

**TOWN OF EATONVILLE, WASHINGTON**  
**RESOLUTION 2023-Z**

A RESOLUTION of the Town of Eatonville, Washington, relating to regular property taxes; providing for the submission to the qualified electors of the Town at a special election to be held in conjunction with the state general election on November 7, 2023, of a proposition authorizing the Town to levy regular property taxes in excess of the limitations of Chapter 84.55 RCW; setting forth the text of the ballot proposition; directing Town officials to take necessary actions; and providing for other properly related matters.

**WHEREAS**, in the judgment of the Town Council of the Town of Eatonville (Town Council), the protection of the public health, safety, life, and property of the citizens of the Town of Eatonville (Town) requires the maintenance of minimum service levels of fire and emergency services; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town Council has determined that accelerated demands and increasing costs for fire safety and emergency services will necessitate the expenditure of revenues in excess of those which can be provided by the Town's regular property tax rate of \$1.70 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation, applicable to all taxable property located in the Town, as limited by Chapter 84.55 RCW as amended, which limits annual property tax increase to 1% over and above the previous year's tax revenues; and

**WHEREAS**, RCW 84.55.050 authorizes the 1% limit on annual increases to be exceeded with voter approval, commonly referred to as a "lid lift" election; and

**WHEREAS**, the electorate should be given the opportunity to decide whether the currently authorized levy rate should be increased one time to the rate authorized by this Resolution and whether the increased rate should serve as the levy base for purpose of applying the limit fact established by RCW 84.55.010 in subsequent years; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY the Town Council of Town of Eatonville, Washington, as follows:

Section 1. Recitals. The Town Council hereby adopts the foregoing Whereas clauses and findings and determinations in support of this Resolution.

Section 2. Purpose and Calling of Election. The Town Council finds that it is in the best interests of the Town to submit to the qualified voters of the Town, at a general election on November 7, 2023, a proposition authorizing the Town to increase its regular property tax levy for collection in 2024 by an amount greater than otherwise permitted under chapter 84.55 RCW for the purpose of helping to fund fire and emergency services. If this proposition is approved, the

RESOLUTION 2023-Z

Town Council will be authorized to adopt, in accordance with its regular budget process, an increased regular property tax as described in Section 3.

Section 3. Description of Ballot Measure. To fulfill the purpose identified in Section 2 of this ordinance, the Town Council seeks voter approval under RCW 84.55.050(1) for a levy lid lift. The proposed increase is estimated to result in an incremental increase in the regular property tax rate of \$0.60 per \$1,000 of assessed value, for a total estimated levy rate of \$2.30 per \$1,000 of assessed value to be levied in 2023 and collected in 2024. The dollar amount of the levy in 2023 shall be used for the purpose of computing the limitations for subsequent levies provided for under chapter 84.55 RCW.

Section 4. Ballot Proposition. The Auditor of Pierce County, Washington (the “Auditor”), as *ex officio* supervisor of elections, is hereby requested to call and conduct a special election in the Town, in the manner provided by law, to be held on the date identified in Section 2, for the purpose of submitting to the voters of the Town, a proposition in substantially the following form:

**Town of Eatonville, Washington**

**Proposition 1**

**Authorizing Increase in Property Tax Levy Rate to Help Fund  
Fire and Emergency Medical Services**

The Town Council has adopted Resolution 2023-Z concerning a proposition to help fund fire and emergency services.

If approved, this proposition authorizes the Town to increase the regular property tax rate by up to \$0.60/\$1,000, for a total estimated levy rate of \$2.30/\$1,000 assessed value to be levied in 2023 and collected in 2024. The 2023 levy amount shall be used to calculate subsequent levy limits.

Should this proposition be:

|          |                          |
|----------|--------------------------|
| Approved | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Rejected | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Section 5. Notices Relating to Ballot Proposition. For purposes of receiving notice of the exact language of the ballot proposition required by RCW 29A.36.080, the Town Council hereby designates: (a) Miranda Doll, Town Clerk (360-832-3361, townclerk@eatonville-wa.gov); and (b) legal counsel, McGavick Graves, PS (Gregory Jacoby, 253-627-1181, gaj@mcgavick.com) as the individuals to whom such notice should be provided.

Section 6. Authorization to Deliver Resolution and Perform Other Necessary Duties. The Clerk (or his/her designee) is authorized and directed, no later than August 1, 2023, to certify a copy of this resolution to the Auditor and to perform such other duties as are necessary or required by law to the end that the proposition described herein should appear on the ballot at the general election identified in Section 2 of this resolution.

RESOLUTION 2023-Z

Section 7. Severability. If any provision of this resolution shall be declared by any court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid, then such provision shall be null and void and shall be separable from the remaining provisions and shall in no way affect the validity of the other provisions, or of the levy or collection of the taxes authorized herein.

Section 8. Effective Date. This resolution shall take effect and be in force from and after its adoption, as provided by law.

**PASSED** by the Town Council of the Town of Eatonville and attested by the Clerk in authentication of such passage this 24<sup>th</sup> day of July 2023.

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David Baublits, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Miranda Doll, Town Clerk