

RESOLUTION NO. 19-23

A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BANDON, OREGON, PLACING ON THE MARCH 10, 2020 ELECTION BALLOT A MEASURE AMENDING THE CITY CHARTER TO GRANT THE CITY COUNCIL THE AUTHORITY TO SET UTILITY RATES.

WHEREAS, the City Charter restricts the ability of the Mayor and City Council to set utility rates; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and City Council have determined that the existing water and sewer rates are too low to generate adequate revenues for proper operation and maintenance; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and City Council have determined that proper budgeting for the operation and maintenance of the water and sewer treatment and distribution systems require that the City Charter be amended, as set out in Exhibit A, as soon as possible to authorize the City Council to set utility rates; and

WHEREAS, all funds from any utility rate increases will be used exclusively for providing an adequate supply of high-quality water for drinking and fire protection, properly treating the community's sewage, and providing safe and dependable electric service.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and City Council of the City of Bandon that the measure captioned City Council Authority to Set Utility Rates, which is included herein as Exhibit B is hereby placed on the March 10, 2020 election ballot for the City of Bandon; and

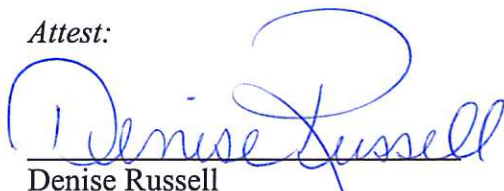
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the Council declares this an emergency and therefore, this Resolution shall be effective immediately because it is necessary for the immediate preservation of the peace, health and safety of the City for continuation of the integrity of the City's utility systems.

ADOPTED by the City Council this 17th day of December, 2019.



Mary Schamehorn, Mayor

Attest:



Denise Russell
City Recorder

Exhibit A

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Section 50: City Council Authority to Set Utility Rates. Notwithstanding the restrictions on setting other taxes, rates, fees, and charges, the City Council is authorized to set rates for each utility: water, sewer and electric, at a rate below the average of the utility rates for similar categories of service for the following providers in Coos County- Coos Bay, North Bend, North Bend Water Board, Coquille, Myrtle Point, Lakeside, and Powers; and the Coos Curry Co-Op and Pacific Power and Light (PP&L), without voter consent through June 30, 2023.

Exhibit B

Resolution No. 19-23

CAPTION: City Council Authority to Set Utility Rates.

QUESTION: Shall the City Charter be amended to authorize City Council to set utility rates without voter consent?

SUMMARY: Due to citizen initiative approved in 1994, Bandon City Charter currently restricts ability of City Council to set utility rates without voter consent. The existing water and sewer rates are not sufficient to generate adequate revenues for proper operation and maintenance of the two systems. The water and sewer funds are considered enterprise funds designed to be self-supporting. All funds from any utility rate increases would be used exclusively for providing an adequate supply of water for drinking and fire protection, treating the community's sewage, and providing dependable electric service. A YES vote would authorize the City Council to set utility rates without voter consent as long as the rates are below the average of Coos County utility provider rates for similar categories of service. This authority would expire June 30, 2023. A NO vote would retain the existing restrictions on setting utility rates.