

**MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF WASHINGTON, FRANKLIN COUNTY, MISSOURI
MONDAY, AUGUST 24, 2020**

INTRODUCTORY ITEMS:

The Special Meeting of the City of Washington, Missouri, City Council was held on Monday, August 24, 2020, at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chamber. Mayor Sandy Lucy opened the meeting with roll call and Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor:	Sandy Lucy	Present
Council Members: Ward I	Steve Sullentrup	Present
	Nick Obermark	Present
Ward II	Mark Wessels	Present
	Mark Hidritch	Present
Ward III	Jeff Patke	Present
	Greg Skornia	Present
Ward IV	Gretchen Pettet	Present
	Joe Holtmeier	Present

Also Present:	City Administrator	Darren Lamb
	City Clerk	Mary Trentmann
	Police Chief	Ed Menefee
	Finance Director	Mary Sprung
	Emergency Management Director	Mark Skornia

Originals and/or copies of agenda items of the meeting, including recorded votes are available on record in the office of the City Clerk. Each ordinance is read a minimum of twice by title, unless otherwise noted.

Approval and Adjustment of Agenda:

A motion to accept and approve the agenda accordingly made by Councilmember Holtmeier, seconded by Councilmember Hidritch, passed without dissent.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

* City of Washington Tax Levy

A public hearing will be held on August 24, 2020, at 7:00 P.M., or as soon thereafter as the public may be heard, in the Council Chambers of City Hall of said City to set the proposed property tax rates for the City of Washington and the City of Washington Library District. Citizens may be heard on the following proposed property tax rates:

	<u>CITY OF WASHINGTON</u>	
ASSESSED VALUATION	PROPOSED TAX YEAR	PRIOR TAX YEAR
Real Estate	\$290,936,505	\$288,431,754
Personal Property	<u>65,002,630</u>	<u>60,239,014</u>
TOTAL	\$355,939,135	\$348,670,768

Based on Missouri State statutes, the permitted 2020 tax levy for the general operating levy of the City of Washington is \$0.5952 per \$100 of assessed valuation.

FUND	TAX REVENUE FOR 2020-2021	PROPOSED TAX RATE	PRIOR YEAR TAX REVENUE	INCREASE (DECREASE)
General Fund	\$2,118,551	\$0.5952/\$100	\$2,070,755	\$47,796

	<u>CITY OF WASHINGTON - LIBRARY DISTRICT</u>	
ASSESSED VALUATION	PROPOSED TAX YEAR	PRIOR TAX YEAR
Real Estate	\$118,103,916	\$117,794,364
Personal Property	<u>25,660,011</u>	<u>24,094,459</u>
TOTAL	\$143,763,927	\$141,888,823

Based on Missouri State statutes, the permitted 2020 tax levy for the general operating levy of the City of Washington – Library District is \$0.2000 per \$100 of assessed valuation.

FUND	TAX REVENUE FOR 2020-2021	PROPOSED TAX RATE	PRIOR YEAR TAX REVENUE	INCREASE (DECREASE)
Library Fund	\$280,340	\$0.2000/\$100	\$276,683	\$3,657

MAXIMUM ALLOWED, BY MO STATE STATUTES:

TOTAL OF BOTH TAX LEVIES: \$0.7952/\$100

RATES ARE CONTINGENT ON FINAL ASSESSED VALUATIONS AND COMPLIANCE WITH STATE LAWS.

CITY OF WASHINGTON, MISSOURI

Publish in The Missourian in the August 19, 2020 edition and the Weekend edition August 22-23, 2020.

Sprung: Good Evening. This is the, as Mary stated, the Public Hearing to set the City of Washington Tax Levy and also the Washington Public Library for 2020.

In your packets you have the assessed valuations provided by Franklin County for 2020 for the proposed tax year. For real estate for the City, the assessed valuation is \$290,936,505

which is approximately 2.5 million higher than prior year. For personal property, the assessed valuation is \$65,002,630 which is approximately 5 million higher than prior year. For a total assessed valuation of \$355,939,135 which is approximately 7 million higher than prior year. Overall, that's approximately 2% percent higher.

Based on Missouri State Statues, the permitted 2020 tax levy for general operating purposes would be .5952 per \$100 of assessed valuation.

So, what does this mean? Based on this rate, this will result in approximate tax revenue for the City of approximately \$2,118,551 which is an increase over prior year of approximately 48,000.

So, those same figures for the Library District, for real estate for the assessed valuation is \$118,103,916 which is approximately 500,000 more than prior year. For personal property \$25,660,011 which is approximately 1.5 million over prior year. Coming to a total assessed valuation of \$143,763,927 which is overall \$2,000,000 higher than prior year which is approximately 1.3% higher than 2019.

So, based on Missouri State Statues, the permitted 2020 tax levy for the City of Washington Library District is .2000 per \$100 of assessed valuation. This will result in approximate tax revenue of \$280,340 which is approximately \$4,000 more than prior year.

So, the maximum allowed by Missouri State Statues for both tax levies would be .7952 per \$100 of assessed valuation.

So, what we are here tonight to do is basically to set that tax levy at the .7952 which would be the maximum allowed by law. Does anybody have any questions? I know it's a lot of numbers.

Wessels: Mary, without getting too deep, I was just curious. The State sets, do they set a maximum or do they set the actual rate?

Sprung: Well, they set the maximum and they set the rate. They set the rates based on a formula that the State actually calculates. It takes the assessed valuation into account, any new construction that you have and it's a huge formula. They actually come up with that and that fluctuates depending on all these different factors.

Wessels: I noticed it was down a little bit from some of the others and was just curious as to how they come up with that. That's it.

Sprung: Yeah, but the law, if you remember going back two years ago I guess when we voted to increase the maximum...

Lamb: Yes.

Sprung: So the maximum is actually set by the taxpayers.

Lamb: It's two years.

Sprung: Two years ago, yeah. So, the Library Districts went from .1000 to .2000. That's set by the taxpayers. The State says you can't go over that maximum that's allowed. That rate is calculated every year based on that assessed valuations. It says you can't have more than this amount of revenue based on that maximum and then it says okay well based on these different factors that go into the formula, this is the rate that's set.

The assessment year is every odd year so, this was...

Lamb: 19 was the other.

Sprung: 2019.

Lamb: Was the assessment, it's every odd...

Mayor: At the end of the year...(inaudible.)

Sprung: Yes, the re-assessment year is every odd year.

Mayor: Every other year.

Sprung: So, this is was a re-assessment year.

Mayor: *Inaudible*

Sprung: That's why the rate fluctuated so much.

Lamb: And you do Mark, just for clarification, when you have the total of both tax levies that's only for those that are both in the Library District...

Wessels: Right, right.

Lamb: And the City.

Wessels: I understand.

Lamb: So the rest of the community, but they pay the same thing outside...

Wessels: (*Inaudible*)...that was by an ordinance from us to the vote of the people...

Lamb: That was a ballot initiative, Prop L, that we did a couple of years ago. That raised that up to the same level before that Scenic Regional was already at. They had raised there's four or five years ago, etc., and we did not at that time.

Wessels: Right.

Lamb: So, then just a year or two ago we took Prop L on so we could at least; otherwise that number would be cut in half obviously that we get from the Libraries.

Wessels: Right.

Sprung: Right, and I will just let you know, this is kind of more of an economic factor. The amount of new construction this year was 3.2 million for the City. The amount for the Library fund was 1,060,000. That's how much your rate can go up based on new construction.

The year before for the general fund, it was almost 6 million. It's just kind of an economic growth factor. Of that general tax levy, another little bit of information, almost approximately 31% of that does go to the fire fund. We subsidize the fire fund...

Lamb: Correct.

Sprung: By that.

Mayor: Right, they get a percentage of that. Are there any other questions or comments?

Sprung: Okay.

Mayor: Okay, this is a Public Hearing...

Lamb: Correct.

Mayor: Is there anyone here that would like to address the Council on this item? Mark it looks like it's you, if you have something to say. Okay, nothing from Mark.

With no further discussion, a motion to accept the Public Hearing into the minutes made by Councilmember Holtmeier, seconded by Councilmember Hidritch, passed without dissent.

Bill No. 20-12221, Ordinance No. 20-13170, an ordinance levying and imposing for the calendar year 2020 a tax upon all real estate and taxable tangible property in the City of Washington, Missouri for General Municipal Purposes and for a Free Public Library.

The ordinance was introduced by Councilmember Pettet.

After a brief discussion, the ordinance was read a second time and approved on the following vote; Sullentrup-aye, Pettet-aye, Holtmeier-aye, Patke-aye, Skornia-aye, Wessels-aye, Hidritch-aye, Obermark-aye.

* City Administrator Darren Lamb, briefly discussed extending license renewals beyond August 31, 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. A motion to extend liquor and business license renewals to September 8, 2020 made by Councilmember Hidritch, seconded by Councilmember Holtmeier, passed without dissent.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to discuss, a motion to adjourn made at 7:12 p.m. by Councilmember Hidritch, seconded by Councilmember Obermark passed without dissent.

Adopted: _____

Attest: _____
City Clerk

President of City Council

Passed: _____

Attest: _____
City Clerk

Mayor of Washington, Missouri

Councilmember Sullentrup requested to speak with the rest of Council after the meeting on why he does not wear a mask during public meetings.