



City of Kyle E-NEWSLETTER

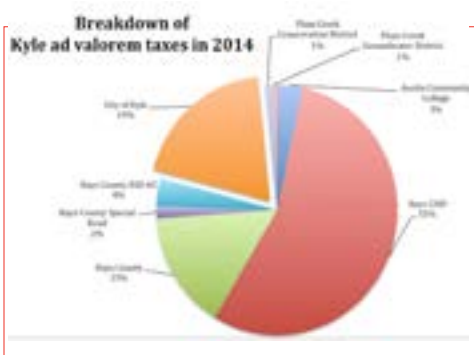


For the week of August 31, 2015

This weekly Kyle E-Newsletter contains pertinent information about events and happenings in the City of Kyle. To subscribe, simply [click here](#) and put "Kyle Newsletter" in the subject line to be added to the distribution list.

Council to vote on tax rate

The Kyle City Council is about to vote on the 2015-2016 property tax rate. City Manager Scott Sellers believes understanding the particulars is important for residents.



Note: not all Kyle homeowners pay the Plum Creek taxes.

In the overall breakdown of Kyle homeowners's ad valorem taxes, the city accounted for about 19 percent in 2014-15. Kyle officials expect that percentage to remain the same this year.

Kyle's proposed property tax rate is \$0.6145, or roughly \$.61 for every \$100

of home valuation.

For an average home value in Kyle of about \$155,000, **the increase would be about \$9.85 a month or \$118.26 a year.**

Sellers explained what is included in the tax rate so residents can see how their property taxes work and what they are getting for their money.

The tax rate is a combination of two buckets of funding, Maintenance and Operations, or M&O, and Interest and Sinking, or I&S.

M&O funds city services such as public safety, parks, libraries and other departments.

I&S is the debt accrued by the city, currently \$96.9 million. If approved by Kyle City Council, the tax rate for I&S would increase to \$0.35 cents.

The \$96.9 million figures includes \$0.0762 for every \$100 home valuation because Kyle voters approved a \$36 million road bond package in 2013 of up to \$.022, but the city's finance staff reduced that amount significantly. Kyle's Finance Director, Pervez Moheet, said, "The city took advantage of a

Continued below

Upcoming Public Meetings

Ethics Commission Meeting
Mon, Aug. 31 at 7 p.m.

Kyle City Council Meeting
Tues, Sept. 1 at 7 p.m.

Kyle Area Youth Advisory Council - Meeting
Wed, Sept. 2 at 6:30 p.m.

Special Called Kyle City Council Meeting
Tues, Sept. 8 at 7 p.m.

Kyle Public Library Board Meeting
Thurs, Sept. 10 at 6:30 p.m.

Can't make a meeting?
Check this out:
Kyle City Council meetings Streamed Live on the Internet

Pet registration event Saturday!

If you have pets, you'll want to know about this: the Kyle Animal Control Office is hosting a pet registration event this Saturday. City ordinance says all pet owners must register their pets. Those that are spayed or neutered have a lower registration cost than those that are not.

Head to Petco at 5100 Kyle Center Dr. (next to Kohl's) to register your pet and find answers to questions. Takes place from 11 a.m.-1 p.m.



Pet Registration Fees:

- \$10.50 unaltered dog or cat
- \$5.25 altered dog or cat
- \$5.25 other animal

Annual renewal is required.

Recognitions and Kudos

Kyle recognizes its employees for their accomplishments:

Congrats to Kyle PD emergency communications staff who recently obtained higher level certifications from TCOLE:

- Lauren Wisener - Intermediate
- Stacy Johnston - Masters
- April Machado - Advanced
- Jenna Hix - Intermediate



Tax rate continued from above

favorable bond market, the increase in assessed valuation [by the Hays Central Appraisal District], and the city's strong bond rating to keep the rate to \$0.0762."

The I&S tax rate is unable to be changed; that is money already spent that must be repaid. Past debt for the city includes \$30 million for FM 1626 expansion. The remaining \$31 million bond debt includes major infrastructure improvements as well as new building construction.

The only proposed increase to the new fiscal year's tax rate is about seven cents per \$100 property valuation, which is allocated to pay the city's annual debt service, both principal and interest. With the increase, the proposed tax rate for I&S is \$0.35 cents per every \$100 home valuation.

On the M&O side of the house, Sellers said the proposed tax rate is \$0.26 per \$100 valuation, which is unchanged from last year. That is possible in part because the (CAD) increased its home

valuations approximate \$10 per month.

Sellers crafted a proposed budget that brings in additional staff to support a growing city. He did so with input from city residents along with staff.

His budget proposes hiring 24.5 full-time equivalent (FTE) positions and reducing three positions. Essentially that means the equivalent of 22.5 employees, but some are part-time, so two part-time employees would be one FTE without benefits.

Sellers said he understands the desire to reduce property taxes. However, he asked what services city residents would be willing to cut in order to lower them?

Sellers believes cutting the M&O rate would hamstring city departments and create frustration among residents.

"Our recent and projected growth of course brings in new tax dollars, but we still need to increase our ability to maintain a high level of services to our residents," he said. "I know everyone loves lower taxes, but we have to decide what we as a city are willing to pay for and what we are willing to cut."

DWI enforcement over Labor Day weekend

Each year in the United States, about 11,000 people are killed in crashes related to intoxicated driving. That's why this Labor Day weekend, the Kyle Police Department will take part in a regional DWI Enforcement Initiative.



Officers will be patrolling the streets and highways with the specific task of locating and apprehending intoxicated drivers.

This Labor Day weekend, be safe and designate a sober driver before getting behind the wheel.



For more information on all City of Kyle services and programs, visit www.cityofkyle.com or call 512.262.1010. Main newsletter photo by Marie Elbert.