

ORDINANCE NO. 1375

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF DES MOINES, WASHINGTON providing for the submission to the qualified voters of the City of Des Moines at an election to be held on May 16, 2006 of a proposition authorizing the City to increase its regular property tax levy annually for six consecutive years above the limit established in RCW 84.55.010 in order to provide funds to restore police department staffing to previous years' levels, setting forth the ballot proposition and directing the City Clerk to certify a copy of this ordinance to the King County Records & Elections Division. The proposition would approve a maximum regular property tax levy rate for 2007 of \$1.60/\$1,000 assessed valuation, authorize annual increases in the levy amount by 4 percent, thereby setting the limit factor at 104 percent for each of the five succeeding years, and increase the levy each year thereafter as allowed by Chapter 84.55 RCW.

WHEREAS, the City of Des Moines is an optional code city, located in King County, Washington, duly organized and existing pursuant to the laws of the state of Washington, and

WHEREAS, since 1999, due to budget shortfalls within the City of Des Moines General Fund, the Des Moines Police Department has cut seven (7) Patrol Officer positions, four (4) Community Service Officer positions, one (1) Record Specialist and a half(½)-time Animal Control Officer, and

WHEREAS, these cuts have severely impacted the Police Department's ability to provide basic and proactive police services to the community, and

WHEREAS, from 2000 to 2005, since staffing levels were cut, Part one Crimes (rape, robbery, murder, auto theft, arson, burglary, larceny, aggravated assault) have been increasing and there has been a steady increase in 911 calls for service, and

WHEREAS, an appropriate level of police service is essential to the goal of keeping the City of Des Moines a safe and liveable community, and

WHEREAS, an essential level of police service is a prerequisite for the City's Economic Development Strategy, and

WHEREAS, the City is authorized to levy a permanent regular property tax not to exceed \$1.60 per \$1,000 assessed valuation on the real property within the City, and

WHEREAS, the City has an unused portion of its permanent regular property tax authority, and

WHEREAS, the funds from the unused portion of the City's permanent regular property tax authority can be used to restore and support an essential level of public safety services, and

WHEREAS, in order to restore and support an essential level of public safety services to the community the City Council desires to allow the electors to vote to ratify or reject a proposition to raise the tax on real property within the City for the year 2007 to the authorized levy rate of \$1.60 per \$1,000 assessed valuation, and authorize annual increases in the levy amount by 4 percent, thereby setting the limit factor at 104 percent for each of the five succeeding years, and increase the

levy each year thereafter as allowed by Chapter 84.55 RCW; now, therefore,

THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF DES MOINES ORDAINS AS FOLLOWS:

Sec. 1. A Special Election is hereby requested to be held within the City of Des Moines on Tuesday, May 16, 2006 for the purpose of submitting to the qualified electors of the City, for their ratification or rejection, a proposition to raise the permanent regular property tax on real property within the City, from and after January 1, 2007, to \$1.60 per \$1,000.00 of assessed valuation, authorize annual increases in the levy amount by 4 percent, thereby setting the limit factor at 104 percent for each of the five succeeding years, and increase the levy each year thereafter as allowed by Chapter 84.55 RCW.

Sec. 2. The purpose of the proposition shall be to provide funds to restore police department staffing to previous years' levels.

Sec. 3. The proposition to be submitted to the electorate of the City shall read substantially as follows:

PROPOSITION

***The City Council of the City of Des Moines
Adopted Ordinance No. 1375 concerning voter
approval of its regular property tax levy.***

This proposition would approve an increase in the City's permanent regular property tax levy rate for 2007 to the authorized rate of \$1.60 per \$1,000 assessed valuation, authorize annual levy rate increases of 4 percent for each of the five succeeding years, and increase the levy rate thereafter by the maximum allowed by RCW 84.55. The purpose of the levy rate increase is to provide funds to restore police department staffing to previous years' levels.

Should this levy be approved? Yes No

Sec. 4. Severability - Construction.

(1) If a section, subsection, paragraph, sentence, clause, or phrase of this ordinance is declared unconstitutional or invalid for any reason by any court of competent jurisdiction; such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this ordinance.

(2) If the provisions of this ordinance are found to be inconsistent with other provisions of the Des Moines Municipal Code, this ordinance is deemed to control.

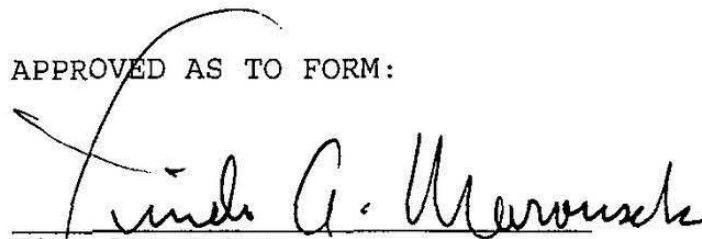
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Sec. 5. Effective date. This ordinance shall take effect and be in full force five (5) days after its passage, approval, and publication in accordance with law.


PASSED BY the City Council of the City of Des Moines this 9th day of March, 2006 and signed in authentication thereof this 9th day of March, 2006.


M A Y O R

APPROVED AS TO FORM:


City Attorney

ATTEST:


City Clerk

Published: March 14, 2006

LEGAL NOTICE

SUMMARY OF ADOPTED ORDINANCE

CITY OF DES MOINES

ORDINANCE NO. 1375, Adopted March 9, 2006.

DESCRIPTION OF MAIN POINTS OF THE ORDINANCE:

This ordinance provides for the submission to the qualified voters of the City of Des Moines at an election to be held on May 16, 2006 of a proposition authorizing the City to increase its regular property tax levy annually for six consecutive years above the limit established in RCW 84.55.010 in order to provide funds to restore police department staffing to previous years' levels, and sets forth the ballot proposition and directs the City Clerk to certify a copy of this ordinance to the King County Records & Elections Division. The proposition approves a maximum regular property tax levy rate for 2007 of \$1.60/\$1,000 assessed valuation, authorizes annual increases in the levy amount by 4 percent, thereby setting the limit factor at 104 percent for each of the five succeeding years, and increases the levy each year thereafter as allowed by Chapter 84.55 RCW.

The full text of the ordinance will be mailed without cost upon request.

Denis Staab
City Clerk

Published: March 14, 2006