



City Council Public Hearing
2020 Ad Valorem Tax
October 29, 2019

A. SUBJECT OF HEARING –

Setting of the 2020 Ad Valorem levies for General Property and the Emergency Medical Services taxes.

B. BACKGROUND

RCW 84.55.120: Public hearing – Taxing district's revenue sources – Adoption of tax increase by ordinance or resolution. A taxing district, other than the state, that collects regular levies shall hold a public hearing on revenue sources for the district's following year's current expense budget. The hearing must include consideration of possible increases in property tax revenues and shall be held prior to the time the taxing district levies the taxes or makes the request to have the taxes levied. The county legislative authority, or the taxing district's governing body if the district is a city, town, or other type of district, shall hold the hearing. For purposes of this section, "current expense budget" means that budget which is primarily funded by taxes and charges and reflects the provision of ongoing services. It does not mean the capital, enterprise, or special assessment budgets of cities, towns, counties, or special purpose districts.

If the taxing district is otherwise required to hold a public hearing on its proposed regular tax levy, a single public hearing may be held on this matter.

No increase in property tax revenue, other than that resulting from the addition of new construction, increases in assessed value due to construction of electric generation wind turbine facilities classified as personal property, and improvements to property and any increase in the value of state-assessed property, may be authorized by a taxing district, other than the state, except by adoption of a separate ordinance or resolution, pursuant to notice, specifically authorizing the increase in terms of both dollars and percentage. The ordinance or resolution may cover a period of up to two years, but the ordinance shall specifically state for each year the dollar increase and percentage change in the levy from the previous year. [2014 c 4 § 5; 2006 c 184 § 6; 1997 c 3 § 209 (Referendum Bill No. 47, approved November 4, 1997); 1995 c 251 § 1.]