

**SPECIAL CALL CITY COUNCIL MEETING**

*Wednesday, May 31, 2023  
6:00 p.m.  
City Hall, Council Chambers*

**To the Chief of Police of the City of Hannibal, Missouri:**

**Greetings:**

**You are hereby directed to notify City Attorney James Lemon, Council Member McCoy, Mayor Pro Tem Dobson, Council Members Franke, Welch and Veach that there will be a special called meeting of the City Council to be held in *Council Chambers at City Hall at 6:00 p.m. on Wednesday, May 31, 2023* for the purpose of:**

Meetings are open to the public, however, if you would like to view the meeting, you may do so using the following instructions:

*City Council meetings will be videotaped to be shown live on the City of Hannibal YouTube page.*

*Although the meeting will be shown live, residents will also be able to watch the meeting on the YouTube page after the meeting.*

*The instructions to watch the meetings online follow:*

- 1. Type in [www.youtube.com](http://www.youtube.com) in the web browser*
- 2. Type in City of Hannibal in the "Search" bar and hit Enter and hit the magnifying glass on the right side of the search bar.*
- 3. Click on "City of Hannibal" or the city of Hannibal crest.*
- 4. During the City Council meeting, there will be a red Thumbnail with the word "Live" on it.*
- 5. Click on the Thumbnail to watch the meeting.*
- 6. The meeting may be viewed on the website in its entirety after the meeting.*

**ROLL CALL**

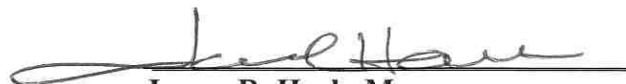
**CALL TO ORDER**

**STEPHAN FRANKE – 3<sup>rd</sup> WARD COUNCILMEN  
CHARLES PHILLIPS – 4<sup>th</sup> WARD COUNCILMEN  
*Re: Public Safety***


**MIKE DOBSON – MAYOR PRO TEM  
*Re: Funding solution for Police & Fire Wage Increase***

**ADJOURNMENT**

Witness my hand, and the Seal of the City of Hannibal, Missouri. Done in my Office this 26<sup>th</sup> day of May 2023.

  
**James R. Hark, Mayor**

ATTEST:

  
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**Melissa Cogdal – Deputy City Clerk**


I hereby certify that I have notified the above call to City Attorney James Lemon, Council Member McCoy, Mayor Pro Tem Dobson, Council Members Franke, Phillips, Welch and Veach.

  
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**JACOB NACKE, CHIEF OF POLICE**

*By Phone Apd #2*  
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**DARRELL MCCOY, 1<sup>st</sup> WARD**

  
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**CHARLES PHILLIPS, 4<sup>th</sup> WARD**

*By Phone Apd #2*  
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**MICHAEL DOBSON, 2<sup>nd</sup> WARD**

*By Phone Apd #2*  
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**COLIN WELCH, 5<sup>th</sup> WARD.**

  
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**STEPHAN FRANKE, 3<sup>rd</sup> WARD**

*By Phone Apd #2*  
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**JEFFERY VEACH, 6<sup>th</sup> WARD.**

*By Phone Apd #2*  
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**JAMES LEMON, CITY ATTORNEY**

**MEMO  
Public Safety**

**TO: Hannibal City Council**

Our Police and Firefighters are understaffed, underpaid, and deserve a Ten Percent raise.

According to both Chiefs, training expenses related to turnover as well as overtime expenses are steeply increasing.

Per staff, Hannibal would likely be able to afford a Ten Percent raise in the next budget year. BUT we owe it to HFD and HPD who serve all of us, not to mention the City we are meant serve as Council, to think beyond the next budget year.

We propose putting a 1/2 cent Public Safety Sales Tax on the ballot for voter approval to create a **dedicated** funding source for the Hannibal Police and Fire Departments. If passed, proceeds could only be used on HPD and HFD. Public Safety Taxes are used in the smallest towns and biggest cities all across Missouri.

A Ten Percent raise will also make salaries more competitive with surrounding area. This will also - reduce turnover and training expenses - stabilize staff reducing overtime expenses. Current staffing levels at HPD mean that Policemen are working unsustainable levels of overtime just to keep our streets patrolled, keeping our sworn officers away from home and their families.

Our Firefighters and Police Officers protect us and now it's our responsibility to protect their budgets for the foreseeable future.

This is a long term problem that deserves a long term solution. Any incremental property tax increase is a short term bandaid. That being said, we accept that on this topic there is more than one correct solution, we believe this proposal to be best for now and the future. Please read on for more details.

**FROM:**

**Charles Phillips, Councilperson for Hannibal's 4th Ward**

**Stephan Franke, Councilperson for Hannibal's 3rd Ward**

**Public Safety Tax Information**

To our knowledge at least thirty cities currently have Public Safety taxes on the books. There are very likely more than thirty cities, we simply quit looking for more once we found enough examples.

Each classification of City in Missouri has Public Safety Taxes in place, from towns of five hundred to the largest in the state.

These taxes are almost exclusively formatted as a sales tax and they range in size from 1/4 to 1 cent.

With rare exception, these taxes do NOT have a sunset.

We found roughly four examples of Public Safety Tax ballot measures failing. Two of those were structured as sales taxes and two as property taxes.

In our unscientific research, Public Safety Taxes pass almost every time they are on the ballot.

Please read on for more details.

**Hannibal**

If passed, folks who live somewhere other than Hannibal would pay for roughly 40% of a Public Safety sales tax.

Sales Tax Rates vs Cost		
Money Spent	Sales Tax Rate Percent	Cost to Consumer in Pennies
\$10	0.25	2.5
\$10	0.50	5
\$10	0.75	7.5
\$10	1	10

Hannibal Sales Tax Monies by Amount			
Year	0.25 Cent	0.5 Cent	0.75 Cent
2019	828,225.33	1,656,451.36	2,484,676.69
2020	863,505.95	1,727,012.85	2,590,518.8
2021	947,648.07	1,895,296.40	2,842,944.47
2022	1,020,713.46	2,041,427.72	3,062,141.18
Average	915,023.2025	1,830,047.0825	2,745,070.285

Budgets w/ Capital Expenses		
Year	HPD	HFD
2021 Actual	3,389,919	2,534,796
2022 Actual	3,273,667	2,306,746
2023 EOY	2,885,873	2,302,858
Average	3,183,153	2,381,466.67
Average HPD + HFD = 5,564,619.67		

Sales Tax Breakdown		
Jurisdiction	Purpose	Amount
State	General	3.0
	Education	1.0
	Conservation	0.125 (1/8)
	Soil	0.100
	Subtotal	4.225
County	General	0.5
	Capital Imp.	.375 (3/8)
	Roads	0.25
	Unaccounted for*	0.25
	Subtotal	1.375
City	General	1
	Capital Imp.	0.5
	Parks	0.5
	Infrastructure**	0.5
	Fire Prot. Dist.	0.25
	Subtotal	2.75
Other	Ambulance Dist.	0.50
Total		8.85

\*the County Total is from the state of Missouri.  
 Marion County is currently unable to provide full details  
 \*\* sunset

Please read on for more details.

**Public Safety Sales Tax Process**

Before putting a Public Safety Tax on the ballot in Hannibal, the Missouri Legislature must first give us permission.

Hannibal has successfully navigated this process before when the Bed Tax was first instituted.

The Public Safety permission process is common. The Legislature does so almost annually for towns of all sizes.

Public Sales Tax Approval Process	
2023	
by November 1st	hire a lobbyist
November	lobbyist will write language for a Bill and seek a Sponsor in the form of a State Representative or Senator
December 1st	sponsor will pre-file the Bill
December	lobbyist & sponsor look for co-sponsors, etc
2024	
January - May	lobbyist & sponsor will work in tandem to pass the Bill in any variety of way
November	take ballot proposal to voters, if previous steps successful

## Memo

To: Mayor and City Council

I wish to have an open conversation in regards to raising funds to cover the 10% pay increase asked for by our police and fire departments.

In our budget meeting, The mayor states "that our people are our greatest resources". I believe that we can all agree with that statement. Our city manager, who has found us millions of dollars in grant money to fix things like Union Street and North Street. She went toe to toe with the Army Corp of Engineers and won and saved the city hundreds of thousands of dollars for rebuilding the pumps for our downtown flood control system. In our budget meeting, she stated to the 10% asked by police and fire was to "find me the money". I trust our city manager who possesses a Masters degree in Public Policy and Administration to present us a balanced budget of which she did. We (councilmen looked though the lines and the only thing we could find to easily cut was the city wide pick up that won't fill the gap for the 10% increase.

I also heard rumblings that the council has kicked the can down the street for too long. That we need to do something to increase revenues. Our sales tax rate is presently 8.86% so I don't see that as an option. This leaves us with property taxes that have not been increased since 1973, Yes 50 years ago is when property taxes increased last. I checked with the county collector and the amount collected for 2022 real estate taxes for the city of Hannibal was \$2,012,836. The amount collected by the county for the city of Hannibal for Personal Property was \$606,368. If we proposed to the voters a 10% increase in real and personal property we would raise \$262,120 which would more than bridge the gap from the proposed increase for police and fire from 6% to 10%. So voters are going to say "how does that affect me and what I pay?". I consider myself average and looking at my own property taxes, just for the line that says "Hannibal City" my taxes on a 1400 square foot home would increase by \$26.49. My personal property would increase \$15.09. This would affect my tax bill \$41.58 a year. For me, a small increase to support and retain good firefighters and police officers. Going back to 1973, the minimum wage was \$1.60 an hour, even adjusted for inflation it is \$5.65 an hour. Today's minimum wage in Missouri is \$12.00 an hour. We couldn't live on 1973 wages, but somehow we are expecting Hannibal to survive on 1973 wages.....

I would hope that we could get support from the Chiefs of these two departments. If they are as passionate at service club presentations as they were at the budget workshop they should be able to convince those people to vote to support them. It would be a great opportunity for the fire department union members contact voters door to door, first to see if a working smoke



detector is in the home and second to educate the public on how they can support them. For the police department union members it would be a great opportunity to listen to people that have problems in their neighborhoods and then to educate them on a way that their department can be helped.

**Michael J. Dobson**

**Second Ward City Councilman**