



City of Grand Island

Thursday, August 29, 2013

Special Meeting - Updated

Item I-5

**#2013-298 - Consideration of Providing Guidance to City
Administration Regarding Property Tax Levy Adjustment**

Staff Contact: Mary Lou Brown, City Administrator

Council Agenda Memo

From: Mary Lou Brown, City Administrator

Meeting: August 29, 2013

Subject: Consideration of Providing Guidance to City Administration Regarding Property Tax Levy Adjustment

Item #'s: I-5

Presenter(s): Mary Lou Brown, City Administrator

Background

The final property tax request will be presented for Council consideration on September 10, 2013 at the time that the Annual Single City Budget for Fiscal Year 2013-2014 is approved.

Prior to that, City Administration would like to receive Council's guidance pertaining to the property tax levy adjustment that should be planned. There has been conversation regarding the property mill levy for fiscal year 2013-2014 during several of the budget study sessions and special meetings.

Discussion

The City Council approved an International City/County Managers Association (ICMA) public safety study that included the addition of more personnel to the Grand Island Police Department with the expected result of reduced crime rates and stronger code compliance effectiveness.

The current year budget has been impacted by the additional personnel added during this fiscal year; the remaining personnel will be added during the 2013/2014 fiscal year as approved in the budget. The total expense for these new employees is in excess of \$1,000,000 and there has been conversation by council members indicating a desire to fund the positions with a revenue source.

A property tax mill levy adjustment of .0400 would generate \$1,029,821 based on the 2014 property valuation; this would increase the City of Grand Island mill levy rate from .3241 to .3641.

The resolution in front of council would indicate the intent to approve the .0400 mill levy increase with the approval of the Annual Single City Budget for Fiscal Year 2013-2014.

Alternatives

It appears that the Council has the following alternatives concerning the issue at hand. The Council may:

1. Approve the intent to increase the property tax levy from the current levy of .3241 to .3641 for the fiscal year 2013/2014.
2. Modify the intent and recommend a different property tax levy.
3. Modify the intent to keep the current levy of .3241.

Recommendation

City Administration recommends Council approve the intent to recommend a property tax mill levy increase of .0400 which would result in a total tax levy of .3641 for fiscal year 2013/2014.

Sample Motion

Move to approve the intent to recommend a property tax mill levy increase of .0400 which would result in a total tax levy of .3641 for fiscal year 2013/2014.

RESOLUTION 2013-298

WHEREAS, the City of Grand Island approved an International City/County Managers Association (ICMA) public safety study; and

WHEREAS, the study recommendations include the addition of more personnel to the Grand Island Police Department to reduce the City's crime rate and provide stronger code compliance effectiveness; and

WHEREAS, these additional positions will affect future City budgets; and

WHEREAS, the total funding for new law enforcement personnel is in excess of \$1,000,000 on an annual basis; and

WHEREAS, a property tax mill levy adjustment of .0400 would generate \$1,029,821 based on the 2014 property valuation; and

WHEREAS, the total City of Grand Island mill levy would increase from .3241 to .3641; and

WHEREAS, the final levy of the Municipality for the fiscal year 2013-2014 will be set when the Annual Single City Budget for fiscal year 2013-2014 is approved on September 10, 2013;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GRAND ISLAND, NEBRASKA, that the mill levy for the City of Grand Island is assumed to increase from .3241 to .3641.

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Adopted by the City Council of the City of Grand Island, Nebraska on August 29, 2013.

Jay Vavricek, Mayor

Attest:

RaNae Edwards, City Clerk

Approved as to Form	☐ _____
August 28, 2013	☐ City Attorney