



Newsletter

Municipal Election Information

Election Day: Tuesday, April 5, 2016

Polling Place:

First Baptist Church basement, 214 Ferrel Street

Voting Time 7:00 am to 7:00 pm

The Platte City municipal election provides residents with the opportunity to select a Mayor and one aldermen in each of the three wards. The election also provides the opportunity to decide whether or not to continue an existing city sales tax.

Additional information related to the ballot measure on the city sales tax is provided below:

City Sales Tax on Out of State Purchase of Vehicles, Trailers, Boats & Outboard Motors

The exact language on the ballot is shown in italics below:

Shall the City of Platte City discontinue applying and collecting local sales tax on the titling of motor vehicles, trailers, boats and outboard motors that were purchased from a source other than a licensed Missouri dealer?

Approval of this measure will result in a reduction of local revenue to provide for vital services for Platte City and it will place Missouri dealers of motor vehicles, outboard motors, boats and trailers at a competitive disadvantage to non-Missouri dealers of the same items.

A "Yes" vote means that the local sales tax will be collected only on eligible in state purchases. Local sales tax collections on eligible out of state purchases will end and revenues the City is currently receiving will be lost.

A "No" vote means the existing tax will continue; no new tax will be collected.

Why is this issue on the ballot? A recent court decision and follow up state legislation requires cities that do not have a use tax (such as Platte City, Parkville, N. Kansas City) to receive voter approval by November 2016 to continue collecting current sales tax on the motor vehicles, boats, trailers and outboard motors purchased outside the State of Missouri.

This is not a new tax. Voters are being asked to continue the existing local sales tax on motor vehicles, boats, trailers and outboard motors purchased outside the State of Missouri.

City Meetings

City Hall, 400 Main Street:

Pub Safety: March 7, 5:30 pm
April 4, 5:30 pm

Pub Works : March 1, 5:30 pm
April 5, 5:30 pm

Planning Zoning: March 1, 7:00 pm
April 5, 7:00 pm

Econ Dev: March 15, 5:30 pm
April 19, 5:30 pm

Board of Aldermen: March 22, 7:00pm
April 26, 7:00 pm

Civic Center, 900 4th Street

Park Board: March 7, 6:30 pm
April 4, 6:30 pm

Municipal Court: March 1, 6:00 pm
April -- CANCELLED

City Officials

Mayor

Frank Offutt

Ward I Aldermen

Vickie Atkins

Brad Fryrear

Ward II Aldermen

Tony Paolillo

Lee Stubbs

Ward III Aldermen

Debbie Kirkpatrick

John Higgins

Municipal Judge

J. Greg Dorsey

City of Platte City

400 Main Street

Platte City, Missouri 64079

(816) 858-3046

www.plattecity.org

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How does this affect me? This issue only applies to individuals who live in Platte City and who purchase a motor vehicle, boat, trailer, or outboard motor outside of the State of Missouri. The same purchases made in-state will be subject to local sales tax regardless of the vote result.

What is the difference in taxes? Platte City residents currently pay 7.975% sales tax, including 4.225% state sales tax, 1.375% county sales tax and 2.375% city sales tax, on the purchase of a motor vehicle, boat, trailer or outboard motor. If the city sales tax is discontinued for purchases of these items outside the State of Missouri, residents would still pay 5.6% in state and county sales taxes on these out-of-state purchases and would pay 7.975% sales tax when these items are purchased inside the State of Missouri.

What is the impact on local business? The current sales tax provides a level playing field for local businesses. If the existing sales tax ends, Platte City auto and boat dealers would be at a competitive disadvantage compared to out-of-state dealerships whose sales would not be subject to the Platte City sales taxes.

What is the impact on local taxpayers? If the current tax is discontinued, Platte City residents who purchase cars inside the State of Missouri would be charged a higher sales tax to maintain city streets than those residents who drive the same streets but purchased their vehicle outside the State of Missouri.

What is the impact on the City services I receive? The current sales tax provides funding for general government operations, parks maintenance, transportation projects and capital projects. The general government operations funded by the city sales tax include public safety, street maintenance, sidewalk and trail rehabilitation, snow plowing and stormwater system maintenance. The parks operations funded by the city sales tax include maintenance and improvements at the various city parks and maintenance and improvements at the facilities used by the City's Recreation programs including ball fields and the civic center gymnasium. The transportation and capital projects funded by the city sales tax include the expansion and improvements to city streets, stormwater system, sidewalks, trails and other major public improvements. The loss of \$50,000 to \$75,000 in sales tax revenue each year will result in some reduction of these city services.

Contact D. J. Gehrt, City Administrator at djgehr@plattecity.org with any questions or for additional information regarding this matter.



MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR: SPRING CLEANUP APRIL 19TH-22ND, 2016

It's time to find all those items you want to throw out. This free event is open to all Platte City residents. Platte City crews will pick up almost any item other than hazardous material to include furniture, mattresses, four tires, regular trash, white goods (appliances) and water based paint (lid off and dried). Additional information on this event will be available in later newsletter. Call 858-4815 for additional information .