
Ashland City Council

MINUTES FOR THE SPECIAL SESSION OF COUNCIL
Tuesday, August 8, 2023
6 p.m.
Third Floor, Council Chambers, Municipal Building

Council President Steve Workman called the meeting to order.

Mr. Workman asked for a motion to excuse the absence of Councilmember Dennis Miller.

Moved by Mr. Chio and seconded by Ms. Woodward

Ayes: Dr. Lawson, Mr. Workman, Mr. Chio, Ms. Woodward

ROLL CALL

Ward 1: Steve Workman	Present
Ward 2: Jason Chio	Present
Ward 3: Dennis Miller	Absent/Excused
Ward 4: Angela Woodward	Present
At Large: Dan Lawson	Present

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

LEGISLATION

ORDINANCES: None

Ordinance No:

Moved by and seconded by to invoke Section 113.01 of the Codified Resolutions as the distribution of the Ordinance has satisfied the requirements of said Section and that a further reading be dispensed with at this time.

Ayes

Testimony provided by-

There were no further questions

Moved by and seconded by that the Ordinance be passed on the first reading only.

Ayes:

Moved by and seconded by that the rules requiring the reading on three separate days be suspended and that the Ordinance be passed on the second and third readings.

Ayes:

Moved by and seconded by that the Ordinance be passed.

Ayes:

RESOLUTIONS

Resolution No: 8-23

A.) A RESOLUTION DECLARING THE NECESSITY TO LEVY A TAX EXCEEDING THE TEN-MILL LIMITATION AND REQUESTING A CERTIFICATION OF THE COUNTY AUDITOR AS AUTHORIZED BY REVISED CODE SECTION O.R.C. 5705.03(B)(2).

Mr. Workman read the Resolution in full:

Whereas, the amount of taxes that may be raised within the ten-mill limitation will be insufficient to provide an adequate amount for the necessary requirements to operate the Municipal Park System; and

Whereas, a resolution declaring the necessary of levying a tax under O.R.C. 5705.19 outside the ten-mill limitation must, pursuant to O.R.C. 5705.03(B)(1), be passed and certified to the County Auditor in order to permit the Council to consider the levy of such tax and must request that the County Auditor certifies to the Council the total current tax valuation of the City, and the number of mills required to generate a specified amount of revenue or the dollar amount of revenue that would be generated by a specified number of mills.

Now, therefore, be it Resolved, by the Ashland City Council, two-thirds of all members elected thereto concurring as follows:

1. That the amount of taxes that may be raised within the ten-mil limitation by levies on the current duplicate of the City of Ashland will be insufficient to provide an adequate amount for the necessary requirements of the Municipal Park System.
2. It is necessary to levy a tax in excess of the ten-mill limitation under O.R.C. 5705.19 (F)(H) for the benefit of the City of Ashland for the express purpose of operating and maintaining the Municipal Park System.
3. The said tax levy shall be a RENEWAL of an existing 0.5 mill levy for each one dollar of taxable value, for a period of five years, and shall be placed upon the tax listing commencing January 1, 2023, first due in calendar year 2024, if a majority of the electors voting thereon vote in favor thereof.
4. The ballot measure shall be submitted to, and the tax shall be levied upon, the entire territory of the City, said City being located entirely in Ashland County, Ohio.
5. The question of such tax levy shall be submitted to the electors of the City at the November General Election to be held therein on November 7, 2023.
6. The City Council hereby requests that the County Auditor of Ashland County certify to this Council, the amounts described in O.R.C. 5705.03(B)(2), including:
 - A. The total current tax valuation of the real property in the City of Ashland, Ohio.
 - B. The levy's rate or estimated effective rate, as applicable.
 - C. An estimate of the levy's annual collections, rounded to the nearest one thousand dollars.
 - D. The dollar amount of revenue that would be generated by the aforesaid tax levy if approved by the electors.
7. That this Resolution shall take effect and be in force from and after the earliest period allowed by law.
8. The Clerk of Council is hereby directed to certify a copy of this resolution to the Ashland County Auditor's Office.

Mr. Workman ended the reading.

Testimony provided by-Mayor, Matt Miller

Mayor Miller stated first of all he wanted to thank the County Auditor, Cindy Funk, for contacting our finance office this week and letting us know that it was time to place this on the ballot, because the current parks levy expires December 31, 2023. This is a five-year levy and has been on the books in the city of Ashland since 1960. The purpose of the levy is to help fund the operation of our Parks and Recreation Department. It is time for us to consider putting this renewal back on the ballot. As was stated by our council president it is .5 mil and it is estimated that it could generate roughly \$181,000. The question that comes to mind is that certainly our parks cost more than \$181,000 and that is the case. We were looking at the numbers and in 2022 and the actual cost of maintaining and operating our park system was about \$2,194,000. So, this isn't a large part of our park's budget, but it is an important part of our parks budget, because, as you know, costs continue to rise in maintaining property.

Mr. Paxton stated that he wanted to mention that in Item 2, the T actually should be an H.

Mr. Workman stated that In Item 6 it should be O.R.C.

Mayor Miller stated the deadline to place an item on the November ballot is tomorrow afternoon at 4p.m. So, that is why we are so thankful to our County Auditor for reminding us of this important deadline.

Mr. Paxton stated that he would like to thank Cindy Funk, personally, for her phone call yesterday and to Mr. Donatini in the Prosecuting Attorney's office for help in tweaking these resolutions.

There were no further questions

Moved by Ms. Woodward and seconded by Mr. Chio that the Resolution be passed, as amended, on the first reading only.

Ayes: Dr. Lawson, Mr. Workman, Mr. Chio, Ms. Woodward

Mr. Miller was absent and excused

Moved by Mr. Workman and seconded by Mr. Chio that the rules requiring the reading on three separate days be suspended and that the Resolution be passed on the second and third readings.

Ayes: Mr. Workman, Mr. Chio, Ms. Woodward, Dr. Lawson

Mr. Miller was absent and excused

Moved by Dr. Lawson and seconded by Mr. Chio that the Resolution be passed.

Ayes: Mr. Chio, Ms. Woodward, Dr. Lawson, Mr. Workman

Mr. Miller was absent and excused

Resolution No: 9-23

B.) A RESOLUTION DECLARING INTENT TO PROCEED WITH ELECTION ON THE QUESTION OF A TAX RENEWAL IN EXCESS OF THE TEN MILL LIMITATION AS AUTHORIZED BY REVISED CODE SECTION O.R.C. 5705.03(B)(2).

Mr. Workman read the Resolution in Full:

WHEREAS, this Council previously approved a resolution declaring the necessity, for the purpose of maintaining and operating the Municipal Park System, and to levy a tax in excess of the ten-mill limitation under O.R.C. 5705.19(7)H; and

- A. The total current valuation of the City of Ashland is \$428,957,700.00.
- B. Based upon the aforesaid total current tax valuation of the City of Ashland, the dollar amount of revenue that would be generated by the aforesaid tax levy during the first year of collection is \$180,908.00.
- C. The estimated effective rate of the proposed RENEWAL Levy for each one hundred thousand dollars of the County Auditors appraisal value will be \$14.00 estimated.
- D. The estimated annual collections of the levy rounded to the nearest thousand dollars is \$181,000.00.

BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Ashland, State of Ohio, two-thirds of all the members there to concurring:

Section 1. That the amount of taxes which may be raised by the levy of taxes at the maximum rate authorized by Ohio Revised Code Section 5705.02 on the taxable property in the City of Ashland, Ohio, will be insufficient to provide an adequate amount for the necessary requirement of said City, and that it is necessary for the purpose of providing additional funds for recreational purposes of said City to levy a tax on the taxable property in said city for a period of five (5) years at a rate in excess of such maximum rate authorized by Ohio Revised Code Section 5705.02.

Section 2. That it is necessary to levy a tax collection year 2023, 2024, 2025, 2026, and 2027 at a rate for each year not to exceed one-half (1/2) mill on each dollar of the tax valuation of the taxable property within the City of Ashland, Ohio, in excess of the rate authorized by Ohio Revised Code Section 5705.02, which amounts to five cents for each one hundred dollars of valuation, said levy being a renewal of an existing levy of one-half (1/2) mill.

Section 3. That certification of the County Auditor, pursuant to the provisions of Revised Code Section 5705.03(B), has been requested by Resolution No. -2023 and said certification has been received from the County Auditor.

Section 4. That the question of said levy in excess of the rate authorized by Ohio Revised Code Section 5705.02 shall be submitted to the electors of said City of Ashland, Ohio, at the general election to be held on the 7th day of November 2023, under authority granted by Ohio Revised Code Sections 5705.19, .192 et al.

Section 5. That said levy be placed upon the tax lists after the February settlement next succeeding the election in compliance with the provisions of Ohio Revised Code Chapter 5705, if a majority of the electors voting thereon vote in favor thereof.

Section 6. That the Clerk of Council be, and she is hereby, directed to certify a copy of this Resolution to the Board of Elections of Ashland County, Ohio, pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Chapter 5705 in order that said Board of Elections can cause notice of election on the question of levying said tax to be given as required by law and can make such other arrangement as are necessary for the submission of such question to the electors of said City.

Section 7. That this Resolution shall take effect and be in force from and after the earliest period allowed by law.

Mr. Workman ended the reading.

Testimony provided by-Mayor, Matt Miller

Mayor Miller stated that this is the next necessary step to putting the levy on the ballot.

There were no further questions

Moved by Ms. Woodward and seconded by Dr. Lawson that the Resolution be passed, as amended, on the first reading only.

Ayes: Mr. Workman, Mr. Chio, Ms. Woodward, Dr. Lawson

Mr. Miller was absent and excused

Moved by Mr. Workman and seconded by Mr. Chio that the rules requiring the reading on three separate days be suspended and that the Resolution be passed on the second and third readings.

Ayes Mr. Chio, Ms. Woodward, Dr. Lawson, Mr. Workman

Mr. Miller was absent and excused

Moved by Mr. Chio and seconded by Ms. Woodward that the Resolution be passed.

Ayes: Ms. Woodward, Dr. Lawson, Mr. Workman, Mr. Chio

Mr. Miller was absent and excused

ADJOURNMENT FROM SPECIAL SESSION: 6:31p.m.

Moved by Ms. Woodward and seconded by Mr. Chio to adjourn the meeting.

Ayes: Dr. Lawson, Mr. Workman, Mr. Chio, Ms. Woodward

Respectfully Submitted by
Terri Santino, Council Clerk
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