CITY COUNCIL AGENDA ITEM COVER MEMO

Agenda Item Number_____

Meeting Type: Regular

Meeting Date: 6/14/2012

Action Requested By:
Legal

Agenda Item Type
Ordinance

Subject Matter:

6 1/2 mil tax for Huntsville City Schools

Exact Wording for the Agenda:

Ordinance authorizing a referendum for the renewal of the 6 1/2 mil tax for the benefit of Huntsville City Schools to be placed on the August 28, 2012 municipal ballot.

Note: If amendment, please state title and number of the original

Item to be considered for: Introduction

Unanimous Consent Required: Yes

Briefly state why the action is required; why it is recommended; what Council action will provide, allow
and accomplish and; any other information that might be helpful.

Associated Cost:

Budgeted Item: Yes

MAYOR RECOMMENDS OR CONCURS: Yes

Department Head: _____

Date: 6-7-12

revised 3/12/2012

ORDINANCE NO. 2012 - _____

WHEREAS, in 1985 the City Council of the City of Huntsville authorized the levy of a 5 mil ad valorem tax, now adjusted to 6 ½ mil to be used by the City of Huntsville Schools for capital outlay; and

WHEREAS, said tax expires with the tax year ending September 30, 2015; and

WHEREAS, the proceeds from said tax are needed on a continuing basis to maintain accreditation and quality education standards with respect to the City of Huntsville Schools; and

WHEREAS, the City of Huntsville Board of Education has requested the Mayor and City Council to place the renewal of the 6 ½ mil tax on the ballot for consideration at the next Regular Municipal Election scheduled on August 28, 2012; and

WHEREAS, it is the judgment and opinion of the Mayor and City Council of the City of Huntsville, Alabama that the levy should in fact be renewed for general school purposes.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the City council of the city of Huntsville (the "City") in the State of Alabama as follows:

Section 1. Call for Referendum. A referendum seeking approval from the qualified voters of the City of Huntsville for the renewal of the 6 ½ mil tax for the benefit of Huntsville City Schools shall be placed on the ballot for consideration at the next Regular Municipal Election scheduled on August 28, 2012.

Section 2. Notice of Referendum. The Mayor of the City is hereby directed to give notice of the election in the manner provided by law in substantially the following form by publication in *The Huntsville Times*, a newspaper published in the City, once a week for three consecutive weeks, the first publication to be made not later than Thursday, June 21, 2012:

NOTICE OF REFERENDUM APPEARING ON NEXT MUNICIPAL BALLOT

Notice is hereby given that a referendum will be held in the City of Huntsville in the State of Alabama on Tuesday, the 28th of August, 2012, between the legal hours for the holding of elections in the City, at which there will be submitted to the qualified electors of the said City, for their determination by ballot, the following proposition: Whether the said City shall be authorized to levy annually, in addition to all other taxation and in renewal and continuation of the special tax at the same

rate that is now being levied in the City for certain public school purposes, a special ad valorem tax for public school purposes in the City at the excess rate of six and one-half (6 1/2) mills on each dollar of the assessed valuation of all property in the City subject to taxation by it for a period of thirty (30) consecutive years commencing with the tax year of the City for which taxes will become due and payable on October 1, 2016 and continuing until and including the tax year of the City for which taxes will become due and payable on October 1, 2046.

The election shall be at regularly established voting places in the City.

Section 3. Form of Referendum to Appear on Ballots. The following is hereby adopted as the form of the official referendum proposition to be used at the election referred to in the Notice of Referendum set out in Section 2 of this ordinance, which ballot shall be prepared under the direction of the Mayor of the City for use in the voting machines at the respective voting places:

PROPOSITION

Shall the City of Huntsville, Alabama, be authorized to levy annually, in addition to all other taxation and in renewal and continuation of the special tax at the same rate that is now being levied in the city for certain public school purposes, a special ad valorem tax for public school purposes in the city at the excess rate of 6 ½ mills on each dollar of assessed valuation of all property in the city subject to taxation by it for a period of thirty (30) consecutive years commencing with the tax year of the city for which taxes will become due and payable on October 1, 2016, and continuing until, and including, the tax year of the city for which taxes will become due and payable on October 1, 2046?

( ) FOR proposed special ad valorem tax at the excess rate of 6 ½ mills on each dollar of the assessed valuation of all property for the tax years for which taxes will become due and payable on October 1 in each of the years 2016 to 2046, inclusive

( ) AGAINST FOR proposed special ad valorem tax at the excess rate of 6 ½ mills on each dollar of the assessed valuation of all property for the tax years for which taxes will become due and payable on October 1 in each of the years 2016 to 2046, inclusive

The form of the referendum question appearing on the official absentee ballot to be used at the election shall be the same as the foregoing form of the official ballot

Section 4. This ordinance shall become effective upon its adoption and publication.

ADOPTED this the ____ day of _____, 2012.

_____
President of the City Council for the
City of Huntsville, Alabama

ADOPTED this the ____ day of _____, 2012.

_____
Mayor of the City of Huntsville, Alabama