

COUNCIL & STAFF PRESENT:

Martha Rowe	Mayor
Jill McCord	Councilmember
Aaron Rodgerson	Councilmember
Todd Kuhns	Councilmember
Richard L. Detweiler	Councilmember
Howard Hickman	City Attorney
Mari E. Macomber	City Manager
Vickie Brumbaugh	City Clerk
Randy Behrens	Fire Chief
Cherie Bryant	Assistant to the City Manager
Melanie Smith	Community Services Director

The City Council of the City of Kirksville, Missouri, met in a Special Session on Tuesday, January 27, 2009, at 3:30 p.m. in the City Hall Council Chambers.

**ACTION PRESENTATIONS**

**BILL NO.2009-05**

**AN ORDINANCE TO PLACE ON THE ELECTION BALLOT OF APRIL 7, 2009, THE QUESTION OF WHETHER TO IMPOSE A ONE-QUARTER (1/4) CENT FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT SALES TAX ON ALL RETAIL SALES MADE IN THE CITY OF KIRKSVILLE, MISSOURI, WHICH ARE SUBJECT TO TAXATION UNDER SECTIONS 144.010 TO 144.525, INCLUSIVE, OF THE REVISED STATUTES OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI FOR THE PURPOSE OF FUNDING MUNICIPAL FIRE SERVICES IN KIRKSVILLE, MISSOURI.**

Councilmember Rodgerson moved to adopt Bill No. 2009-05 on first reading; seconded by Councilmember McCord.

City Manager Macomber reported that the Council has talked about, and explored where the City might get revenues to help provide income to make salary changes for employees. The Council saw the Fire Sales Tax as the only option available. The sales tax funds would be placed in a special trust fund and used to pay for fire services. This would allow approximately \$600,000 of expenditures currently paid for from the General Fund to provide employees with an increase in wages or retirement. If the taxpayers approve the sales tax, collection of the tax would begin October 1, 2009.

Councilmember Detweiler said that it is the wrong time to be adding a tax due to the economy. There were 70,000 jobs lost today.

Councilmember McCord stated that the City of Kirksville could be more competitive with other cities. The Police Department trains an officer for three years, and then the trained officer leaves for a better paying job.

Councilmember Rodgerson said that the wages for City employees weren't any better two years ago than they are now. This may not be the ideal time, but it's a first step towards improving the wage scale. The people will have to be educated on the planned use for the proposed tax.

Councilmember Kuhns stated that the budget hasn't changed, it hasn't gotten better. The \$1,500 was a band aid for one year for the employees, and then there is nothing. Every year this is put off, we are getting further behind on cost of living. It has cost the City in the past – the pay scale is so low, and it costs the City by using staff to look for employees, on-the-job training, and then the trained employees leave for another job somewhere else after six months on the job. Officers in the Police Department are sent to the Police Academy for training, costing the City. Some supervisors are making less money than their employees after being paid overtime. Councilmember Kuhns explained that cities are very limited on how they can raise revenue. Kirksville's sales tax, compared to other cities, is small.

The motion carried by the following vote: Mayor Rowe, aye; Councilmembers: Detweiler – nay; Kuhns – aye; McCord – aye; Rodgerson – aye. 4 Ayes; 1 Nay.

**Second Reading**

**BILL NO.2009-05** **ORDINANCE NO. 11857**  
**AN ORDINANCE TO PLACE ON THE ELECTION BALLOT OF APRIL 7, 2009, THE QUESTION OF WHETHER TO IMPOSE A ONE-QUARTER (1/4) CENT FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT SALES TAX ON ALL RETAIL SALES MADE IN THE CITY OF KIRKSVILLE, MISSOURI, WHICH ARE SUBJECT TO TAXATION UNDER SECTIONS 144.010 TO 144.525, INCLUSIVE, OF THE REVISED STATUTES OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI FOR THE PURPOSE OF FUNDING MUNICIPAL FIRE SERVICES IN KIRKSVILLE, MISSOURI.**

WHEREAS, the City of Kirksville, Missouri has been exploring ways to enhance revenues and improve the wages and compensation of all city employees; and

WHEREAS, a Fire Protection District Sales Tax provides the City, a dedicated revenue source to help pay for the cost of services provided; and

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Kirksville, Missouri, is empowered to extend this tax by Section 321.242, RSMo; and

WHEREAS, said sales tax does not include a sunset clause and is intended to be a permanent sales tax contingent upon the approval by a majority of qualified voters.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF KIRKSVILLE, MISSOURI, AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. A sales tax of one-quarter of one percent shall hereby be imposed upon all retail sales in the City subject to taxation under RSMo. Sections 144.010 to 144.525, inclusive. The amount reported and returned to the Director of Revenue shall continue to be computed on the basis of the combined rate of the tax imposed by Section 321.242, and the tax imposed by this Ordinance, plus any amounts imposed by other provisions of the law.

Section 2. All revenues received by the City from the sales tax imposed herein shall be deposited in a special trust fund and shall be used solely for the purposes stated herein if approved by the voters of the City at an election to be held the 7th day of April, 2009.

Section 3. The sales tax imposed herein, if approved by the voters as provided for herein, shall continue uninterrupted until such time as it is repealed by voters of the City.

Section 4. An election is hereby ordered to be held in the City on the 7th day of April, 2009, after appropriate public notice and procedures prescribed by the Election Authority of Adair County, Missouri for the purpose of submitting the provisions of this Ordinance to the qualified voters of the City of Kirksville, Missouri.

Section 5. The City Clerk is hereby directed to transmit to the Adair County Election Authority the necessary documentation so that the Election Authority can give notice of said election, and said notice, and the election called for herein, shall comply with the laws of the State of Missouri.

Section 6. The ballots to be used at said election shall be in substantially the following form:  
Shall the City of Kirksville, Missouri impose a sales tax of one-fourth of one percent (1/4 of 1%) for the purpose of providing revenues for the operation of the Kirksville Fire Department?

Yes

No

Section 7. Upon approval by the voters of the City of the question submitted at said election, the City Clerk is hereby directed to, within ten (10) days thereafter, forward to the Director of Revenue by United States registered or certified mail, a certified copy of this ordinance.

Section 8. This ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after the date of its passage, and the continuance of the sales tax imposed herein shall become effective upon approval of the voters as provided for herein.

Councilmember Rodgerson moved to adopt Bill No. 2009-05 on second reading; seconded by Councilmember Kuhns. The motion carried by the following vote: Mayor Rowe, aye; Councilmembers: Detweiler – nay; Kuhns – aye; McCord – aye; Rodgerson – aye. 4 Ayes; 1 Nay.

**Adjournment**

Councilmember McCord moved to adjourn; seconded by Councilmember Kuhns. Mayor Rowe adjourned the meeting at 3:55 p.m. The motion carried by the following vote: Mayor Rowe, aye; Councilmembers: Detweiler – aye; Kuhns – aye; McCord – aye; Rodgerson – aye. 5 Ayes; 0 Nays.

Vickie Brumbaugh, CMC, MRCC  
City Clerk