

KETCHIKAN CHARTER COMMISSION

AGENDA STATEMENT

NO I – 3 (a)
MEETING OF August 6, 2004

ITEM TITLE Article X: Finance, Section 10.07 (First Reading) SUBMITTED BY Glen Thompson, Chair
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SUMMARY STATEMENT

During the course of the deliberations of the Charter Commission, the subject of a property tax cap has been discussed many times. It is felt by some that there should be some form of constraint placed within the Charter to require voter approval for any increase in property taxes. Both this item, and Item I-3 (b) contain wording to allow for a more stringent procedure for the Assembly to follow in order to raise property tax rates.

Article X: Finance, Section 10.07 currently reads:

The property tax levy shall not exceed one & four-tenths (1.4%) percent (14 mill) of the assessed valuation of the property to be taxed. The voters may raise this limit by an affirmative vote of the majority of the voters participating in a special or regular election. This section shall not in any way limit the ability of the Municipality to meet its bonded obligations and in no event shall the property tax levy during a year exceed three percent (thirty mills) of the assessed value of the property in the Municipality.

Should this item pass, Item I-3 (b) will not be considered.

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

"I move to replace Article X: Finance, Section 10.07 with the following:

No increase in the rate of levy of a property tax applied on an areawide, nonareawide, or service area basis shall become effective except by an ordinance adopted by the Assembly and ratified by a majority of the qualified voters who vote on the ordinance at a general or special election. If the increase in the rate of levy of a property tax is limited to a service area or in nonareawide, the vote is limited to those qualified to vote in the area. The Assembly may, by ordinance, and without ratification by the voters, decrease the rate of levy on any property tax."