

## RESOLUTION NO 17-15

### RESOLUTION SCHEDULING AN ELECTION FOR A REFERENDUM TO EXCEED THE LEVY LIMIT FOR PUBLIC SAFETY EXPENSES

**WHEREAS**, the State of Wisconsin has imposed limits on town, village, city and county property tax levies for 2017 under Wis. Stat. sec. 66.0602; and

**WHEREAS**, Wis. Stat. sec. 66.0602 limits the increase in 2017 to the local property tax levy to no more than the greater of (a) 0% of last year's actual levy or (b) a percentage equal to the percentage change in equalized value due to new construction less improvements removed; which for the City of South Milwaukee is .09 percent; and

**WHEREAS**, the Common Council of the City of South Milwaukee, Milwaukee County believes it is in the city's best interest to exceed the state levy limit as described above by a greater percentage than .09; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of South Milwaukee actual levy in 2016 (collected in 2017) was \$10,764,454; and state law would limit the increase to \$9,688 for a total allowable 2017 (collected in 2018) city tax levy of \$10,774,142; and

**WHEREAS**, a continuing decline in outside funding for paramedic services has created an unsustainable gap in the City's budget that continues to grow. Raising the statutory levy limit will allow the City to preserve these services, which are essential to the health, safety and welfare of the citizens of South Milwaukee; and

**WHEREAS**, adding two additional police officer positions will enhance the police department's ability to fulfill all of the department's response and preventative responsibilities. Raising the statutory levy limit will allow the City to enhance these services, which are essential to the health, safety and welfare of the citizens of South Milwaukee.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** by the Common Council of the City of South Milwaukee, Milwaukee County, Wisconsin, that:

The Common Council hereby supports an increase in the city tax levy for 2017 (to be collected in 2018) to exceed the state levy limit. The Common Council intends that the levy increase be applied on an ongoing basis by including it in the base used to calculate the limit for 2018 as well.

The Common Council directs that the question of increasing the city tax levy for 2017 (to be collected in 2018) by 5.73 percent, which would increase the city levy by \$616,641 over the past year's levy, for a city tax levy of \$11,381,095, shall be submitted to the electors in a referendum pursuant to Wis. Stat. sec. 66.0602(4) at a special

referendum election to be held on November 7, 2017.

Adopted and recorded August 15, 2017.

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ERIK BROOKS, Mayor

ATTEST:

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JAMES SHELENSKE, City Clerk

ADOPTED: August 15, 2017

APPROVED: August 16, 2017

PUBLISHED: August 24, 2017