

BILL NO. \_\_\_\_\_

ORDINANCE NO. \_\_\_\_\_

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CITY'S CURRENT USE TAX TO ALLOW FUNDING TO BE UTILIZED FOR ALL SWORN POLICE DEPARTMENT PERSONNEL AND EQUIPMENT; AND PROVIDING FOR SUBMISSION OF THE PROPOSAL TO THE QUALIFIED VOTERS OF THE CITY FOR THEIR APPROVAL AT THE SPECIAL ELECTION CALLED AND TO BE HELD IN THE CITY ON NOVEMBER 2<sup>ND</sup>, 2021, AND PROPOSING THE FORM OF THE BALLOTS TO BE EMPLOYED AT SAID ELECTION AND DIRECTING THE CITY CLERK TO DO ALL THINGS CALLED FOR BY LAW IN CONNECTION WITH THE HOLDING OF SAID ELECTION.

WHEREAS, pursuant to Ordinance No. 19011, and approved by the qualified voters of the City on August 6, 2019, the City currently imposes a local use tax at the rate of 2.25%; and,

WHEREAS, the local use tax has been dedicated to funding a no-kill animal shelter and additional police officers for the Independence Police Department; and,

WHEREAS, in order to improve public safety services and fully utilize the revenue generated by the local use tax, the City has determined that the police portion of the local use tax should be available for all sworn Police Department personnel and equipment; and

WHEREAS, amending the local use tax to allow for funding all sworn Police Department personnel and equipment would not have any effect on how other funding is approved or utilized, including funds dedicated to the animal shelter; and

WHEREAS, once the funding needs related to the animal shelter and sworn Police Department personnel and equipment are met, with the Police Department portion capped at \$4 Million annually, to be increased each year based on the Consumer Price Index, the remainder of the local use tax shall flow into City funds in the same manner as the City's total local sales tax is allocated; and

WHEREAS, amending how the local use tax revenue is utilized requires approval by the qualified voters of the City; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF INDEPENDENCE, MISSOURI, AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. The rate of the tax, currently set at two and one quarter percent (2.25%), shall not be changed by approval of this ballot question. If any City sales tax is repealed or the rate thereof is reduced or raised by voter approval, the City use tax rate also shall be deemed to be repealed, reduced or raised by the same action repealing, reducing, or raising the city sales tax.

SECTION 2. This ballot question shall be submitted to the qualified voters of Independence, Missouri, for their approval, as required by the provisions of Section 144.757 RSMo, at the Special Election hereby called and to be held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of November, 2021. The ballot of submission shall contain substantially the following language:

SAMPLE BALLOT  
FOR SPECIAL ELECTION  
IN THE CITY OF INDEPENDENCE, MISSOURI  
ON TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 2<sup>ND</sup>, 2021

Shall the local use tax currently imposed by the City of Independence, Missouri, which is dedicated to a no-kill animal shelter and funding additional police officers, be amended to allow for the funding of all sworn police personnel and equipment? Voting in favor of this question will not result in any tax increase or decrease the current general fund percentage allocation for the police department and the no-kill animal shelter.

Yes ☐

No ☐

INSTRUCTIONS TO VOTERS

If you are in favor of the question, place an “X” in the box opposite “Yes”. If you are opposed to the questions, place an “X” in the box opposite “No”.

SECTION 3. This Ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after the date of its passage and approval.

PASSED THIS \_\_\_\_\_ DAY OF \_\_\_\_\_, 2021, BY THE CITY COUNCIL  
OF THE CITY OF INDEPENDENCE, MISSOURI.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Presiding Officer of the City Council  
of the City of Independence, Missouri

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGALITY:

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Acting City Counselor

REVIEWED BY:

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City Manager