

**CITY OF GRANITE FALLS**

**ORDINANCE NO. 996-2020**

**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 PERCENT (20%) FOR CALENDAR YEARS 2021 AND SUBSEQUENT YEARS REPEALING SECTION 3.10.030 OF CHAPTER 3.10 OF THE GRANITE FALLS MUNICIPAL CODE**

**WHEREAS**, the City Council of the City of Granite Falls previously passed Ordinance 938-2017 that amended GFMC 3.10 imposing a utility tax on water at twenty-five (25%) rate for a three year period (2018-2020) and a utility tax on sewer at the twenty (20%) rate for a three year period (2018-2020) and amending 3.10.030 sunseting the taxes at the end of calendar year 2020; and

**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 previously passed Ordinance 863-2014 that amended GFMC 3.10.030 to extend the rate of 25% through 2015 and also provided that the utility tax would cease at the end of calendar year 2015;

**WHEREAS**, the City Council previously passed Ordinance 904-2015 that amended GFMC 3.10.030 to extend the rate of 25% through 2018 and also provided that the utility tax would cease at the end of calendar year 2018;

**WHEREAS**, the City Council has determined that it is in the public interest to amend GFMC 3.10.020 to continue to impose a utility tax on water and sewer utility services for calendar years 2018 through 2020, but to do so at an adjusted rate of 20% for sewer; and

WHEREAS, the City Council has determined that it is not in the public interest to provide that the utility tax on water and sewer utility services shall terminate at the end of calendar year 2020;

**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, twenty five percent (25%) for calendar years 2013, 2014 and 2015, twenty five percent (25%) for calendar years 2016 and 2017, twenty percent (20%) for sewer utility services and twenty five percent (25%) on water utility services for calendar years 2018, 2019 and 2020, and twenty percent (20%) for both sewer utility services and water utility services for calendar year 2021 and subsequent years 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 hereby repealed:

~~**"3.10.030 Sunset clause.**  
The utility tax levied herein shall sunset at the end of calendar year 2020, 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. 938-2017, 789-05, 815-10, 824-11, 838-2012, 863-2014 and 901-2015 are hereby amended as necessary to reflect the amendments contained in this Ordinance.

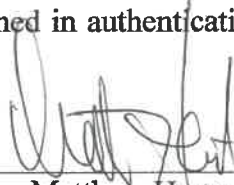
**Section 4. Severability.** If any section, sentence, clause or phrase of this ordinance should be held to be invalid or unconstitutional by a court of competent jurisdiction, such invalidity or unconstitutionality shall not affect the validity or constitutionality of any other section, sentence, clause 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 4<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2020, and signed in authentication of its passage this 4<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2020.



Matthew Hartman Mayor

ATTEST:



Darla Reese, MMC, City Clerk

Approved as to form:



Thomas H. Graafstra, City Attorney

Date of Publication:

Nov. 7, 2020

Effective Date:

Nov. 12, 2020