**MESSAGE TO MIDVALE CITY PROPERTY TAX PAYERS**

The Mayor and City Council of Midvale City invite you to attend a public hearing about an increase in our property tax rate on Tuesday, August 9, 2016, at 7:00 p.m. The hearing will be held at Midvale City Hall, 7505 S. Holden Street, Midvale, Utah.

Midvale last raised property tax in 2010 by 17%. The average residence paid $40 more per year.

In 2011 Midvale contracted police service with Unified Police Department (UPD) and joined the United Fire Authority (UFA) fire district. Outsourcing these services saves the city over $1.5 million per year. Both agencies are serving us well. City growth and rising police costs have increased our contract with UPD an average of 5.5% per year, totaling $1.4 million. UFA is funded by a separate tax administered by the fire district.

Funding road maintenance is another pressing need. The recent Salt Lake County vote to raise fuel tax would have produced $540,000 per year for road repairs; however, the vote failed. The current estimate for bringing all of our roads up to the desired condition is about $9 million.

In order to sustain excellent public safety and improve our well-traveled roads, we recommend increasing our property tax rate. While a 107% increase looks daunting, the average residence will pay $64 per year, or $5.33 per month. The percentage is high because Midvale currently receives just under $1 million from property tax each year, representing only 5% of our total General Fund budget.

The City issued General Obligation bonds in 1999 to build fire and police stations. Because of the savings achieved by outsourcing public safety, the debt service on this bond has not been assessed on your property tax bill since 2010. We plan to assess property tax for the debt service this year. The average residence will pay $25 per year, or $2.08 per month.

Currently, Midvale City receives only 4% of your total property tax bill. If the new rate is adopted, the City will receive 10% of your total property tax bill. Almost 50% of your property tax dollars support the public schools.

Thank you for your support and we look forward to seeing you at the public hearing. If you would like more information, please call 801-567-7238.