

**CITY OF GRANITE FALLS
ORDINANCE NO. 863-2014**

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF GRANITE FALLS, WASHINGTON, RELATING TO UTILITY TAXES ON WATER AND SEWER UTILITY SERVICES; AMENDING SECTION 3.10.020 OF CHAPTER 3.10 OF THE GRANITE FALLS MUNICIPAL CODE TO IMPOSE A UTILITY TAX RATE ON WATER AND SEWER UTILITY SERVICES AT THE RATE OF TWENTY FIVE PERCENT (25%) FOR CALENDAR YEARS 2014 AND 2015; AND AMENDING SECTION 3.10.030 OF CHAPTER 3.10 OF THE GRANITE FALLS MUNICIPAL CODE TO PROVIDE THAT THE SAID UTILITY TAX SHALL TERMINATE AT THE END OF CALENDAR YEAR 2015.

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Granite Falls previously passed Ordinance No. 785-09 that added Chapter 3.10 to the Granite Falls Municipal Code (GFMC) and established a utility tax on water and sewer utility services for a three year period (2010-2012); and

WHEREAS, the City Council previously passed Ordinance No. 815-10 that amended GFMC 3.10.020 to change the rate of the utility tax on water and sewer utility services to a rate of 12% in 2011 and Ordinance No. 815-10 also provided that the utility tax would cease at the end of calendar year 2011 ; and

WHEREAS, the City Council previously passed Ordinance No. 824-11 that amended GFMC 3.10.020 to change the rate of the utility tax on water and sewer utility services to a rate of 20% in 2012 and Ordinance No. 824-11 also provided that the utility tax would cease at the end of calendar year 2012 ; and

WHEREAS, the City Council previously passed Ordinance 838-2012 that amended GFMC 3.10.020 to change the rate of the utility tax on water and sewer utility services to a rate of 25% in 2013 and Ordinance No. 838-2012 also provided that the utility tax would cease at the end of calendar year 2013; and

WHEREAS, the City Council has determined that it is in the public interest to amend GFMC 3.10.020 to impose a utility tax on water and sewer utility services for calendar years 2014 and 2015 and to do so at a rate of 25%; and

WHEREAS, the City Council has further determined that it is in the public interest to provide that the utility tax on water and sewer utility services shall terminate at the end of calendar year 2015;

NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GRANITE FALLS DO ORDAIN AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Section 3.10.020 of Chapter 3.10 of the Granite Falls Municipal Code is hereby amended to read as follows:

"3.10.020 Amount of tax.

The amount of the utility tax on the gross revenues of water and sewer utility services shall be nine (9%) for calendar year 2010, twelve percent (12%) for calendar year 2011, twenty percent (20%) for calendar year 2012, and twenty five percent (25%) for calendar years 2013, 2014 and 2015, unless the City Council determines that the utility tax should be repealed or amended at any time during said period."

Section 2. Section 3.10.030 of Chapter 3.10 of the Granite Falls Municipal Code is amended to read as follows:

"3.10.030 Sunset clause.

The utility tax levied herein shall sunset at the end of calendar year ~~2012~~ 2015, unless the City Council has already repealed the tax or unless the City Council adopts an ordinance extending the duration of the tax."

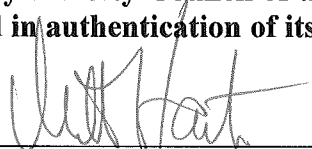
Section 3. Amendment of Prior Ordinances. Ordinance Nos. 789-05, 815-10, 824-11 and 838-2012 are hereby amended as necessary to reflect the amendments contained in this Ordinance.

Section 4. Severability. If any section, sentence, clause or phrase of this ordinance should be held to be invalid or unconstitutional by a court of competent jurisdiction, such invalidity or unconstitutionality shall not affect the validity or constitutionality of any other section, sentence, clause or phrase of this ordinance.

Section 5. Publication and Summary. This Ordinance or summary thereof consisting of the title shall be published in the official newspaper of the city.

Section 6. Effective Date. This Ordinance shall be in full force and effect five (5) days after publication of the summary consisting of the title.

Said Ordinance was passed in open session by the City Council of the City of Granite Falls on the 15th day of January, 2014, and signed in authentication of its passage this 15th day of January, 2014.



Joshua Golston Mayor

ATTEST:



Darla Reese, CMC, City Clerk

Approved as to form:



Thomas H. Graafstra, City Attorney

Date of Publication:

1/18/2014

Effective Date:

1/23/2014