

ORDINANCE NO. 98-5063

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF BILLINGS,
AMENDING THE CITY CHARTER OF BILLINGS,
MONTANA TO PROVIDE FOR A DEDICATED MILL LEVY
FOR FIRE AND POLICE PURPOSES TO BOTH MAINTAIN
AND INCREASE THE LEVEL OF FISCAL YEAR 1998-
1999 SERVICES BY INCREASING THE MILL LEVY
OVER THE NEXT FOUR FISCAL YEARS, AND
SUBMITTING THE PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE
ELECTORS OF THE CITY AS PROVIDED BY LAW.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BILLINGS,
MONTANA AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. AMENDMENT. Article I of the City Charter,
Billings, Montana, shall be amended as follows:

ARTICLE I--Powers of the City

Section 1.01. Powers of the City. The city shall have all powers possible for a self-government city to have under the Constitution and laws of this state as fully and completely as though they were specifically enumerated in this charter.

Section 1.02. Mill Levy Limit. The council shall not levy more than 74 mills on real and personal property for all purposes, except as specifically authorized by this charter. The mill levy on real and personal property may be increased only by an affirmative vote of a simple majority of the votes cast in an election on this question.

Section 1.03. Mill Levy for Transit. In addition to the mill levy authorized by subsection 1.02 of Article I, the city council may levy not more than ten (10) mills for transit purposes only.

Section 1.04. Mill Levy for Library. In addition to the mill levies authorized by subsections 1.02 and 1.03 of Article I, the city council may levy not more than five (5) mills for the purpose of providing funds for the operation, maintenance and capital needs of the Parmly Billings Library only.

Section 1.05. Mill Levy to Maintain and Increase Level of Fire and Police Services. In addition to the mill levies authorized by subsections 1.02, 1.03, and 1.04 of Article I, the city council may levy not to exceed the amount of mills set out hereafter for the purpose of increasing funds for the operation, maintenance and capital needs of the fire department and police department of the city. The increase shall be phased in over the next four fiscal years. The mill levies authorized by this subsection are intended to be

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permanent, are imposed to both maintain and increase the 1998-1999 level of service funded at \$15,443,284.00, and may only be imposed to pay the additional costs of these services which exceed \$15,443,284.00.

1999/2000 - 8 mills
2000/2001 - 16 mills
2001/2002 - 24 mills
2002/2003 - 32 mills

If both this Ordinance and Ordinance Number 98-5062 (to only maintain current levels of service) pass, then this Ordinance supercedes and repeals Ordinance Number 98-5062.

Section 1.056. Construction. The powers of the city under this charter shall be construed liberally in favor of the city, and the specific mention of particular powers in the charter shall not be construed as limiting in any way the general power stated in this article.

Section 2. REFERRAL TO ELECTORS. That this ordinance shall be referred to the electors of the City of Billings as soon as possible at a regular or primary election by resolution duly and regularly passed by the City Council.

Section 3. EFFECTIVE DATE. That pursuant to law this ordinance shall be effective 30 days after final approval but the amendments to the City Charter shall not be effective until approved by the electors as provided by law.

PASSED by the City Council on first reading this 28 day of July, 1998.

PASSED, ADOPTED and APPROVED on second reading this 10 day of August, 1998.

CITY OF BILLINGS

By Charles J. Tracy
 Mayor



ATTEST:

By Marita Nerved
 City Clerk