

(/)

Main menu



(https://enterprisebanners.creativecirclemedia.com/www/delivery/cl.php?bannerid=1031&zoneid=3&sig=f3e19b3914c16c93aedfc679a2e8981ce145ef0e5c49de87a1bddbe89b6e5388&oadest=http%3A%2F%2Facerenttoown.com)

Blair voters to decide on half-cent sales tax increase



(https://delta.creativecirclecdn.com/enterprise/large/20240216-154928-

download.png.jpg)

Buy this photo

By Kevin Bumgarner - editor@enterprisepub.com

The Blair City Council unanimously approved a resolution at Tuesday night's meeting that will add a question to the May 14 statewide primary election ballot asking whether residents are willing to pay an extra half penny in local sales tax.

The money, which could add as much as \$1 million a year to city sales tax revenue, would be used for infrastructure projects related to economic development efforts.

The city of Blair currently collects 1.5 cents in sales tax revenue on local purchases, which is on top of the state's 5.5 cent sales tax that is also applied to local purchases.

City Administrator Phil Green said that if approved by voters there are a variety of ways the additional money could be used, but infrastructure for housing and road maintenance and repairs are two of Blair's biggest needs at the moment.

"There are numerous large, challenging projects facing the city of Blair right now," Green told council members. He specifically referenced the need for housing infrastructure and the South Bypass project, which is taking money the city normally would be using for other transportation projects. Plans also are in the works for preliminary engineering and design work on a North Bypass.

"There's no way we can keep our streets maintained, finish up the South Bypass and especially get ready for the North Bypass without this additional money," Green told The Enterprise following the meeting.

The South Bypass is scheduled to open by late July or early August, and design work on the North Bypass could take up to six years to complete, Green told The Enterprise.

In other business Tuesday night, the council:

- Approved closing roads along the route of the Gateway to the West parade, scheduled for June 8. The parade will start at 16th Street and Butler, go north on 16th Street to South Street, turn east on South Street to 15th Street, go north on 15th Street to Washington Street, go west on Washington Street to 18th Street, at 18th Street go south to South Street before going east on South Street to 17th Street before ending at 17th Street and Butler. Those streets will be closed from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.
- The council also voted to allow the closing of Lincoln Street between 17th and 18th streets, and 17th Street from Washington to Colfax between June 6 and June 9 for Merriam's Carnival, the car show and craft show that also will be part of the Gateway to the West celebration.

• The council also gave preliminary approval to hire three new police officers, subject to the candidates passing an array of tests. If all three come on board, that will bring the number of Blair police officers to 18.

OTHER ITEMS THAT MAY INTEREST YOU

Blair's freshman class meeting goals for college ... (/stories/blairs-freshman-class-meeting-goals-for-college-readiness,59957)

Pioneer student named World Language Distinguished ... (/stories/pioneer-student-named-world-language-distinguished-scholar,59953)

Blair's Housing Advisory Committee gets started (/stories/blairs-housing-advisory-committee-gets-started,59902)

Mental health awareness conference held in Fort ... (/stories/mental-health-awareness-conference-held-in-fort-calhoun,59900)



(https://enterprisebanners.creativecirclemedia.com/www/delivery/cl.php?



bannerid=61&zoneid=2&sig=043f952359f9760091a51b7e10b5c8c692b5eb79465e65e34e693ec9b997e663&oadest=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.woodhouse.com%2F)

Local news

Blair's freshman class meeting goals for college readiness (/stories/blairs-freshman-class-meeting-goals-for-college-readiness,59957)

Missouri S&T announces honor list (/stories/missouri-st-announces-honor-list,59955)

Library to host 5th annual student art exhibit (/stories/library-to-host-5th-annual-student-art-exhibit,59954)

Pioneer student named World Language Distinguished Scholar (/stories/pioneer-student-named-world-language-distinguished-scholar,59953)

Blair's Housing Advisory Committee gets started (/stories/blairs-housing-advisory-committee-gets-started,59902)

Mental health awareness conference held in Fort Calhoun (/stories/mental-health-awareness-conference-held-in-fort-calhoun,59900)

Blood drive hosted at high school (/stories/blood-drive-hosted-at-high-school,59898)

'Don't you (forget about me)' (/stories/dont-you-forget-about-me,59897)

More news ▶ (/news/)



(https://enterprise banners.creative circle media.com/www/delivery/cl.php?

bannerid=884&zoneid=1&sig=10b7b2d640f1cd9cbe2004ea913f7cdb0d1d020a9f94c872c2a863866fc2e6dc&oadest=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.lincolnfed.com%2Fresidential-loans%231)

E-edition



Tuesday, March 12, 2024 (/stories/tuesday-march-12-2024,59925)

View this issue (/stories/tuesday-march-12-2024,59925)

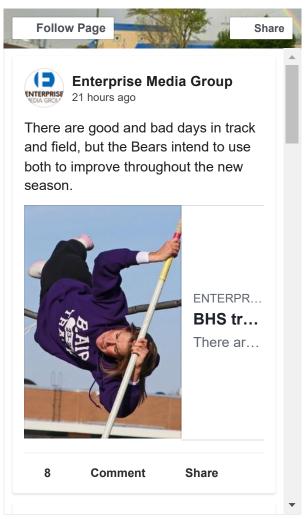
Browse other issues (/eeditions/)

(/stories/tuesday-march-12-2024,59925)



Follow us on Facebook





Read more ▶ (https://www.facebook.com/EnterprisePub)

(/)

138 N 16th St

Blair, Nebraska 68008

Phone: 1-402-426-2121 (tel:1-402-426-2121)

Email: editor@enterprisepub.com (mailto:editor@enterprisepub.com)

SECTIONS

News (/news/)
Obituaries (/obituaries/)
Opinion (/opinion/)

Sports (/sports/)
Living (/living/)
E-edition (/eeditions/)

Marketplace (/classifieds/) Subscribe (/subscribe/)

Our newspapers

LINKS OF INTEREST

Contact us (/contact/) Classifieds (/classifieds/) Search (/search.html)

Submit

Notices (/public-notices/)

Special publications (/type/refers/category/special-

publications/browse.html)

GET SOCIAL



© COPYRIGHT 2024 WASHINGTON COUNTY ENTERPRISE POWERED BY CREATIVE CIRCLE MEDIA SOLUTIONS (HTTP://CREATIVECIRCLEMEDIA.COM)