



# City of Hamilton

223 South Second Street  
Hamilton, Montana 59840

December 19, 2013

Ravalli County Commissioners  
215 S. 4<sup>th</sup> Street  
Suite A  
Hamilton, MT 59840

**HAND DELIVERED RECEIVED**

DEC 19 2013

Ravalli County Commissioners

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Dear Commissioners,

This correspondence is specifically addressing the tax and assessment remittances that we are supposed to receive on a monthly basis (within 30 days of receipt by the County Treasurer) from the County Treasurer's office.

To date, the last remittance received was in the first week in November, for the month of September. Our Finance Director was in touch with the County Treasurer on December 4<sup>th</sup> and was informed that our October payment would be submitted "no later than December 9<sup>th</sup>". That date has come and gone and we have not received the October remittance as stated, nor was there a follow up to explain why it wouldn't be sent.

For October, we are not anticipating a large remittance. However, the month of November is one of two of the largest months for which we receive our tax and assessment revenues which account for nearly 50% of our operating revenue for those tax supported funds. We also receive tax revenues on behalf of the Bitterroot Public Library and they also rely upon these revenues. So do the other taxing jurisdictions within the County.

We realize that a transition is taking place within the County Treasurer's office and that it is somewhat of a stressful time for the Treasurer. However, we are still owed the money that is due us, and we urge the County Commissioners and County Treasurer to take the appropriate steps to expedite our payments in a timely manner. The City contacted Local Government Services, from Department of Administration, in Helena, and Bureau Chief Kay Gray indicated that they would be available for assistance to the County if the County asks for assistance. This was relayed to the County Treasurer on December 12<sup>th</sup>. Time is of the essence. We cannot afford to wait on our tax and assessment remittances.

In addition to the payments not yet received, we are concerned that the payments are correct, and we would like verification that the payments we receive are correct. We would like verification that the amount of mill levies and assessments to be billed out this current fiscal year were done so in the amounts that the City requested.

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Your prompt attention to this matter is greatly appreciated.

Respectfully yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jerry E. Steele", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Jerry E. Steele, Mayor  
City of Hamilton

Cc: Valerie Stamey, Ravalli County Treasurer