

TOWN OF FAIRFAX

STAFF REPORT

TO: Mayor, Members of the Town Council

FROM: Michael Rock, Town Manager 
Judy Anderson, Town Clerk

DATE: July 7, 2010

SUBJECT: Adoption of a Resolution of the Town Council of the Town of Fairfax Calling and Giving Notice of the Holding of an Election to Be Held November 3, 2010 and Requesting the Board of Supervisors of the County of Marin to Consolidate Said Election; and Authorizing the Town Clerk or Her Duly Authorized Officers and Agency to Carry out All the Necessary Procedures for Said Election Submitting to the Voters the Question Relating to a Special Tax for Paramedic Services

Recommendation

Adopt a Resolution of the Town Council of the Town of Fairfax Calling and Giving Notice of the holding of an Election to be held November 3, 2010, and Requesting the Board of Supervisors of the County of Marin to Consolidate Said Election; and Authorizing the Town Clerk or Her Duly Authorized Officers and Agency to Carry out all the Necessary Procedures for Said Election Submitting to the Voters the Question Relating to a Special Tax for Paramedic Services.

Discussion

The Ross Valley Paramedic Authority (RVPA) is financed primarily through a residential per unit and non-residential square footage tax. Every four years, the elected bodies of each of the member agencies have the opportunity to decide whether to continue the program by calling for an election. The RVPA tax is set to conclude on June 30, 2011, thus an election this November is necessary in order to maintain this revenue.

The operating budget of the RVPA for Fiscal Year 2010-11 is \$1,894,900. The RVPA Board has authorized the tax for the next four years to be set as follows:

2011-12	\$42 plus fifty cents administrative fee charged by the County
2012-13	\$45 plus fifty cents administrative fee charged by the County
2013-14	\$48 plus fifty cents administrative fee charged by the County
2014-15	\$51 plus fifty cents administrative fee charged by the County

Each member agency's elected body, as well as the voters, has overwhelmingly supported the approval of this tax measure every four years since 1982.

Fiscal Impact

None, since the RVPA reimburses the member jurisdictions for the cost of the election.

Attachments

Proposed Resolution for adoption
RVPA Budget for 2010-2011
RVPA Ballot Argument

AGENDA ITEM # 9

RESOLUTION NO.

A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF FAIRFAX CALLING AND GIVING NOTICE OF THE HOLDING OF AN ELECTION TO BE HELD NOVEMBER 2, 2010 AND REQUESTING THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF MARIN TO CONSOLIDATE SAID ELECTION; AND AUTHORIZING THE TOWN CLERK OR HER DULY AUTHORIZED OFFICERS AND AGENCY TO CARRY OUT ALL THE NECESSARY PROCEDURES FOR SAID ELECTION SUBMITTING TO THE VOTERS THE QUESTION RELATING TO A SPECIAL TAX FOR PARAMEDIC SERVICES

Whereas, the Town of Fairfax is considering continuing the special tax for paramedic services in the Town; and

Whereas, under the provisions of the laws relating to general law cities in the State of California, an election shall be held on November 2, 2010 for the submission to the voters of a question relating to a special tax for paramedic services; and

Whereas, it is desirable that the election be consolidated with the statewide election to be held on the same date and that within the Town, the precincts, polling places, and election officers of the two elections be the same; and

Whereas, it is desirable that the Marin County Election Department canvass the returns of the General Municipal Election and that the election be handled in all respects as if there were only one election; and

Whereas, the Town Council of the Town of Fairfax desires to submit to the voters at the election a question relating to the special tax for paramedic services,

NOW, THEREFORE, THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF FAIRFAX, CALIFORNIA, DOES HEREBY RESOLVE, DECLARE, DETERMINE, AND ORDER AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. That pursuant to the requirements of the laws of the State of California relating to General Law Cities, there is called and hereby ordered to be held in the Town of Fairfax, California, on Tuesday, November 2, 2010, a General Municipal Election.

Section 2. That pursuant to the requirements of Section 23302 of the Elections Code, the Board of Supervisors of the County of Marin is hereby requested to consent and agree to the consolidation of said election.

Section 3. That the Town Council, pursuant to its rights and authority, does order submitted to the voters at the election the following question:

“Shall there be a continuation of the special tax for paramedic services in the amount of \$42.50 not exceeding \$51.50 in the fourth year per taxable living unit or per 1,500 square feet of structure of each developed parcel in nonresidential use, to be collected in addition to transport fees charged to insurance providers for Ross Valley residents, with the appropriations limit increased by the amount of said tax for the next four years?”

Section 4. Pursuant to Elections Code section 5011, the Town Clerk shall transmit a copy of the measure to the Town Attorney who shall prepare an impartial analysis of the measure in accordance with said Section 5011. Arguments for and

against said measure may be filed in accordance with applicable provisions of the law. Pursuant to Section 5014.5 of the Elections Code of the State of California, (the provisions of which are hereby adopted), when the clerk has selected the arguments for and against the measure which will be printed and distributed to the voters, the clerk shall send copies of the argument in favor of the measure to the authors of the argument against, and copies of the argument against to the authors of the argument in favor. The rebuttal arguments shall be filed with the Town Clerk not more than 10 days after the final date for filing direct arguments. Rebuttal arguments shall be printed in the same manner as the direct arguments. Each rebuttal argument shall immediately follow the direct argument that it seeks to rebut. The text of the measure shall be printed on the ballot in the voter information portion of the sample ballot.

Section 5. That the County election department is authorized to canvass the returns of said election. The election shall be held in all respects as if there were only one election, and only one form of ballot shall be used.

Section 6. That the Board of Supervisors is requested to issue instructions to the County Election Department to take any and all steps necessary for the holding of the consolidated election.

Section 7. That the Town Clerk is hereby directed to file a certified copy of this resolution with the Board of Supervisors and the Election Department of the County of Marin.

Section 8. That the polls for the election shall be open at 7:00 a.m. of the election and shall remain open continuously from that time until 8:00 p.m. of the same day, when the polls shall be closed, except as provided in Section 14301 of the Elections Code of the State of California.

Section 9. That in all particulars not recited in this resolution, the election shall be held and conducted as provided by law for holding municipal elections.

Section 10. That notice of the time and place of holding the election is given and Town Clerk is authorized, instructed, and directed to give further or additional notice of the election, in time, form, and manner as required by law.

Section 11. That the Town Clerk shall certify to the passage and adoption of this Resolution and enter it into the book of original resolutions.

I, the undersigned hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true, and complete copy of a resolution duly passed and adopted by the Town Council of the Town of Fairfax at a regular meeting thereof held on the 7th day of July, 2010, by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

LEW TREMAINE, MAYOR

Attest:

Town Clerk

ROSS VALLEY PARAMEDIC AUTHORITY
NOVEMBER 2010 BALLOT MATERIALS

Ballot Language

Shall there be a continuation of the four year special tax for paramedic services in the amount of \$42.50 not exceeding \$51.50 in the fourth year per taxable living unit or per 1,500 square feet of structure developed parcel in non-residential use, to be collected in addition to transport fees charged to insurance providers for Ross Valley residents, with the appropriations limit increased by the amount of said tax for the next four years?

Ballot Argument

Since 1982, the voters in the Ross Valley have overwhelmingly approved a special tax to provide Fire Department paramedic service. To continue this high standard of emergency medical care for four more years, you must now re-approve this measure. The initial Ross Valley Paramedic Authority (RVPA) tax provides for a single ambulance. The demand for paramedic service from our citizens dictates that service levels continue to expand and evolve.

In an effort to minimize the burden on our citizens, the RVPA has not raised the tax as previously scheduled. Each year over the past four years, the tax was scheduled to incrementally increase to a maximum of \$48 per living unit and for each 1,500 square feet of non-residential developed space. However, we have been able to keep the tax at a rate of only \$42 and meet our cost expectations while continuing to improve service levels with the addition of paramedic engine companies and furnishing all Ross Valley fire agencies with new defibrillation equipment. We again ask that you continue the tax at the \$42 rate with the ability, if needed, to raise the tax incrementally each year by \$3 to a rate not to exceed \$51 (plus fifty cents County administrative fee) in the fourth year.

Your tax pays for a significant portion of the paramedic program. Additional funds are collected from medical insurance companies through a program known as third party billing, and from billing of non-resident customers. In addition, your tax covers paramedic training, the cost of medical supplies and equipment, and the replacement of ambulance transport units when needed.

Our goal is to continue to provide state of the art paramedic care in the Ross Valley. We need your vote to continue this vital service. Vote YES on Measure _____.

PROPOSED RVPA BUDGET
FISCAL YEAR 2010-11

Ross Valley Paramedic Authority - Budget 2010-11 APPROVED

		Actual 2006-2007	Actual 2007-2008	Actual 2008-2009	Approved 2009-10	Approved 2010-11
ASSESSMENT REVENUE:						
Town of Fairfax		113,835	147,169	159,532	150,000	155,000
Kentfield FPD		84,838	109,538	118,934	113,000	115,000
City of Larkspur		227,269	294,510	320,463	305,000	310,000
County Service Area 27		21,706	28,216	30,797	29,000	29,000
Town of Ross		28,893	37,312	40,576	38,000	40,000
Sleepy Hollow F.P.D.		27,640	35,690	38,791	36,000	37,000
Town of San Anselmo		180,000	232,785	252,894	237,000	245,000
Disposition of Property		17,270		12,500		
Transfer From Reserves		-16,747	99,519	131,853	175,879	278,900
Transfer From Reserves/Election						20,000
Total:		684,704	984,739	1,106,340	1,083,879	1,229,900
Interest Earnings:		77,688	71,159	30,833	30,000	15,000
Transport Billing Revenue:		720,835	617,165	675,888	625,000	650,000
Total Revenue:		1,483,227	1,673,063	1,813,061	1,738,879	1,894,900
EXPENSES						
Account Number	Description	Actual 2006-2007	Actual 2007-2008	Actual 2008-2009	Approved 2009-10	Approved 2010-11
46-000-003	Part Time Salaries	11,005	9,849	8,810	10,000	10,000
46-001-012	Consultants	57,557	400	8,087	10,000	10,000
46-001-012-001	Accounting/Auditing	14,191	11,378	16,615	17,000	40,000
46-001-012-002	Engine Co. Defibrillators/Maint. Contract	10,031	12,048	18,863	15,000	16,000
46-001-012-003	ALS Backup Services	59,025	86,658	152,996	110,000	150,000
46-001-012-004	Transport Billing Fee	36,680	37,020	37,631	40,000	40,000
46-001-016-000	Legal Counsel	1,025	207	1,208	2,000	2,000
46-001-018	Marin County Fire Contract	924,584	968,943	1,116,224	1,119,979	1,129,000
46-001	Account Total	1,114,098	1,126,503	1,360,434	1,323,979	1,397,000
46-002-021	Fuel	5,294	7,039	9,130	11,000	11,000
46-002-024	Printing/Stationary/labels/Newsletter	917	0	0	0	0
46-002-026	Office Supplies	193	347	0	200	200
46-002-028	Disp. Med. Supplies (R40)	42,691	57,468	63,107	70,000	77,000
46-002-028-001	EMS Training/Supply Reimb. Eng. Co.	70,000	70,000	90,000	90,000	90,000
46-002-028-002	Engine Medic Program	185,048	198,326	249,193	200,000	250,000
46-002	Account Total	304,143	333,180	411,430	371,200	428,200
46-004-040	Postage	3,922	508	206	800	800
46-004-042	Miscellaneous	252	1,251	2,388	2,400	2,400
46-004	Account Total	4,174	1,759	2,594	3,200	3,200
46-006-064	Insurance - Property and Liability	4,114	4,811	3,974	5,000	5,000
46-006	Account Total	4,114	4,811	3,974	5,000	5,000
46-007-070	Dues/Memberships/Subscriptions	0	0	0	0	0
46-007-073	Tax Collection Service (County)	7,948	8,208	8,033	8,500	8,500
46-007-074	Rental (Town of Ross)	19,957	20,955	22,003	22,000	24,000

PROPOSED RVPA BUDGET
FISCAL YEAR 2010-11

46-007-075	Taxes/Assessments/Elections	17,209	1,287	0	0	20,000
46-007	Account Total	45,114	30,460	30,036	30,500	52,500
46-005-053	Vehicle Repairs	0	0	0	0	4,000
46-008-087	Other Equipment/Transport Vehicle	11,029	175,805	0	0	0
46-008-087-001	Building and Structure	555	555	4,593	5,000	5,000
46-008	Account Total	11,584	176,360	4,593	5,000	9,000
Total Expense	Total Operating Expense	1,483,227	1,673,063	1,813,061	1,738,879	1,894,900
	App. and Equip. Replac. Fund					
	Total Revenue	1,483,227	1,673,063	1,813,061	1,738,879	1,894,900
	Total Expense	1,483,227	1,673,063	1,813,061	1,738,879	1,894,900
Reserved Fund Balances:	Apparatus and equip.	400,000	382,000	382,000	382,000	103,500
	Engine Company Medic Program	150,000	150,000	150,000	150,000	150,000
	Reserve Ambulance	200,000	43,000	43,000	43,000	43,000
	Emergency Contingency	250,000	131,667			
	Dry Period Funding	800,000	800,000	800,000	800,000	800,000
	Tax Collection	25,000	25,000	25,000	25,000	5,000
	Community Grant Program	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000
	TOTALS	1,875,000	1,581,667	1,450,000	1,450,000	1,151,500