

New construction helps Winthrop's bottom line

BY DON NELSON

New construction will benefit the Town of Winthrop's tax base for the 2022 budget year, the Town Council learned at its meeting last week.

The council held public hearings on and adopted routine 1% increases in the town's local property tax levy, and the emergency services levy collected to support Aero Methow Rescue Service. The 1% increase in local property tax levies is the legal limit under state law without a

vote by residents.

The town's levy in 2021 was \$200,259, and a 1% increase would add \$2,002. The approved levy for 2022, however, is \$211,704, which is a direct reflection of added property value from new construction, Town Clerk Michelle Gaines explained.

The town's assessed valuation increased from \$115,046,089 in 2020 to \$130,692,098 in 2021.

In other business, the council:

- Reviewed a proposed 2022 budget and set a public hearing for its next meeting, on Dec. 1 at

6 p.m. in the Hen House room at the Winthrop Barn. The hearing can also be attended via the Zoom platform.

- Approved the appointment of Rita Kenny to the Winthrop Planning Commission. It's a return to the planning role for Kenny, who served on the commission in the past. She is the former co-owner of Winthrop Mountain Sports. "We're very excited for her return," Mayor Sally Ranzau said. One opening remains on the Planning Commission. Contact the town at 996-

2320 if interested.

- Received encouraging updates on other revenue streams for 2021. The town's retail sales and use tax collections through Oct. 31 totaled \$423,483, compared to \$443,519 for all of 2020, so the town is on track to exceed last year's total. Stadium motel/hotel tax collections were at \$131,095 through Oct. 31 compared to \$147,181 for all of 2020; hotel/motel 3% tax collections stood at \$196,608 through Oct. 31 compared to \$220,772 for all of 2020.

NEWS BRIEFS

MEDICARE OPEN ENROLLMENT THROUGH DEC. 7

The Medicare Open Enrollment Period this year is scheduled for Oct. 15 through Dec. 7, and is a time when people can enroll, switch plans, or join a Part D drug plan.

The Statewide Health Insurance Benefits Advisors program is a part of the state Office of the Insurance Commissioner, and can provide one-on-one counseling and support.

For more information, go to www.insurance.wa.gov.

SLASH PILE BURNING

The Washington Department of Natural Resources (DNR) plans to burn slash piles from a 2019 thinning and logging project on Virginia Ridge from now through the end of November, weather permitting. DNR advises that people may see smoke in the area.

COUNTY OFFICES CLOSE EARLY

The Okanogan County Assessor, Auditor and Treasurer offices will close at noon on Wednesday (Nov. 24) in observance of Thanksgiving.

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LEGAL NOTICES

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE BUDGET SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN by the Board of Okanogan County Commissioners that a Public Hearing is set for 10:35 p.m. on Tuesday, November 29, 2021 and will be held via ZOOM, in the County Commissioners' Hearing Room. Those wishing to attend may do so via the following: Join Zoom Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83440791433> Meeting ID: 834 4079 1433 Or Join by Phone: +1 253 215 8782 Or +1 669 900 9128 Meeting ID: 834 4079 1433. The purpose of the hearing is to receive public comment for or against the consideration of a budget supplemental appropriation within Emergency Services Fund 121 in the amount of \$96,650. The budget supplemental is from HMGP Grant revenue and Emergency Services Public Health revenue and will be used for Small Tools and Professional Services for: General, Incident, and Homeland Security services. The hearing will be held remotely in the County Commissioners' Hearing Room located at 123 5th Avenue North, Okanogan, Washington. Persons wishing to comment may attend the hearing via Zoom to be called on for comment or submit comments in writing to the Commissioners' Office at 123 5th Avenue North, Okanogan, Washington 98840, or by email to ljohns@co.okanogan.wa.us

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PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE BUDGET SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN

LEGAL NOTICES

by the Board of Okanogan County Commissioners that a Public Hearing is set for 10:30 p.m. on Tuesday, November 29, 2021 and will be held via ZOOM, in the County Commissioners' Hearing Room. Those wishing to attend may do so via the following: Join Zoom Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83440791433> Meeting ID: 834 4079 1433 Or Join by Phone: +1 253 215 8782 Or +1 669 900 9128 Meeting ID: 834 4079 1433. The purpose of the hearing is to receive public comment for or against the consideration of a budget supplemental appropriation within TSC-911 COMMUNICATIONS Fund 120 in the amount of \$85,000. The budget supplemental is from Reserved Ending Fund Balance and will be used for Equipment Replacement. The hearing will be held remotely in the County Commissioners' Hearing Room located at 123 5th Avenue North, Okanogan, Washington. Persons wishing to comment may attend the hearing via Zoom to be called on for comment or submit comments in writing to the Commissioners' Office at 123 5th Avenue North, Rm 150, Okanogan, Washington 98840, or by email to ljohns@co.okanogan.wa.us

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OKANOGAN COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT a public hearing will be held on December 7, 2021 at 11:00 A.M., in the Okanogan County Commissioners hearing room, located at 123 5th Ave North, Room 150, Okanogan Washington regarding an application for a 50-year franchise by Methow Valley Irrigation District, to construct, operate, and maintain an irrigation water line.

Franchise is located within the county right-of-way of the roads listed below all within Okanogan County:

- OCR# 3525 Elmer City Access Road
 - OCR# 3505 Quail Lane
 - OCR# 3511 Pine Drive
 - OCR# 3519 Lone Pine Lane
 - OCR# 3523 Riverview Drive
- All within Township 39N, Range 30 EWM, Sections 19&30. Members of the public may

LEGAL NOTICES

comment on this proposal. All written comments must be received prior to the start of the public hearing in order to be entered into the record. Testimonies will be heard during the Public Hearing at the above time and location. Please send written comments to Okanogan County Department of Public Works, Jo Ann Stansbury, 1234A 2nd Ave. S., Okanogan WA 98840 or email to jstansbury@co.okanogan.wa.us.

Dated November 9, 2021 at Okanogan, Washington.
Josh Thomson, P.E.
County Engineer
Published in the *Methow Valley News* November 24; *December 1, 2021; Okanogan Valley Gazette-Tribune* November 25; *December 2, 2021. OVG943628*

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE BUDGET SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN by the Board of Okanogan County Commissioners that a Public Hearing is set for 2:50 p.m. on Tuesday, December 7, 2021 and

will be held via ZOOM, in the County Commissioners' Hearing Room. Those wishing to attend may do so via the following: Join Zoom Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86028975191> Meeting ID: 860 2897 5191 Or Join by Phone: +1 253 215 8782 +1 669 900 9128 +1 346 248 7799 Meeting ID: 860 2897 5191. The purpose of the hearing is to receive public comment for or against the consideration of a budget supplemental appropriation within Current Expense Fairgrounds Fund 001.028 in the amount of \$39,000. The budget supplemental revenue is from Fairgrounds Facility Rentals and will be used for Professional Services, Small Tools, Overtime, and Maintenance Tech. The hearing will be held remotely in the County Commissioners' Hearing Room located at 123 5th Avenue North, Okanogan, Washington. Persons wishing to comment may attend the hearing via Zoom to be called on for comment or submit comments in writing to the Commissioners' Office at 123 5th Avenue North, Rm 150, Okanogan, Washington 98840, or by email to ljohns@co.okanogan.wa.us

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PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE BUDGET SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN by the Board of Okanogan County Commissioners that a Public Hearing is set for 2:55 p.m. on Tuesday,

LEGAL NOTICES

December 7, 2021 and will be held via ZOOM, in the County Commissioners' Hearing Room. Those wishing to attend may do so via the following: Join Zoom Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86028975191> Meeting ID: 860 2897 5191 Or Join by Phone: +1 253 215 8782 +1 669 900 9128 +1 346 248 7799 Meeting ID: 860 2897 5191. The purpose of the hearing is to receive public comment for or against the consideration of a budget supplemental appropriation within the Title III Fund 137 in the amount of \$5,202. The budget supplemental is from a Title III Transfer Out line item originally budgeted for Emergency Management and will be used for Fire Wise Program. The hearing will be held remotely in the County Commissioners' Hearing Room located at 123 5th Avenue North, Okanogan, Washington. Persons wishing to comment may attend the hearing via Zoom to be called on for comment or submit comments in writing to the Commissioners' Office at 123 5th Avenue North, Rm 150, Okanogan, Washington 98840, or by email to ljohns@co.okanogan.wa.us

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KAISER SP 2021-15 NOTICE OF APPLICATION AND SEPA EXEMPTION

An application for a short subdivision has been submitted by NCW Land Surveying, LLC, on behalf of Robert Kaiser to divide approximately 5.57 acres into 2 lots. Both proposed lots to be served by on-site septic systems and domestic water from Progressive Flat Water system. The property is identified by parcel # 8873220200 located at 226 Conconully Rd, outside the City of Okanogan, WA.

The Okanogan County SEPA Responsible Official issued a final SEPA determination identifying this project is exempt from SEPA review in accordance with WAC 197-11.

The comment period for this project ends December 27, 2021 at 5pm. Comments must be submitted in writing. Direct questions and comments to: Charlene Schumacher, Senior Planner, Okanogan County Office of Planning & Development, 123 5th Ave. N, Suite 130, Okanogan, WA 98840, (509) 422-7113 or by e-mail at cschumacher@co.okanogan.wa.us.

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