

FEB 12 2018

TOWN OF SOUTH PRAIRIE, WASHINGTON
ORDINANCE NO. 563-2018

AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF SOUTH PRAIRIE, PIERCE COUNTY, WASHINGTON, PROVIDING FOR THE SUBMISSION TO THE QUALIFIED ELECTORS OF THE TOWN, AT AN ELECTION TO BE HELD WITHIN THE TOWN ON APRIL 24, 2018, IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE STATE SPECIAL ELECTION TO BE HELD ON THE SAME DATE, A PROPOSITION AUTHORIZING THE PERMANENT LEVY OF A REGULAR PROPERTY TAX IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED FIFTY (50) CENTS PER THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$1,000.00) OF THE TRUE AND ASSESSED VALUATION EACH YEAR BEGINNING IN 2019 TO BE COLLECTED IN 2019 AND EACH YEAR THEREAFTER FOR THE PROVISION OF BASIC AND ADVANCED EMERGENCY MEDICAL CARE AND SERVICES, INCLUDING PERSONNEL COSTS, TRAINING FOR SUCH PERSONNEL, AND RELATED EQUIPMENT, SUPPLIES, VEHICLES AND STRUCTURES, ESTABLISHING A REFERENDUM PROCEDURE PROVIDING FOR AN ACCOUNTING OF THE USE OF THE PROCEEDS, PROVIDING A SEVERABILITY CLAUSE AND ESTABLISHING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, RCW 84.52.069 authorizes cities and towns to permanently impose an additional regular property tax levy of up to fifty cents per one thousand dollars of assessed valuation in order to provide emergency medical care and services; and

WHEREAS, the Town Council did have approved by the electors in a regular tax levy in the amount equal to fifty cents per one thousand dollars of assessed value of property to augment the cost of emergency medical care and services; and

WHEREAS, that levy ended with the 2017 tax year; and

WHEREAS, a stable source of funds will ensure emergency medical care and services and will ensure that such services can be continuously provided, and thus, be in the best interest of the public health, safety and welfare; and

WHEREAS, in order for the Town of South Prairie to impose a permanent levy pursuant to RCW 84.52.069, it must obtain approval of the qualified voters of the Town and the Town Council has therefor determined to submit a proposition to the qualified voters authorizing a permanent levy at a rate not to exceed fifty cents per one thousand dollars of assessed valuation at the special election to be held on April 24, 2018;

NOW, THEREFORE, THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF SOUTH PRAIRIE ORDAINS AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Calling of Election. The Town Council requests that the Auditor of Pierce County, Washington, as the *ex officio* supervisor of elections, call and conduct

an election in the Town, in the manner provided by law, to be held therein on April 24, 2018, for the purpose of submitting to the qualified electors of the Town for their approval or rejection, the question of whether or not a permanent additional regular property tax levy shall be made in 2018, for collection in 2019 and each year thereafter, a general tax on taxable property in the Town in an amount of up to fifty cents per one thousand dollars of the true and assessed valuation of the Town, in order to provide emergency medical care and services within the Town.

Section 2. Ballot Proposition. The Town Clerk is authorized and directed to certify, no later than February 23, 2018, to the Auditor, as *ex officio* supervisor of elections in the Town, a copy of this ordinance and the proposition to be submitted at that election in the form of ballot title prepared by the Town’s Attorney as follows:

**TOWN OF SOUTH PRAIRIE
PROPOSITION NO. 1
EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES LEVY
PROPERTY TAX LEVY**

Will the Town of South Prairie be authorized to impose a PERMANENT regular property tax levy of fifty (50) cents or less per one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00) of assessed valuation to provide basic and advanced emergency medical care and services?

YES
NO

The Town Clerk and Town Attorney are authorized to make such minor adjustments to the wording of such proposition as may be recommended by the Pierce County Auditor, as long as the intent of the proposition remains clear and as approved by the Town Council.

Section 3. Referendum. A referendum petition to repeal the ordinance which imposes the permanent levy may be filed at any time with the Town Clerk. Within ten (10) days, the Town Clerk must confer with the petitioner concerning form and style of the petition, issue the petition an identification number, and secure an accurate, concise and positive ballot title from the Pierce County Auditor. The petitioner has thirty (30) days in which to secure the signatures of not less than fifteen percent (15%) of the registered voters of the Town, as of the last general election, upon petition forms which contain the ballot title and the full text of the measure to be referred. The Town Clerk or designee must verify the sufficiency of the signatures on the petition and, if sufficient valid signatures are properly submitted, must certify the referendum measure to the next election within the Town if one is to be held within one hundred eighty days (180) from the date of filing of the referendum petition, or at a special election to be called for that purpose in accordance with RCW 29A.04.330. Pursuant to RCW 84.52.069(4)(b), the referendum procedure provided herein is exclusive in all instances and supersedes

the procedures provided under all other statutory or charter provisions for initiative or referendum which might otherwise apply.

Section 4. Use of Funds. If the proposition set forth above is passed by the voters of the Town, any and all funds generated as the result of the tax imposed shall be used only for the provision of emergency medical care and emergency medical services, including related personnel costs, training for such personnel, and related equipment, supplies, vehicles and structures needed for the provision of emergency medical care and emergency medical services.

Section 5. Separate Accounting. If the proposition is passed, the Mayor and staff are directed to establish for a separate accounting of all expenditures of revenues generated by the levy. The Town shall maintain a statement of the accounting and update the accounting at least every two years. The statement of accounting shall be available to the public upon request at no charge.

Section 6 Severability. If any provision of this ordinance is declared by any court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid, then such provision shall be null and void and shall be severable from the remaining portions of this ordinance, and shall in no way affect the validity of the other provisions of this ordinance.

Section 7. Effective Date. This Ordinance shall be in full force and effect upon passage and signatures hereon. A summary of this Ordinance consisting of the title may be published in lieu of publishing the Ordinance in its entirety.

PASSED by the Town Council of the Town of South Prairie this 6th day of February, 2018

TOWN OF SOUTH PRAIRIE


MAYOR, STU TERRY

ATTEST/AUTHENTICATED:

By: 
TOWN CLERK



APPROVED AS TO FORM:

By: 
TOWN ATTORNEY