

CITY OF KEIZER MISSION STATEMENT
**KEEP CITY GOVERNMENT COSTS AND SERVICES TO A MINIMUM BY PROVIDING CITY
SERVICES TO THE COMMUNITY IN A COORDINATED, EFFICIENT AND LEAST COST FASHION**

A G E N D A

KEIZER CITY COUNCIL
SPECIAL SESSION

Tuesday, October 27, 1998

3:00 p.m.

**Robert L. Simon Council Chambers
Keizer City Hall
Keizer, Oregon 97303**

1. CALL TO ORDER

2. ROLL CALL

3. ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION

- a. 1998-99 Urban Renewal Special Levy Issue**

4. OTHER BUSINESS

This time is provided to allow the Mayor, Council Members or staff an opportunity to bring new or old matters before the Council which are not listed on the agenda.

5. ADJOURN

Upon request, auxiliary aids and/or special services for those with disabilities will be provided. To request services, please contact us at 390-3700 or through Oregon Relay 1-800-735-2900 at least two working days (48 hours) in advance.

COUNCIL MEETING: October 27, 1998

AGENDA ITEM NUMBER: _____

TO: MAYOR KOHO AND CITY COUNCILORS

**THROUGH: WALLY G. MULL
CITY MANAGER**

**FROM: SUSAN GAHLSDORF, CPA
FINANCE DIRECTOR**

SUBJECT: 1998-99 Urban Renewal Special Levy issue

BACKGROUND:

On October 21, 1998, City staff found out, through a front page article in the Statesman Journal, that a special levy was to be imposed on the Keizer Urban Renewal District. Staff contacted Marion County Assessor's Office immediately and requested an explanation. We were told that the City would receive approximately \$1,100,000 in revenue from an Urban Renewal special levy. We explained that we did not ask for nor want a special levy. We were told that the Assessor was going to certify the tax rolls the next day and it was too late to make changes. Tax bills were mailed on Friday, October 23, 1998.

ISSUE:

Because the Council did not want or intend to assess the special levy portion of Option One, but the Urban Renewal District will receive this money anyway, we contacted the County about possible refunds. County Assessor Doug Ebner, referred us to the Department of Revenue. Representatives from Department of Revenue indicated that there is no legal basis to issue a refund. We have discussed this issue with the Department of Revenue over the past few days and they have not changed their position regarding a possible refund.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Staff has made inquiries with Marion County regarding the cost of a refund. The County did not have the information on how much a refund would cost. If for some reason a refund is not possible, the Urban Renewal District has other options. One of which would be to pay down the Urban Renewal District's long-term debt. Another option would be to speed up the planned Urban Renewal District projects. The fiscal impact of each of these options is not known and will need to be researched depending on the direction of the Council.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommend that Council provide us with the direction it wishes to take to remedy this issue.

Date: October 23, 1998

To: Keizer City Council:

From: Robert Hugie
426 Lakefair Circle N
Keizer, Oregon 97303

RE: \$1.1 million special assessment for urban renewal projects

Dear Council Members:

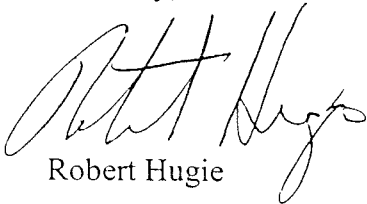
The article in today's Statesman Journal is very disturbing. It appears that the City Council has unilaterally imposed a new tax on property owners. In my opinion, this new tax is immoral. The voters of Oregon have gone to great lengths to instruct state and local government agencies that property taxes must not be increased beyond 3 percent per year without specific voter approval. Although measure 50 does have provisions for additional levies, ALL new levies must be approved by voters. If specific voter approval is not necessary then measure 50 was just a joke, and politicians are free to raise new property taxes at their sole discretion, year after year, just like in the old days.

In an era of eroding public trust in government, it seems unconscionable for the City Council to even consider the current special assessment without putting it to a vote of all Keizer residents. Actions like this special assessment may lessen voters' willingness to approve truly necessary measures like the upcoming vote on bonded debt to fund construction of new schools.

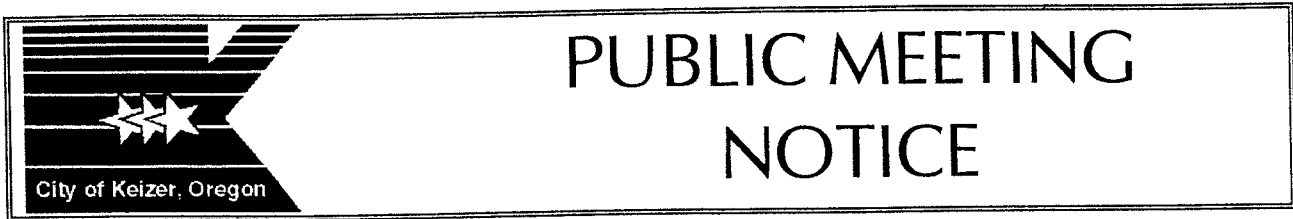
Please take an honest look at your strategy for imposing this special assessment. I believe your strategy is contrary to the will of the taxpayers. Even the Marion County Assessor is opposed to your actions in this matter. I believe the City Council must follow the spirit of measure 50 if they expect to have the support of the community.

Please send me an explanation of your rationale for imposing this special assessment without putting it to the voters.

Sincerely,



Robert Hugie



FAXED

KEIZER CITY COUNCIL SPECIAL SESSION

The Keizer City Council will hold a special session on **Tuesday, October 27, 1998 at 3:00 p.m.** This meeting will be held in the Robert L. Simon Council Chambers, Keizer City Hall, 930 Chemawa Road NE, Keizer, Oregon. The Council will discuss the Urban Renewal Tax issue.

The location of the meeting is accessible to the disabled. Please contact the City Recorder at 390-3700, extension 108 at least 48 hours prior to the hearing if you will need any special accommodations to attend the meeting.

If you have any questions regarding these meetings, please contact the City Recorder or Wally Mull, City Manager at 390-3700, extension 102.

DATED this 26th day of October, 1998

Tracy L. Davis, CMC
City Recorder

Notice for Informational Purposes Only