TOWN OF CARBONADO, WASHINGTON

ORDINANCE NO. 418

AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF CARBONADO, PIERCE COUNTY, WASHINGTON, PROVIDING FOR THE SUBMISSION TO THE QUALIFIED ELECTORS OF THE TOWN, AT AN ELECTION TO BE HELD WITHIN THE TOWN ON NOVEMBER 4, 2014, A PROPOSITION AUTHORIZING THE TOWN TO REPLACE THE EXISTING PERMANENT EMS LEVY OF $0.39 PER $1000.00 OF ASSESSED VALUE WITH A NEW LEVY OF A REGULAR PROPERTY TAX IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED $0.50 PER $1,000.00) OF THE ASSESSED VALUATION, IN ADDITION TO ITS REGULAR PROPERTY TAX LEVY, AS AUTHORIZED IN RCW 84.52.069, EACH YEAR FOR SIX CONSECUTIVE YEARS, TO BE LEVIED FIRST IN 2015, AND TO BE COLLECTED IN EACH YEAR SUCCEEDING THE YEAR OF THE LEVY. SAID LEVY SHALL PROVIDE FUNDS REQUIRED BY THE TOWN FOR THE CONTINUED PROVISION OF EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES, INCLUDING PERSONNEL COSTS, TRAINING FOR SUCH PERSONNEL, AND RELATED EQUIPMENT, SUPPLIES AND VEHICLES.

WHEREAS, RCW 84.52.069 authorizes towns to temporarily impose an additional regular property tax levy of up to fifty cents per one thousand dollars of assessed valuation in order to provide emergency medical services; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Carbonado's voters approved a permanent regular tax levy in November 2003 in the amount equal to thirty-nine cents per one thousand dollars of assessed value of property to augment the cost of emergency medical services; and

WHEREAS, the 2003 permanent levy amount of thirty-nine cents per one thousand dollars of assessed value of property no longer provides the funding needs necessary to maintain the cost of providing emergency medical services in the town; and

WHEREAS, the Town Council has determined a permanent levy is no longer an efficient or effective means of funding emergency medical services as a result of the fluctuating increases and decreases of assessed valuations of property from year-to-year; and
WHEREAS, a stable source of funds will ensure that emergency medical services can be continuously provided, and thus, will be in the best interest of the public health, safety and welfare; and

WHEREAS, voter approval of a new levy provided by this ordinance will replace the permanent levy authorized in 2003; and

WHEREAS, in order for the Town of Carbonado to impose a temporary levy pursuant to RCW 84.52.069, it must obtain 60% voter approval in accordance with RCW 84.52.069(2), and the Town Council has therefore determined to submit a proposition to the qualified voters authorizing the levy at a rate not to exceed fifty cents per one thousand dollars of assessed valuation at the general election to be held on November 4, 2014; NOW, THEREFORE,

THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF CARBONADO ORDAIN AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Calling of Election. The Town Council requests that the Auditor of Pierce County, Washington, as the ex officio supervisor of elections, call and conduct an election in the Town, in the manner provided by law, to be held therein on November 4, 2014, for the purpose of submitting to the qualified electors of the Town for their approval or rejection, the question of whether or not a temporary additional regular property tax levy shall be made in 2014, for collection each year for six consecutive years beginning in 2015, in an amount of up to $0.50 per one thousand dollars of assessed valuation, for the purpose of providing funds for emergency medical services within the Town, including personnel costs, training for such personnel, and related equipment, supplies and vehicles, replacing the existing permanent EMS levy. The actual amount of said levy shall be determined on an annual basis during the annual budget and annual tax levy process. If the proposition passes, the existing permanent EMS levy will terminate simultaneously with the beginning of the new EMS levy. If the proposition fails, the existing permanent EMS levy shall remain in full force and affect.

Section 2. Ballot Proposition. The Town Clerk is authorized and directed to certify, no later than August 5, 2014, to the Auditor, as ex officio supervisor of elections in the Town, a copy of this ordinance and the proposition to be submitted at that election in the form of ballot title prepared by the Town Attorney pursuant to RCW 29A.36.071, as follows:

TOWN OF CARBONADO PROPOSITION NO. 1  
EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES PROPERTY TAX LEVY

The Town of Carbonado enacted Ordinance 418 concerning a proposition to increase the Town’s current EMS levy to a maximum amount for emergency services. This proposition would authorize the Town to levy additional regular property taxes at a rate of up to fifty cents ($0.50) per thousand dollars ($1,000.00) of assessed valuation for six consecutive years, with collection beginning in 2015, to provide funding for emergency medical services, and replacing the existing permanent EMS levy. Should this proposition be approved?
YES........................................ □
NO........................................□

The Town Clerk and Town Attorney are authorized to make such minor adjustments to the wording of such proposition as may be recommended by the Pierce County Auditor, as long as the intent of the proposition remains clear and as approved by the Town Council.

Section 3. Use of Funds. If the proposition set forth above is passed by a super majority of the voters of the Town as provided in RCW 84.52.069(2), any and all funds generated as the result of the tax imposed shall be used only for the provision of emergency medical care or emergency medical services, including related personnel costs, training for such personnel, and related equipment, supplies, vehicles and structures needed for the provision of emergency medical care or emergency medical services.

Section 4. Severability. If any provision of this ordinance is declared by any court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid, then such provision shall be null and void and shall be severable from the remaining provisions of this ordinance, and shall in no way affect the validity of the other provisions of this ordinance.

Section 5. This Ordinance, being the exercise of a power specifically delegated to the legislative body, is not subject to referendum, and shall take effect and be in full force five (5) days after its passage and publication as provided by law. A summary of this Ordinance may be published in lieu of publishing the Ordinance in its entirety.

Introduced, passed, and approved this 31st day of July, 2014.

Mayor Brian Whitmore

ATTEST:

Daillene Argo, Town Clerk-Treasurer

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Gregory P. Aman, Town Attorney

PUBLISHED: July 31st, 2014

EFFECTIVE: July 31st, 2014