OF WASHOUGAL
CITY COUNCIL WORKSHOP MINUTES
Monday, July 13, 2020
5:00 PM**

I. CALL TO ORDER

II. ROLL CALL

III. PUBLIC COMMENTS

IV. NEW BUSINESS

A. Administration: Resolution regarding 2020 Levy Lid Lift for Fire and EMS

B. Administration: COVID-19 Update

V. PUBLIC COMMENTS

VI. REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS

A. CITY MANAGER

B. MAYOR

C. CITY COUNCIL

VII. ADJOURNMENT

Mayor

City Clerk

2020 Fire/EMS Lid Lift

July 13, 2020 Council Woksession



City of Washougal

2020 Fire/EMS Lid Lift: What We Will Cover

- ❖ **Expiration of Current Lid Lift**
- ❖ **Implications of Various Lid Lift Scenarios**
- ❖ **2020 Community Survey Results**
- ❖ **Proposed Resolution**
- ❖ **Next Steps**
- ❖ **Council Discussion**



2020 Fire/EMS Lid Lift: Expiration of Current Lid Lift

- ❖ **Current 6-year Lid Lift expires this year**
- ❖ **If no new lid lift – loss of \$171.4K in revenue**



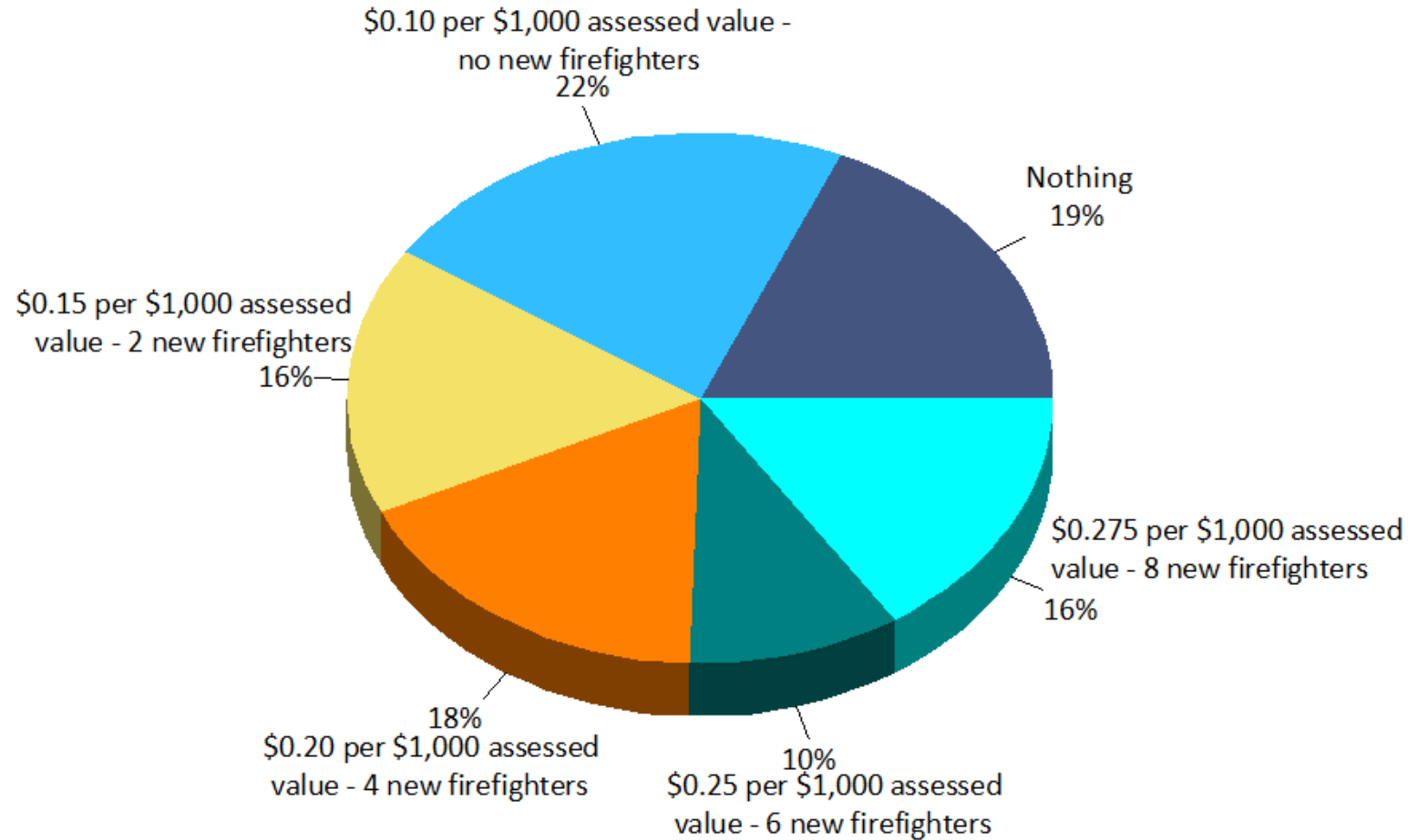
2020 Fire/EMS Lid Lift: Implications of Various Lid Lift Scenarios

- ❖ No lid lift = loss of \$171.4K revenue (potential cuts to program)
- ❖ \$0.10/\$1,000 AV = \$239K (status-quo, no new FTE)
- ❖ \$0.15/\$1,000 AV = \$358K (2 new FTE)
- ❖ \$0.20/\$1,000 AV = \$482.9K (4 new FTE)
- ❖ \$0.25/\$1,000 AV = \$603.6K (6 new FTE)
- ❖ \$0.275/\$1,000 AV = \$664K (8 new FTE)



Q21. Maximum Amount of Property Tax Respondents Would Be Willing to Support to Fund Firefighters

by percentage of respondents (excluding "don't know")



Source: ETC Institute DirectionFinder (2020 - Washougal, WA)

82% would support at least \$.10 per \$1,000;
60% would support at least \$.15 per \$1,000;
44% would support at least \$.20 per \$1,000

2020 Fire/EMS Lid Lift: Summary

Lid Lift	Total Revenue	Impact	Community Survey (50% req'd)	Annual Cost Median Home - \$400K	Expiring levy approx. \$0.07	Net Annual Cost Median Home - \$400K
None	\$0	lose \$171.4K	19%	\$0	-\$28	-\$28
\$0.10	\$241.5K	Status-quo (no new FTE)	82%	\$40	-\$28	\$12
\$0.15	\$362.2K	2 new FTE	60%	\$60	-\$28	\$32
\$0.20	\$482.9K	4 new FTE	44%	\$80	-\$28	\$52
\$0.25	\$603.K	6 new FTE	26%	\$100	-\$28	\$72
\$0.275	\$664K	8 new FTE	16%	\$110	-\$28	\$82



2020 Fire/EMS Lid Lift: Proposed Resolution

- ❖ Resolution placing either a six-year ten or fifteen cents lid lift on the November 3, 2020 ballot



2020 Fire/EMS Lid Lift: Next Steps

- ❖ **Council direction re: amount of lid lift**
- ❖ **Adoption of Resolution no later than July 27, 2020 meeting**
- ❖ **Deadline August 4, 2020**



2020 Fire/EMS Lid Lift

Council Discussion



Resolution No. _____

YELLOW HIGHLIGHTED LANGUAGE = 10 CENTS LIFT
GREEN HIGHLIGHTED LANGUAGE = FIFTEEN CENTS LIFT

A RESOLUTION of the City Council of the City of Washougal providing for the submission to the qualified voters of the City, at the special election to be held in conjunction with the general election to be held therein on November 3, 2020, of a proposition authorizing the City to increase its regular property tax levy above the limit established in chapter 84.55.010 RCW for six years to provide funds for fire and emergency medical services; and requesting the Clark County Auditor to place the proposition on such general municipal election ballot.

WHEREAS, the City of Washougal (the "City") provides fire and emergency medical services to its citizens;

AND WHEREAS, the voters of the City approved a levy lid lift of ten cents per \$1,000 of assessed valuation in 2006 covering the years 2007 through 2012 for the purpose of maintaining and enhancing the level of service for emergency medical services in the community;

AND WHEREAS, the voters of the City approved a levy lid lift of ten cents per \$1,000 of assessed valuation in 2014 covering the years 2015 through 2020 for the purpose of maintaining and enhancing the level of service for fire and emergency medical services in the community;

AND WHEREAS, said levy lid lift expires at the end of 2020;

AND WHEREAS, the City Council has determined that it is desirable to **maintain** **and enhance** service levels for fire and emergency medical services;

AND WHEREAS, replacing the expiring levy lid lift of ten cents per \$1,000 of assessed valuation will provide funding to support maintaining service levels for fire and emergency medical services;

AND WHEREAS, replacing the expiring levy lid lift of ten cents per \$1,000 of assessed valuation with a new levy lid lift of fifteen cents per \$1,000 of assessed valuation will provide funding to support enhancing service levels for fire and emergency medical services by providing funding for two additional positions;

AND WHEREAS, with the approval of the City's voters, the City can increase its regular property tax levy to provide for fire and emergency medical services;

AND WHEREAS, using preliminary information provided by the Clark County Assessor's Office the City estimates that its regular property tax levy for 2021 will be approximately \$1.91 per \$1,000 of assessed value (not including the proposed **replacement** levy lid lift) or \$1.19 below the \$3.10 rate per \$1,000 of assessed valuation permitted by statute, providing the potential for a levy lid lift;

AND WHEREAS, if voters approve the proposed **replacement** levy lid lift for fire and EMS services the City Council will assess a levy in 2020 for collection in 2021 that will result in a regular levy rate of not more than **ten** **fifteen** cents per \$1,000 of assessed value higher than the regular levy rate would have been without voter approval of the fire and EMS replacement levy lid lift;

AND WHEREAS, the exact rate for the City's regular property tax levy for 2021 will not be known until later in 2020 and must be estimated for purposes of preparing a proposition for a replacement levy lid lift to be voted on in the November 2020 election and the City has used a maximum levy rate of **\$2.10** **\$2.15**

per \$1,000 of assessed value in the ballot title to provide a margin of error for potential changes in assessed value prior to the end of 2020;

AND WHEREAS, at Council meetings and workshops held on January 13, 2020, February 24, 2020, March 9, 2020, May 15, 2020, May 26, 2020 and July 13, 2020, the City Council discussed the fire and ems program, the potential replacement levy lid lift and the community survey question regarding the lid lift, and received presentations regarding the same;

AND WHEREAS, the citizens of Washougal had an opportunity to address Council regarding the proposed replacement levy lid lift;

AND WHEREAS, the results of the 2020 Community Survey indicate strong support for a replacement lid lift of ten fifteen cents per \$1,000 of assessed value,

AND WHEREAS, the City Council has determined that the best interests and general welfare of the City would be served by submitting to the qualified voters in the City of Washougal, a proposition authorizing the City to increase its regular property tax levy above the limit established in chapter 84.55.010 RCW for six years to provide funds for fire and emergency medical services;

AND WHEREAS, the City Council desires that the special election to be held in conjunction with the general election to be held therein on November 3, 2020, include on the ballot for qualified voters of the City of Washougal, the proposition of whether the City should increase the regular property tax levy by no more than ten fifteen cents per \$1,000 assessed valuation for six years to fund fire and emergency medical services, and that in any event this rate will not exceed by more than ten fifteen cents per \$1,000 assessed valuation the rate which would be assessed if this replacement levy lid lift is not approved;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL FOR THE CITY OF WASHOUGAL, WASHINGTON as follows:

Section I

The City Council hereby requests and calls for the Clark County Auditor to include on the ballot for the special election to be held in conjunction with the general election to be held therein on November 3, 2020, in the City of Washougal for the purpose of submitting to the qualified voters of the City of Washougal the proposition of whether the City should increase the regular property tax levy by no more than ten fifteen cents per \$1,000 assessed valuation for six years to fund fire and emergency medical services.

Section II

The proposition to be submitted at the election shall be in the form of a ballot title prepared by the City Attorney to read as follows:

PROPOSITION

REPLACEMENT LEVY FOR FIRE AND EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

The City Council of the City of Washougal adopted Resolution _____ concerning renewing an increase in Washougal's regular property tax levy for fire and emergency medical services.

To fund fire and emergency medical services, this proposition authorizes an increase in the City of Washougal's regular tax levy for collection in 2021 of **ten cents (\$0.10)** **fifteen cents (\$0.15)** per \$1,000 of assessed valuation. If this proposition is approved the City's total 2021 regular levy rate will not exceed **\$2.10** **\$2.15** per \$1,000 of assessed valuation. Levy amounts in the five years following 2021 will be limited as provided under RCW chapter 84.55. Should this proposition be approved?

Yes _____

No _____

Section III

The City Clerk is authorized and directed to file a certified copy of this Resolution with the Clark County Auditor.

Section IV

If any section, sentence, clause or phrase of this resolution should be held to be invalid or unconstitutional by a court of competent jurisdiction, such invalidity or unconstitutionality shall not affect the validity or constitutionality of any other section, sentence, clause or phrase of this resolution.

PASSED by the Council of the City of Washougal on the **27th** day of **July, 2020**.

City of Washougal, Washington

Mayor, Molly Coston

ATTEST:

Finance Director/City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

City Attorney