**TOWN OF ODESSA, WASHINGTON**

**Resolution No.** 2024-08

 A Resolution of the Town Council of the Town of Odessa, Washington, relating to regular property taxes; providing for the submission to the qualified electors of the Town at a special election to be held in conjunction with the state primary election on August 6, 2024, of a proposition authorizing the Town to levy regular property taxes in excess of the limitations of ch. 84.55 RCW; setting forth the text of the ballot proposition; directing proper Town officials to take necessary actions; and providing for other properly related matters.

 BE IT RESOLVED BY the Town Council of the Town of Odessa, Washington, as follows:

 **Section 1**. Recitals. The Town Council (the “Council”) of Town of Odessa, Washington (the “Town”), hereby makes the following findings and determinations:

 (a) RCW 84.55.050(1) provides for the levy of regular property taxes in an amount exceeding the limitations specified in chapter 84.55 RCW if such increase levy is authorized by a proposition approved by a majority of the voters at general election held within the taxing district (a “levy lid lift”).

 (b) The Council has determined that it is essential and necessary for the public health, safety and welfare that the Town raise additional funds to support the Odessa Police Department and Law Enforcement services.

 (c) The Council has determined that the current revenues available to the Town are insufficient to provide for this purpose, and has therefore determined that it is in the best interests of the Town and its residents to submit this levy lid lift proposition to the voters for their approval or rejection.

 **Section 2.** Purpose and Calling of Election. The Town Council finds that it is in the best interests of the Town to submit to the qualified voters of the Town, at a special election to be held in conjunction with the state primary election on August 6, 2024, a proposition authorizing the Town to increase its regular property tax levy for collection in 2025 by an amount greater than otherwise permitted under chapter 84.55 RCW for the exclusive purpose of funding the Odessa Police Department and Law Enforcement services. If this proposition is approved, the Town Council will be authorized to adopt, in accordance with its regular budget process, an increased regular property tax as described in Section 3.

 **Section 3.** Description of Ballot Measure. To fulfill the exclusive purpose identified in Section 2 of this Resolution, the Town Council seeks voter approval under RCW 84.55.050 for a levy lid lift. The proposed increase is estimated to result in an incremental increase in the regular property tax rate of $0.825 per $1,000 of assessed value, for a total estimated levy rate of $3.375 per $1,000 of assessed value for collection in 2025. The dollar amount of the levy in 2025 shall be used for the purpose of computing the limitations for subsequent levies provided for under chapter 84.55 RCW.

 **Section 4.** Ballot Proposition. The Auditor of Lincoln County, Washington (the “Auditor”), as ex officio supervisor of elections, is hereby requested to call and conduct a special election in the Town, in the manner provided by law, to be held on the date identified in Section 2, for the purpose of submitting to the voters of the Town, a proposition in substantially the following form:

**Town of Odessa, Washington**

**Proposition 1**

**Levy Lid Lift for Odessa Police Department and Law Enforcement Services**

The Town Council has adopted Resolution No. concerning funding for the Odessa Police Department and Law Enforcement services. If approved, this proposition shall fund the Odessa Police Department and Law Enforcement services. This proposition authorizes a 2025 regular property tax rate increase of $0.825/$1000, for a total estimated levy rate of $3.375/$1000 assessed value. The 2025 levy amount shall be used to calculate subsequent levy limits. Should this proposition be:

 APPROVED

 REJECTED

 **Section 5.** Notices Relating to Ballot Propositions. For purpose of receiving notice of the exact language of the ballot proposition required by the Town Council hereby designates: (a) Meri Jane Bohn, City Clerk, (509-982-2401, MJ.bohn@odessawa.org); and (b) legal counsel, McGuire, DeWulf, Kragt & Johnson, P.S., (Mark DeWulf, 509-982-2672, mark@mdkjlaw.com) as the individuals to whom such notices should be provided.

 **Section 6.** Authorization to Deliver Resolution & Perform Other Necessary Duties. The Clerk (or his/her designee) is authorized and directed, no later than May 3, 2024 at 3:00pm, to certify a copy of this Resolution to the Auditor and to perform such other duties as are necessary or required by law to the end that the proposition described herein should appear on the ballot at the special election identified in Section 2 of this Resolution.

 **Section 7.** Severability. If any provisions of this Resolution shall be declared by any court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid, then such provisions shall be null and void and shall be separable from the remaining provisions and shall in no way affect the validity of the other provisions, or of the levy or collection of the taxes authorized herein.

 **Section 8.** Effective Date. The Resolution shall take effect and be in force immediately after its passage.

 PASSED by the Town Council and APPROVED by the Mayor of the Town of Odessa, Washington, at a special open public meeting thereof this 29th day of April, 2024.

 William Crossley, Mayor

ATTEST:

Meri Jane Bohn, City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Mark DeWulf, Town Attorney