

REQUEST FOR COUNCIL ACTION

MEETING

DATE: 8/15/11

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AGENDA SECTION: CONSENT	ORIGINATING DEPT: CITY ADMINISTRATOR	ITEM NO. D-2
ITEM DESCRIPTION: APPROVAL OF SPECIAL LEGISLATION FOR AN EXTENSION OF THE ROCHESTER 0.5% SALES TAX		PREPARED BY: G. NEUMANN

In the 2011 legislative session special legislation was approved to permit the City of Rochester to extend the existing 0.5% sales tax for \$139.5 million in new projects. This authorization is an amendment to the 1998 sales tax law, which was also amended in 2005. Under State law this special legislation requires approval of the legislation by the Mayor and Council of Rochester and filing of the resolution of approval with the State. The Council is requested to adopt the attached resolution approving the special law. The approval of the special law is the first step in the process, but the extension will not go into effect unless the extension is also approved by the voters in the general election of November 6, 2012.

The special legislation provides the City with authorization, if approved in the general election, for 10 specific uses with defined maximum dollar amounts for each use. They include the following:

1. \$8,000,000 for regional public safety and 911 dispatch center facilities. This is for public safety facilities including a new Fire Station No. 2 in combination with a Police precinct, and EOC and Dispatch Center improvements. The dispatch center improvements would position the City and Olmsted County as a potential regional dispatch center.
2. \$20,000,000 for a regional recreation/ senior center. This project includes recreational improvements and a new Senior Citizens Center at the Rochester Regional Recreation Center facility.
3. \$30,000,000 for City of Rochester Transportation Projects. There is a list of potential City transportation projects for which this funding could be utilized by the City in the bill.
4. \$17,000,000 for Olmsted County transportation infrastructure improvements. A list of Olmsted County transportation projects for which this funding could be utilized is included in the bill.
5. \$8,000,000 for downtown infrastructure. These infrastructure improvements would advance the Downtown Master Plan objectives and improve public infrastructure in the downtown.
6. \$14,000,000 for the University of Minnesota Rochester (UMR) academic and complementary facilities. The funds would augment other revenue sources to expand UMR facilities in Rochester.
7. \$6,500,000 for the Rochester Community and Technical College/Winona State University career technical education and science and math facilities (CTECH and STEM). This funding would be used for facilities for RCTC and WSU which would be utilized collaboratively with area school districts and teachers to educate the future workforce with an emphasis on science, technology, engineering and math education.
8. \$6,000,000 for the Rochester Community and Technical College regional recreation facilities at University Center Rochester. This is for recreational facilities including improvements at Rochester Regional Stadium.
9. \$20,000,000 for the Destination Medical Community Initiative.
10. \$10,000,000 for an economic development fund.

Council Action Requested: Adopt the resolution approving the 2011 special legislation for the sales tax extension and file it with the State.

COUNCIL ACTION: Motion by: _____ Second by: _____ to:

8

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the 2011 Special Session of the Minnesota Legislature enacted the following laws relating to taxes:

1. Laws 2011, First Special Session, Chapter 7, Article 4, Section 5, amending Laws 1998, Chapter 389, Article 8, Section 43, Subdivision 3, as amended by Laws 2005, First Special Session, Chapter 3, Article 5, Section 28;
2. Laws 2011, First Special Session, Chapter 7, Article 4, Section 6, amending Laws 1998, Article 8, Section 43, Subdivision 4, as amended by Laws 2005, First Special Session, Chapter 3, Article 5, Section 29;
3. Laws 2011, First Special Session, Chapter 7, Article 4, Section 7, amending Laws 1998, Chapter 389, Article 8, Section 43, Subdivision 5, as amended by Laws 2005, First Special Session, Chapter 3, Article 5, Section 30; and
4. Laws 2011, First Special Session, Chapter 7, Article 4, Section 8, amending Laws 2008, Chapter 366, Article 7, Section 19, Subdivision 3; and,

WHEREAS, the above-stated laws are special laws relating to the City of Rochester Sales Tax; and,

WHEREAS, Minn. Stat. Section 645.021, subd. 2 states that a special law will not be effective without approval of the local government unit.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Common Council of the City of Rochester that the City of Rochester hereby approves:

1. Laws 2011, First Special Session, Chapter 7, Article 4, Section 5, amending Laws 1998, Chapter 389, Article 8, Section 43, Subdivision 3, as amended by Laws 2005, First Special Session, Chapter 3, Article 5, Section 28;
2. Laws 2011, First Special Session, Chapter 7, Article 4, Section 6, amending Laws 1998, Article 8, Section 43, Subdivision 4, as amended by Laws 2005, First Special Session, Chapter 3, Article 5, Section 29;
3. Laws 2011, First Special Session, Chapter 7, Article 4, Section 7, amending Laws 1998, Chapter 389, Article 8, Section 43, Subdivision 5, as amended by Laws 2005, First Special Session, Chapter 3, Article 5, Section 30; and
4. Laws 2011, First Special Session, Chapter 7, Article 4, Section 8, amending Laws 2008, Chapter 366, Article 7, Section 19, Subdivision 3.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Clerk is directed to file with the Minnesota Secretary of State a certified copy of this resolution along with such other documents as may be required to evidence the approval by the City of Rochester of this special act of the Legislature.

PASSED AND ADOPTED BY THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ROCHESTER, MINNESOTA, THIS ____ DAY OF _____, 2011.

PRESIDENT OF SAID COMMON COUNCIL

ATTEST: _____
CITY CLERK

APPROVED THIS ____ DAY OF _____, 2011.

MAYOR OF SAID CITY

(Seal of the City of
Rochester, Minnesota)

10