

## SPECIAL MEETING

The Fairbank City Council met in special session on Monday April 8, 2024. Mayor Kayser called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM. Members present: R. Woods, Williams, Erickson, T. Woods, and Hyde. Absent: None. Also, present at City Hall: Dakota Drish, Police Chief; Brian Delagardelle, Water/Wastewater Operator; Nick Kuker, Public Works; Michelle Laube, Deputy Clerk; and Brittany Fuller, City Clerk.

Motion by Williams, second by T. Woods to approve the agenda. Roll call vote- Ayes: William, T. Woods, R. Woods, Hyde, and Erickson. Nays: None.

Motion by Erickson, second by R. Woods to open the public hearing on the Proposed Property Tax Levy for fiscal year 2024-2025. Motion carried. There were no written or oral comments received before the meeting. Five residents were present wanting clarification about the mailing that the County Auditors mailed out to all property tax owners and the reason for such an increase. Due to the passing of House File 718 in 2023, there were many changes made to the budget process for this next year. One of them being an annual mailed hearing notice to each owner of taxable property in March which would provide a large amount of information in the hopes to educate taxpayers about the upcoming budget. It was explained that the notices showed the max that was possible to levy for and that the increase in the proposed tax levy was showing a levy amount only if the council chose to levy for the full amount of liability, property and self-insurance costs and other employee benefits. The council could levy for less when passing the final budget but would not be able to raise it any higher than what was published on the Proposed Property Tax Levy. The notice showed a projected \$1.26 increase from \$9.15 last year to the projected max of \$10.41 but then also showed an overall decrease in the amount that would be owed for taxes of 3.40%. This was due to a significant drop in the residential rollback and due to the calculations not considering any increases in valuations although everyone has seen increases in their valuations this last year. The council assured the residents that they were considering leaving the rate the same as last year or possibly even lowering it some and they would be looking at that later in the night at the next meeting. Questions regarding the school's numbers were asked but the information would need to be addressed at the school's scheduled public hearing. Motion by Williams, second by T. Woods to close the public hearing. Motion carried.

Motion by T. Woods, second by R. Woods to adjourn the meeting at 6:07 PM. Motion carried.

---

Jason Kayser, Mayor

---

Brittany Fuller, City Clerk