

**John Day City Council**  
**October 10, 2017**  
**7:00 PM**  
**Fire Station, 316 S. Canyon Blvd**  
**AGENDA**

1. **OPEN AND NOTE ATTENDANCE**
2. **APPROVAL OF CITY COUNCIL MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 26, 2017.**
3. **APPEARANCE OF INTERESTED CITIZENS** – At this time Mayor Lundbom will welcome the public and ask if there is anything they would like to add to tonight’s agenda.

**ACTION ITEMS**

4. **9-1-1 BALLOT MEASURE**
  - FAQ from League of Oregon Cities
5. **HOUSING DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT UPDATE & DLCD TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE GRANT**
  - Governor’s Housing RFI Response
  - DLCD Technical Assistance Grant Announcement

**OTHER BUSINESS**

6. **OTHER BUSINESS AND UPCOMING MEETINGS**
  - Assistance to Firefighters Grant Turndown Notice
  - Report on LOC Conference from City Manager
  - Report on October 9 Broadband Meeting with Local Internet Service Providers (ISPs)
  - Oct 12-16 – Trip to Tucson (University of Arizona Controlled Environment Ag. Course)
  - Oct 20 – Oregon Connections Telecom Conference – Panel Discussion on Digital Divide
  - Oct 24 – Public Hearings (Budget Resolution for Main Street Revitalization & Sale of City Property)
  - Nov 13 – 17 – Sustainable Water Site Visit / First Stop with DEQ
  - Nov 14 – November Council Meeting (only one)
  - Dec 12 – December City Council Meeting (only one)

**TO:** John Day City Council

**FROM:** Nicholas Green, City Manager

**DATE:** October 10, 2017

**SUBJECT:** Agenda Item #4: 9-1-1 Ballot Measure  
Attachment(s)

- FAQ from League of Oregon Cities

## **BACKGROUND**

On October 18, the County Clerk will mail ballot measure 12-69, *Local Option Tax to cover costs to operate 911 system*, to county voters. The Grant County Court referred the measure to voters in order to fund the 911 system not currently funded through the State-imposed telephone tax. This Measure may be passed only at an election with at least 50 percent voter turnout.

## **DISCUSSION**

Currently the John Day 911 Emergency Communications Center is funded through a combination of State imposed monthly tax of 75 cents per telephone line or, for prepaid wireless telecommunications services, 75 cents per retail transaction; and, through payments received from Grant County, City of John Day, the USDA Forest Service and Blue Mountain Hospital. With a current cost of operating the system of \$456,649, the current funding sources are not sufficient to operate the system. The County is referring to the voters a local option tax that is designed to create a sustainable public safety solution to retain local 9-1-1 dispatch capabilities.

If adopted, the local option tax will commence collection in the 2019 tax year and provide annual funding for the 9-1-1 center for up to five years. A local option levy of 38 cents per \$1000 assessed value would raise \$208,916 which sum is the approximate amount needed to cover the annual 9-1-1 center deficit. If the local option levy fails, the 9-1-1 center may need to be consolidated with another center.

The estimated tax cost for this Measure is an ESTIMATE ONLY based on the best information available from the County assessor at the time of estimate and may reflect the impact of early payment discounts, compression and the collection rate (ORS 280.075).

## **NEXT STEPS**

Due to the efforts of Senator Ferrioli, our community received a \$420,000 special appropriation in House Bill 5006 to bridge-fund the 9-1-1 Center to the 2019 biennium. These bridge funds were contingent on the County referring a measure to voters to fund 9-1-1 services locally beginning in 2019.

If the local measure passes, the County will have sufficient funding to provide local 9-1-1 services from 2019 through the year 2023. If it fails, the City will begin the process of consolidating the department. Consolidation could include insourcing a 9-1-1 center from an adjacent county (if a willing partner can be identified) or outsourcing our local 9-1-1 center to a regional provider like Frontier Regional 9-1-1 Agency, the 9-1-1 Public Safety Answering Point (PSAP) for Jefferson, Gilliam, Sherman and Wheeler Counties located in Condon.

The Chamber of Commerce is hosting a public information forum on October 18 at the Senior Citizens Community Center in John Day. This will be an open forum for residents to ask questions about the ballot.

## **FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**

*Who can campaign for (or against) the measure?*

Public employees are required to follow certain laws and regulations that do not apply to private employees. In Oregon, ORS 260.432 prohibits public employees from engaging in political activity while on the job during working hours. However, these restrictions do not apply to elected officials. City Councilors are permitted to campaign on behalf of a specific ballot measure and may contribute financially to a political action committee for or against a specific ballot measure (see FAQ enclosed).

*What will happen to my 9-1-1 service if the local option tax fails?*

Grant County residents will still have 9-1-1 service. However, this measure may determine whether they have 9-1-1 service provided by local dispatchers.

*How much will the tax cost me?*

Approximately 38 cents per \$1,000 assessed value. For a home with a \$100,000 assessed value, the estimated cost per year will be \$38. Costs per household can only be estimated due to the effects of compression, early payment discounts, and the collection rate.

*Who runs the 9-1-1 Center currently?*

The City of John Day operates and maintains the 9-1-1 Center for Grant County.

*How much does it cost to operate and maintain the 9-1-1 Center?*

The FY2017-18 budgeted cost to operate the 9-1-1 Center was \$456,649, which consists of \$408,189 in Personnel Services and \$48,460 in Materials and Services.

*How has the 9-1-1 Center been funded in the past?*

Grant County receives approximately \$250,000 annually from the state-imposed telephone tax. The balance of the cost to operate and maintain the center has historically been funded through payments received from Grant County, the City of John Day, the USDA Forest Service and Blue Mountain Hospital. In FY2016-17, the approximate funding allocation was as follows:

\$103,162 – John Day  
\$79,198 – Grant County  
\$14,628 – Ambulance (Blue Mountain Hospital District)  
\$4,809 – Umatilla National Forest (USDA Forest Service)  
\$2,027 – Malheur National Forest (USDA Forest Service)  
\$2,500 – City and Rural Fire Departments  
\$206,324 – Total Local Funding in FY2016-17

*Where can I go to learn more?*

The City of John Day website contains additional information on the 9-1-1 Center. Click on “Latest News” or visit <http://www.cityofjohnday.com/ecc>.

**TO:** John Day City Council

**FROM:** Nicholas Green, City Manager

**DATE:** October 10, 2017

**SUBJECT:** Agenda Item #5: Housing Development District Update & DLDC Technical Assistance Grant  
Attachment(s)

- Governor's Housing RFI Response
- DLCD Technical Assistance Grant Announcement

## **BACKGROUND**

The Governor's Regional Solutions Team released a request for information (RFI) to solicit input on how to address the State's workforce housing shortage. The goal of this RFI is to further refine the tools techniques and ideas on new ways to partner with communities, the business sector and private housing developers to address the workforce housing shortage in Oregon.

I submitted the enclosed RFI response as authorized by the City Council during the September 12 Council meeting. The response consolidates feedback solicited from local business leaders, public sector officials, real estate developers, builders, financial institutions and other interested stakeholders who have participated in prior City Council discussions on housing shortages in our community. The response presents our proposal to incentivize new home construction in John Day through the creation of a Housing Development District under ORS Chapter 457 – Urban Renewal.

## **DISCUSSION**

Over the past eight months, I have worked closely with industry professionals, academic advisors and state and local officials to create a viable plan to address John Day's shortage of workforce housing. Elements of this plan were presented publicly at City Council meetings on April 25 and September 12. On September 29, I presented the plan to over a hundred city officials at the League of Oregon Cities Annual Conference during my breakout session on *Visioning, Strategic Planning and Goal Setting*.

The plan calls for making minor revisions to ORS Chapter 457 in order to create a perpetual investment fund to incentive new home construction. If approved, the approach will allow the City to provide cash incentives of up to 10% of a new home's assessed value to encourage private sector development, with 100% of the financial outlay returning to the City through its Housing Development District.

## **FUNDING**

Implementing the Housing Development District will require the City to conduct a feasibility study, develop an urban renewal plan and create an agency to govern the district. The estimated cost for technical assistance, consulting fees and administrative expenses to create the district is \$43,500.

The Department of Land Conservation and Development (DLCD) has issued a technical assistance (TA) grant request with responses due on October 13 (see enclosure). The TA grant specifically funds efforts to promote the provision of affordable and workforce housing and projects directly related to increasing economic development opportunities. Matching funds are not mandatory for an application to be successful, but a demonstration of local commitment can tip the balance in favor of some proposals.

Applications must include a resolution or letter from the governing body of the city demonstrating support for the project. If the applicant is a council of governments on behalf of a city, a letter or resolution from the city council supporting the application must be included. The letter of support may be received by DLCD after the application submittal deadline, but it must be received before a grant is awarded.

## **RECOMMENDATION**

The DLCD Grant provides an ideal opportunity to fund the creation of our proposed Housing Development District. The funding will assist with consulting costs and administrative expenses to conduct the feasibility study, develop the urban renewal plan, and travel to John Day to host public outreach and stakeholder feedback meetings as required by ORS Chapter 457.

Council should move to authorize the City Manager to submit the DLCD grant application and approve Mayor Lundbom to submit a letter of support for the application.

**TO:** John Day City Council

**FROM:** Nicholas Green, City Manager

**DATE:** October 10, 2017

**SUBJECT:** Agenda Item #6: Other Business  
Attachment(s)

- Turndown Notice from FEMA
- LOC Bulletins

#### **OTHER BUSINESS**

- Report on LOC Conference from City Manager
- Turndown Notice from FEMA on Assistance to Firefighters Grant
- Report on October 9 Broadband Meeting with Local Internet Service Providers (ISPs)

#### **UPCOMING MEETINGS**

- Oct 12-16 – Trip to Tucson (University of Arizona Controlled Environment Ag. Course)
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