From: Mike Nugent
To: J. Kevin Hunt; Grp. City Council and City Web Site
Subject: Re: TERRIBLE mil levy instead of taxing the RICH
Date: Wednesday, July 27, 2022 12:19:10 PM

Thank you for your comment, Mr. Hunt.

The voters of the state of Montana passed a constitutional amendment prohibiting a transfer tax, so that is not a solution that is within the control of the city council. Making a change of that order would require the voters repealing the constitutional amendment and the legislature implementing that tax structure.

The city council has no ability to levy taxes in any serious way other than property taxes and does not have the ability to tier those taxes based on the wealth of the property owner.

You will find no disagreement from us that the property tax system in Montana is broken, and the state is passing of responsibility for basic citizen issues on to already overburdened local governments. The choices at our disposal are essentially limited to raising property taxes or not. I know people get sick of hearing that answer, but it is not an excuse, it is simply the truth.

Obviously, there are many opinions on what should and should not be in the budget as we go through that process, but I think it is important that whenever possible we make sure people understand the very limited scope the city of Missoula has when it comes to taxing ability.

Mike

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From: J. Kevin Hunt <jkhesq23@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 27, 2022 11:53 AM
To: Grp. City Council and City Web Site <Council@ci.missoula.mt.us>
Subject: TERRIBLE mil levy instead of taxing the RICH

I watched Committee of the Whole today but had technical issues trying to comment. These are my comments (also mad in chat):

J. Kevin Hunt 1. Impose a local option ad valorum tax on house sales at price points of $750K and higher.

Stop placing the burdens on the struggling average Missoulian.

J. Kevin Hunt 2. This is iike the Tonkin Gulf Resolution and the open-ended, vague resolution Congress passed giving GW Bush carte blanche to wage war on what came to be 15 countries.

J. Kevin Hunt 3. The funding mechanism is ill advised. Tax the wealthy buying big footprint housing.

J. Kevin Hunt 4. Patting yourself on the back for being creative & progressive doesn't jibe with the lack of creativity and regressivity represented by a 20 mil levy. Tax the rich. The choice is NOT this (mil levy) or nothing.

/s/ J. Kevin Hunt

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