SOUTH WEBER CITY CITY COUNCIL MEETING

DATE OF MEETING: 17 August 2021 TIME COMMENCED: 6:17 p.m.

LOCATION: South Weber City Office at 1600 East South Weber Drive, South Weber, UT

PRESENT:	MAYOR:	Jo Sjoblom
	COUNCIL MEMBERS:	Hayley Alberts Blair Halverson Angie Petty Quin Soderquist Wayne Winsor
	FINANCE DIRECTOR:	Mark McRae
	COMMUNITY DIRECTOR:	Trevor Cahoon
	CITY RECORDER:	Lisa Smith
	CITY MANAGER:	David Larson

Transcriber: Minutes transcribed by Michelle Clark

ATTENDEES: Terry George, Paul Sturm, Rod Westbroek, and Delene Hyde.

Mayor Sjoblom explained the delay was due to technical problems with the cameras and called the meeting to order and welcomed those in attendance.

1. Pledge of Allegiance: Councilwoman Petty

2. Prayer: Councilman Soderquist

ACTION ITEMS:

City Manager David Larson provided background information concerning the proposed tax increase. He expressed in order to better serve the growing population in Davis County, the county is in the process of transferring paramedic services to local fire districts and departments. As part of this transfer South Weber City will be adding the county's paramedic tax rate of 0.000119 to the city's rate and the county will be removing this tax rate from their property tax rate.

Proposed Certified Tax Rate: 0.000119 (County Paramedic Rate) + 0.00143 (2020 City Rate) = 0.001522 (2021 Proposed City Rate)

County Rate 0.000119: Based on a home value of \$410,000 this amount is approximately \$26.80 for the year, or \$2.23 per month. This paramedic rate was paid last year to the county and will be paid this year to the city.

<u>**City Rate 0.001403:**</u> The city is proposing to hold the certified tax rate from last year. Based on a home value of \$410,000 this amount is approximately \$28.90 for the year, or \$2.41 per month.

<u>Amount Increase</u>: Based on a home value of \$410,000 this amount is approximately \$55.70 for the year, or \$4.64 per month.

David explained this proposal results in approximately 19.33% more property tax revenue for South Weber City than if the city didn't hold their rate and transfer the county paramedic rate. By capturing property value growth and transferring paramedic services over to the city, citizens will be able to benefit through: qualified EMT paramedics on staff, faster response times for emergency medical professionals, and upgraded response teams from 2 to 3 individuals on shift.

South Weber currently has Emergency Medical Services (EMS) that can perform life-saving measures. By adding paramedics to city staff, citizens will have more advanced life-sustaining measures available, increasing the level of service. Because paramedic services are handled at a county level, response times are slower based on availability and location. By shifting that service to South Weber City Fire Department, the city will be able to have a paramedic with the city crew instead of waiting for the county. Currently, South Weber City is only able to have two trained EMS on shift at a time. David communicated the addition of paramedic services will allow for the city to have three individuals on each shift and more effectively serve the community. This means when an ambulance arrives, paramedics will be ready to assist.

David affirmed the city will begin providing paramedic service as early as October 2021. Davis County Sheriff's Department will continue to provide law enforcement services to South Weber City. This action does not make the Fire Department its own taxing entity or leave the paramedic rate as its own separate rate.

Councilman Halverson moved to open the public hearing for the proposed tax increase. Councilman Winsor seconded the motion. Mayor Sjoblom called for the vote. Council Members Alberts, Halverson, Petty, Soderquist, and Winsor voted aye. The motion carried.

3. Public Hearing on Proposed Tax Increase

- Individuals may speak once for 3 minutes or less: Do not remark from the audience.
- State your name & address and direct comments to the entire Council (Council will not respond).

Paul Sturm, 2527 Deer Run Drive, queried why a new certified tax rate. He expressed by maintaining the current tax rate of .001403, South Weber City will gain from the increased property valuations. He questioned what the city is going to do with the increased revenue. He opined the city flier prepared for the Truth in Taxation Hearing was somewhat deceiving and questioned if this hearing is to change the source of funding for paramedic services or to increase tax revenue.

Delene Hyde, 349 E. 6650 S., voiced confusion with the proposed tax increase information from the city. She inquired if there is a tax increase or not.

Councilwoman Petty moved to close the public hearing for the proposed tax increase. Councilwoman Alberts seconded the motion. Mayor Sjoblom called for the vote. Council Members Alberts, Halverson, Petty, Soderquist, and Winsor voted aye. The motion carried.

City Manager David Larson verified the county paramedic amount will decrease from the county. There is no increase in the county portion. He explained by holding the rate the city technically creates an increase. The 0.00143 certified tax rate from last year was generated based on the amount of money the city received for the total valuation of property in the city. The county looks at the new total valuation of all the property in the city and adjusts the tax rate to a lower amount so that the city receives the same total property tax revenue as the year before. By definition the city holding the rate is a property tax increase. When you add the amount already paid and the amount that is different between the adjusted certified tax rates, it is a 19% increase. The net increase is approximately 9%. By holding the rate, it technically creates an increase because property valuations increased, but it is the same rate citizens paid last year.

Delene Hyde pronounced it seems deceptive to say the citizens will not see an increase, but the city will receive an increase. David expressed the city in no way was trying to be deceptive and explained the frustration with the state law and the process for generating property tax.

Councilman Halverson explained Davis County collects approximately \$64,000 for paramedic services from South Weber City. By transferring paramedic services to South Weber City, it will cost the city approximately \$142,000 to \$147,000. The proposed 19% increase will barely cover the paramedic services for the city.

Councilwoman Alberts requested an update on the Safer Grant, which would help cover paramedic costs for three years. David replied that the city does not have a response to the grant request, but it would be the preferred funding source.

ADJOURN: Councilman Halverson moved to adjourn the Council Meeting at 6:44 p.m. Councilwoman Alberts seconded the motion. Mayor Sjoblom called for the vote. Council Members Alberts, Halverson, Petty, Soderquist, and Winsor voted aye. The motion carried.

APPROVED: Date 09-14-2021 Mayor: Jo Sjoblom riber: Michelle Clark

Attest:

City Recorder: Lisa Smith