ORDINANCE NO. 2012-9
(AS AMENDED)

AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN OF EATONVILLE, PIERCE COUNTY, WASHINGTON, RELATING TO FUNDING FOR GENERAL MAINTENANCE AND OPERATION COSTS WITH PROPERTY TAXES; PROVIDING FOR THE SUBMISSION TO THE QUALIFIED ELECTORS OF THE TOWN AT THE STATEWIDE GENERAL ELECTION TO BE HELD NOVEMBER 6, 2012, A PROPOSITION AUTHORIZING THE TOWN OF EATONVILLE FOR A SPECIAL EXCESS LEVY TO COVER GENERAL MAINTENANCE AND OPERATION COSTS; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY, RATIFICATION OF PAST CONSISTENT ACTIONS, AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE

WHEREAS, the Town of Eatonville has suffered from decreased revenues as a result of a slow economy and declining property values;

WHEREAS, the Pierce County Assessor has advised the Town that property values, and consequently Town revenue, will decrease by up to 16 percent in 2013;

WHEREAS, the Town currently levies property taxes at the maximum statutory rate;

WHEREAS, Article VII, § 2(a) of the Washington State Constitution authorizes the Town of Eatonville to submit to the Town's qualified voters a proposition for an increased property tax levy beyond statutory and constitutional limits,

WHEREAS, providing public safety to the public as a whole is a priority of the Town of Eatonville's Administration and Council and expected revenues for 2013 will be insufficient to provide the same level of public safety to the Town's citizens;

THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Council of the Town of Eatonville as follows:

Section 1. A proposition authorizing the Town to levy an increase of $161,048.11 in property taxes to cover the Town's general expenses, consistent with the budget adopted by the Town Council, shall be submitted to the qualified electors of the Town at the a general election to be held November 6, 2012. The Pierce County Auditor is hereby requested to assume jurisdiction of and to call and conduct such election and to submit to the qualified electors of the Town the proposition set forth in Section 2 below. The Mayor and/or Town Attorney are authorized to modify the proposition as directed by Pierce County Auditor. The Town Clerk is hereby directed to certify the proposition set forth in Section 2 and forward the proposition to the Pierce County Auditor, and to do so not later than August 7, 2012 as provided by RCW 29A.04.321.

Section 2. The proposition to be submitted to the voters shall be in substantially the following form:

TOWN OF EATONVILLE – PROPOSITION 1

The Eatonville Town Council passed Ordinance 2012-9 to ask voters to authorize an excess property tax levy to occur in 2013 to provide $161,048.11, estimated to be an additional $1.00 per $1,000 in assessed value, for a total estimated rate of $4.60 per $1,000 in assessed value. The funds raised by this levy would be used to cover the Town's general expenses, consistent with the budget adopted by the Town Council. Should this measure pass?

YES ☐ NO ☐

Section 3. If any clause, sentence, paragraph, section, or part of this ordinance of the application thereof to any person or circumstance shall be adjudged by any court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid, such order or judgment shall be confined in its operation to the controversy in which it was rendered and shall not affect or invalidate the remainder of any parts thereof to any person or circumstances and to this end the provisions of each clause, sentence, paragraph, section or part of this law are hereby declared to be severable.

Section 4. Any act consistent with the authority and prior to the effective date of this ordinance is hereby ratified and affirmed.

Section 5. This ordinance shall take effect after publication of a summary, consisting of the title, pursuant to RCW 35.27.300.

1ST READING: 07/09/2012
2ND READING: 07/23/2012

Passed by the Council of the Town of Eatonville at a regular meeting held this _____ day of _____, 2012.

_____
Ray Harper, Mayor

ATTEST:

_____
Town Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

_____

Town Attorney