**ALL REGISTERED VOTERS WITHIN THE STATE OF COLORADO WHO RESIDE IN THE TOWN OF DE BEQUE ARE ELIGIBLE TO VOTE ON THE FOLLOWING BALLOT ISSUE:**

**(In accordance with the requirements of Article X, Section 20 of the Colorado Constitution)**

Designated Election Official: Shirley Nichols Address: 381 Minter Avenue. De Beque CO 81630

**NOTICE OF ELECTION**

Section 5. The Town Clerk is hereby appointed as the designated election

SHALL THE TOWN OF DE BEQUE'S TAXES BE INCREASED BY $1,900,000 IN CALENDAR YEAR 2022, AND BY WHATEVER ADDITIONAL AMOUNTS ARE RAISED ANNUALLY IN EACH SUBSEQUENT CALENDAR YEAR, BY THE IMPOSITION OF AN EXCISE TAX EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2022 ON THE FIRST SALE OR TRANSFER OF UNPROCESSED RETAIL MARIJUANA BY A RETAIL MARIJUANA CULTIVATION FACILITY AT A RATE OF FIVE PERCENT OF THE AVERAGE MARKET RATE, AS DETERMINED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE PURSUANT TO C. R.S. 39-28.8 -101(1), OF THE UNPROCESSED RETAIL MARIJUANA IF THE TRANSACTION IS BETWEEN AFFILIATED RETAIL MARIJUANA BUSINESS LICENSES AND AT A RATE OF FIVE PERCENT OF THE CONTRACT PRICE, AS DEFINED IN C.R.S. SECTION 39-28.2-101(2.5), FOR UNPROCESSED RETAIL MARIJUANA IF THE TRANSACTION IS BETWEEN UNAFFILIATED RETAIL MARIJUANA BUSINESS LICENSEES AND SHALL ALL SUCH TAX REVENUES BE COLLECTED. RETAINED AND SPENT AS VOTER APPROVED REVENUE CHANGE UNDER ARTICLE X, SECTION 20 OF THE COLORADO CONSTITUTION. NOTWITHSTANDING ANY REVENUE OR EXPENDITURE LIMITATIONS CONTAINED IN THE COLORADO CONSTITUTION OR OTHER APPLICABLE LAW?

**ACTUAL HISTORICAL AND CURRENT ESTIMATED FISCAL YEAR SPENDING INFORMATION**

Total General Fund Expenditures

Spending Increase

Percentage Increase

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 2017 | $1,468,820 | $ (266,518) | (15.4%) |
| 2018 | $1,601,841 | $ 133.021 | 9.0 % |
| 2019 | $1,361,384 | $ (240,457) | (15.0%) |
| 2020 | $1,507,807 | $146,423 | 10 .8 % |

Budgeted Amounts

# 2021 $2,347,748

Budget Estimate

# 2021 $2,383,184

Estimated 2022

Proposal : $1,614,856

Estimated 2022: $1,614,856

**SUMMARY OF COMMENTS FILED WITH THE ELECTION OFFICIAL:**

Comments for the proposal:

DeBeque already has a 5% retail marijuana excise tax approved by the voters in 2015, which applies to transfers or sales between growers in DeBeque and retail marijuana stores across the state. This ballot question does not change that 5% tax, it just updates the language to track a Colorado statute addressing how the tax is calculated based on the average market value instead of whatever the grower may choose to charge. This is important because sometimes the grower is selling to its own stores and might charge a below-market price to itself to try to avoid taxes. Many other cities and towns throughout Colorado impose a similar excise tax on marijuana. As with the existing tax, the revenue generated will be used to fund essential Town services and infrastructure . The tax rate of 5% will remain the same, but the revised language will make it clear that the tax is to be calculated based on the statute to be consistent with other cities and towns across Colorado.

Comments against the proposal:

None received by the Constitutional Deadline.