



City of Mesquite, Texas

Legislative File

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File Name: Proposed Ad Valorem Tax Rate

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Final Action:

Title: Consider calling public hearings for August 21, 2017, and September 5, 2017, to set the ad valorem tax rate for the fiscal year 2017-18.

Agenda Date: 08/07/2017

Agenda Number: 17

Text of Legislative File 17-2863

Title

Consider calling public hearings for August 21, 2017, and September 5, 2017, to set the ad valorem tax rate for the fiscal year 2017-18.

Body

State law requires publishing special notices and conducting two public hearings before adoption of a tax rate, if the tax rate exceeds the effective tax rate. The effective tax rate is defined as the tax rate that would produce the same amount of property tax revenue as last year based on the value of the same properties listed on the tax rolls. The City's calculated effective tax rate is \$0.63222 per \$100 of assessed valuation. The proposed tax rate is \$0.68700 per \$100 of assessed valuation.

State law also requires at least 60 percent of the members of the governing body to vote in favor of an ordinance setting a property tax rate that exceeds the effective rate. Therefore, at least five members (60 percent) of the City Council will need to vote in favor of the proposed tax rate. If the required 60 percent majority vote in favor of the proposed tax rate cannot be reached, then by State law, the City's tax rate for fiscal year 2017-18 will become the effective rate of \$0.63222 and this action would require a \$3.4 million reduction in the proposed budget for the General Fund.

In order to adopt the tax rate at the September 18, 2017, City Council meeting, staff recommends the following proposed calendar of action items.

PROPOSED CALENDAR FOR TAX RATE ADOPTION

8/7/17 Set Proposed Tax Rate and Dates for Public Hearings on the Tax Rate

8/10/17 Publish Effective Tax Rate

Publish Notice of Public Hearings on Tax Increase

8/21/17 Hold First Public Hearing to Discuss Tax Rate

9/5/17 Hold Second Public Hearing to Discuss Tax Rate

9/14/17 Publish Notice of Vote on Tax Rate

9/18/17 Adopt Tax Rate

Recommended/Desired Action

Staff recommends calling the public hearings for August 21, 2017, and September 5, 2017. A motion must be read at the August 7, 2017, City Council meeting as follows; “I _____ (council member) move that property taxes be increased by the adoption of a tax rate of \$0.687 cents per \$100 of valuation. The public hearings to consider this rate will be held on August 21, 2017, at 7:00 p.m. and September 5, 2017, at 7:00 p.m.”

Drafter

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