### Taxes lowered, signs addressed in Hebron Estates

BY STEPHEN THOMAS THE PIONEER NEWS

HEBRON ESTATES — Taxpayers in Hebron Estates will get a slight bit of relief, which in turn will not impact city government.

Commission voted unanimously to set the city's ad valorem real property tax rate set at 8.129 cents per \$100 of real property. That means a homeowner with \$100,000 worth of real property would be billed \$81.29.

The rate was lowered from last year's rate set at 8.22 cents. City attorney Mark Edison said the 8.129 rate was the estimated compensating rate, meaning the city would collect the same amount of revenue this year based on the rate.

The commission was allowed to legally increase the rate up to 8.27 cents. However, Edison reminded that anything over the 8.129 cents would result in a public hearing prior to approval.

Commissioner James Tucker made a motion to keep the rate the same at 8.22, though mayor Jerry Clark reminded that a public hearing would be necessary. Clark said the city hosted a public hearing last year, but no one from the community attended.

Clark asked about the difference between the 8.129 and amounted to basically one-tenth of a cent per \$10 or \$1 on a \$100,000 home.

made a motion to accept the 8.129 compensating rate. With two motions on the table, Tucker withdrew his.

The commission also approved personal property and public utilities tax rates, both set at 10 cents per \$100. Edison said both rates could be set at any amount but must be set at the same rate. The 10-cent

many years.

Residents who pay their tax bills prior to Nov. 1 will receive a 2 percent discount.

#### IN OTHER BUSINESS:

- The commission unani-The Hebron Estates City mously approved a revised sign ordinance.

Business-related operations must file plans with the city and acquire a permit. No signs will be allowed on right-of-ways, easements, or utility poles. Damaged signs are not allowed, and replacement signs would require a new permit.

Fees are \$35 for an application and an added fee for reviewing the request. Electrical inspections will cost an additional \$200. There is also a \$35 fee for re-lettering a sign.

Clark mentioned complaints received about temporary signs staying up longer than the allotted three days. He said sign owners would take them down after three days, but then put them back up the following day for three more.

"It's not a temporary sign if they take it down and they're putting it right back up," Edison said. He added that if the sign was taken down, then a new permit must be required to put it back up.

To clarify, temporary signs in that situation are illegal," the mayor announced. He added the 8.22 rates. Edison said it that Hillview Code Enforcement Ofc. Angie Hurst would be taking care of the issue.

-The commission discussed Commissioner Bob Denner potential upgrades to the city's solicitation ordinance.

Clark and assistant city clerk Nancy Steele said that aggressive solicitors were in the city recently, pounding on doors and sticking their foot inside open doors.

"As far as I'm concerned, we don't need solicitors at all," Clark added.

Concerns were raised about

rate has not been changed for an overall law of no soliciting and its impact on groups such as Scouts, firefighters or churches. Edison said a no solicitation law had to be allinclusive.

> 'No means no," Edison said. "We have kids that sell things for fundraisers," said Clark. "You hate to stop that but you don't want someone tearing your door down."

> Clark encouraged anyone with solicitation issues to immediately call Central Dispatch for a police officer. He reiterated that he was in favor of the no solicitation addition.

> Tucker suggested to leave the ordinance as is, noting that there weren't a lot of issues reported. Clark countered that one complaint was one too many.

Commissioner Kathy Merrifield said anyone experiencing an issue should call police. She agreed that the ordinance should not be changed.

Edison reminded that the city's entrance sign read no soliciting without a permit. Clark mentioned some solicitors claimed having permits, which turned out to be for other cities.

No further action was taken on the solicitation ordinance.

- Denner addressed ongoing concerns regarding speeding. Hillview Police chief Bill Mahoney reported 25 traffic stops during the previous month, down from the month prior when HPD began patrolling Hebron Estates.

Mahoney said police could not patrol every section of every street 24-7, but rather patrolled various areas at various times, so as to make drivers think twice before deciding to drive faster.

- The next Hebron Estates City Commission meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, Oct. 7,7 pm, at the city's community center on Burkland Boulevard. The public is invited to attend.

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### Tax rates continue to lower in MW

**BY STEPHEN THOMAS** THE PIONEER NEWS

MOUNT WASHING-TON — While lowering taxes has become a recent trend throughout Bullitt County, the city of Mount Washington was ahead of the curve.

The city has lowered its ad valorem real and personal property tax rates for the past five years, albeit slightly. That continued in 2025 with another slight increase approved by the city council.

The new rate of 8.7 cents per \$100 of property was approved by a 4-0 vote, with council members Troy Barr and Greg Gentry absent. That means that property valued at \$100,000 would result in a tax payment of \$87.

The rate dropped from the previous year's rate of 8.8 cents and was set at 9.0 cents the year prior. Council member Sandra Hockenbury said she was pleased that the city could continue to lower the rate.

Council member Layne Abell added that new growth within Republic Services bought out the city limits, along with recently increased assessments, made the increase possible. Mayor Stuart Owen, at a previous meeting, said the

overall tax revenue would to your service," Owen increase by an estimated \$34,000.

Tax bills are due by Dec. 31. Customers who pay their tax bills prior to Nov. 30 will receive a 2 percent discount. Delinquent routes by the new company. bills are subject to a 10 percent Hardin added that Republic penalty and bear interest at a rate of 12 percent per annum.

### **IN OTHER BUSINESS**

- The council approved the adoption of changes to the city's Personnel Policy and Procedure handbook.

Changes included increased maternity/paternity leave, as well as an allotment of three personal days and a volunteer day which the employee could devote toward community services.

City clerk Dawn Hardin mentioned that each city employee would receive an additional personal day to be used by Dec. 31, with the threeday addition going into effect for 2026. She said personal days could not be carried forward into the next year.

- Owen announced that Green River Waste, the company under contract to provide trash collection services for the city.

"You will not see any change

announced.

The only possible difference to future service, Owen said, would come following an evaluation of current collection Services would utilize Green River receptacles.

According to Hardin, Republic Services will officially take over the remained of Green River's contract with the city as of Oct. 1. Owen mentioned that Republic Services was the second-largest collection service agency in the country.

Abell said he was pleased with the summer concert series provided by the city in Wesbanco Ampitheatre at the city's sports complex, adding that some of the concerts were louder than others.

According to Abell, high decibel readings were recorded at residences in neighborhoods located nearby the park.

The council member felt it was something the city should investigate and consider before the start of next year's series.

- The next Mount Washington City Council meeting is scheduled for Monday, Oct. 13, 6:30 pm, at Fick Hall. The public is invited to attend.

### LEBANON

FROM PAGE A1

the end of Railroad Avenue there will be Bounce Around E-town Inflatables. A variety of fun activities will be held on Friday from 5-9 p.m. and Saturday from Noon until 9

Armbands for unlimited play on Friday would be \$10 and on Saturday for \$15.

There will also be free miniature train rides, provided by the city of Hillview, from 5-9 p.m. on Friday and on Saturday starting at Noon.

On Saturday, there wil monster trucks from the parade on the Railroad Avenue property.

There will be a cake wheel operated by Dennie Memorial Methodist Church starting at Noon on Saturday in front of Mamee's. Get there early as the wheel continues until all the cakes are won.

There will be a pet contest, sponsored by Barktown Rescue starting at 3 p.m. on Saturday. Entry fees will be \$5 with the contest in front of the caboose.

The Lebanon Junction Fire Department will be celebrating its 100th anniversary with its annual pancake breakfast on Saturday. The event will be held from 7-10 a.m. The cost will be \$8 per person.

The LJ Railroad City Lions Club will host the art show in the community center on Friday and Saturday. Entries, which will be \$1 each, can be dropped off on

Thursday from 6-7 p.m. Artwork will be on display from 6-9 p.m. on Friday and Noon until 6 p.m. on Saturday.

Free admission.

All entries must be picked up between 6-7 p.m. on Saturday.

Oh, about the parade. There is an donation fee of \$5 to help the festival

committee. Politicians will

donate \$35 to the cause. They will assemble at 9 a.m. at the Pilot and them make their way through town. To make the parade more enjoyable to those with

a NO SIREN zone from Brook Street through downtown. Entry forms may be obtained at city hall or on city's website

medical conditions, it will be

They will also be available the morning of the parade at Pilot.

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