

# RESOLUTIONS OF THE CITY OF HELENA, MONTANA

## RESOLUTION NO. 20431

### A RESOLUTION CALLING FOR AN ELECTION ON SUPPLEMENTAL FUNDING FOR THE FIRE DEPARTMENT FOR THE CITY OF HELENA, MONTANA

**WHEREAS**, the City Commission (the "City Commission") of the City of Helena (the "City") has reviewed the funding costs of the City's Fire Department and has determined that current funding levels for fire personnel and emergency medical services ("Fire Services") in the City is insufficient; and

**WHEREAS**, the City Commission has also determined that current funding levels for the capital needs of the City's Fire Department such as buildings, vehicles and related firefighting equipment (the "Capital Needs") of the City is insufficient; and

**WHEREAS**, the City is a public body and is authorized pursuant to Montana Code Annotated ("MCA"), Section 15-10-425, as amended, to impose a new mill levy or exceed the mill levy limit provided for in Section 15-10-420, MCA, by conducting an election authorizing such new mill levy for purposes determined by the City and the electors of the City approving any new levy; and

**WHEREAS**, Section 1.03 of the City Charter of the City also prohibits levying new taxes that were not in place prior to January 2001 without an affirmative vote of a majority of the

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electors in the City at an election; and

**WHEREAS**, the City's Fire Department is currently supported by the general mill levy funds paid by the property owners in the City per year in the approximate amount of \$4.4 million or 66.73 mills (not including capital expenses); and

**WHEREAS**, the City Commission has determined additional Fire Services and Capital Needs are needed for the residents of the City and the City intends to establish an annual supplemental fire department levy, permanently, in order to pay the permanent costs associated with delivering additional Fire Services (currently anticipated to be used for the hiring of approximately six additional firefighters) and helping to fund a portion of the costs of future Capital Needs of the City's Fire Department; and

**WHEREAS**, the City Commission has determined there is a need for a permanent levy increase of 13.65 mills or approximately \$900,000 (the "Fire Department Supplemental Levy") to increase funding for Fire Services and Capital Needs, to be adjusted annually subject to the limits established in 15-10-420(1)(a), MCA, for inflationary and new growth allowed in subsequent years; and

**WHEREAS**, Section 15-10-420 and 15-10-425, MCA, authorizes

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the City to request of the voters in the City limits, as amended, an increase in mill levies over and above current limitations.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF HELENA, MONTANA, AS FOLLOWS:**

1. Calling of the Election. The City Commission hereby calls and directs a mill levy election for the Fire Department Supplemental Levy to be held on June 5, 2018, for the purpose of voting on the following question:
2. Shall the City of Helena be authorized to permanently raise approximately 13.65 mills or approximately \$900,000 annually for the purpose of funding additional firefighters to provide fire and emergency medical services, and also fund capital and related equipment needs for the City's Fire Department? The permanent 13.65 mills or approximately \$900,000 will be adjusted annually, subject to the limits provided for in Montana Code Annotated, Section 15-10-420(1)(a), after the first year, allowing for inflationary growth and newly taxable growth.

The impact of the Fire Department Supplemental Levy on a residential home valued at \$100,000.00 is \$18.43 for

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the first year; and on a residential home valued at  
\$200,000.00 is \$36.85 for the first year.

**PASSED AND EFFECTIVE BY THE COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF  
HELENA, MONTANA, ADOPTED THIS 12TH DAY OF MARCH, 2018.**

/S/ WILMOT COLLINS  
MAYOR

**ATTEST:**

/S/ DEBBIE HAVENS  
CLERK OF THE COMMISSION

**Estimated Mills and Cost to Homeowner**

	Six Firefighters	Capital Levy	Totals	Six Firefighters	Capital Levy	Totals	Diff
<b>Amount of Levy</b>	\$ 600,000	\$ 150,000	\$ 750,000	\$ 600,000	\$ 300,000	\$ 900,000	
Mill Value (Tax Year 2018)	\$ 65,942	\$ 65,942		\$ 65,942	\$ 65,942		
<b># of Mills to Levy</b>	<b>9.10</b>	<b>2.27</b>	<b>11.37</b>	<b>9.10</b>	<b>4.55</b>	<b>13.65</b>	<b>2.27</b>
<b>Property Taxes for \$100,000 Home</b>							
Market Value	\$ 100,000	\$ 100,000		\$ 100,000	\$ 100,000		
Taxable Value Multiplier	1.35%	1.35%		1.35%	1.35%		
Taxable Value	\$ 1,350	\$ 1,350		\$ 1,350	\$ 1,350		
Divide By:	1,000	1,000		1,000	1,000		
Taxable Value per Mill	\$ 1.35	\$ 1.35		\$ 1.35	\$ 1.35		
<b>Calculated Total Property Tax</b> (Mills Levied X Taxable Value per Mill)	\$ 12.28	\$ 3.07	\$ 15.35	\$ 12.28	\$ 6.14	\$ 18.43	\$ 3.07
<b>Property Taxes for \$200,000 Home</b>							
Market Value	\$ 200,000	\$ 200,000		\$ 200,000	\$ 200,000		
Taxable Value Multiplier	1.35%	1.35%		1.35%	1.35%		
Taxable Value	\$ 2,700	\$ 2,700		\$ 2,700	\$ 2,700		
Divide By:	1,000	1,000		1,000	1,000		
Taxable Value per Mill	\$ 2.70	\$ 2.70		\$ 2.70	\$ 2.70		
<b>Calculated Total Property Tax</b> (Mills Levied X Taxable Value per Mill)	\$ 24.57	\$ 6.14	\$ 30.71	\$ 24.57	\$ 12.28	\$ 36.85	\$ 6.14