

SPECIAL MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL
OF THE CITY OF LANSING, MICHIGAN
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 10TH FLOOR
LANSING CITY HALL
124 W. MICHIGAN AVENUE



AGENDA FOR AUGUST 15, 2016

TO THE HON. MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF THE CITY COUNCIL:

Pursuant to Section 3-202.1 of the City Charter, Mayor Bernero has called a special meeting of the City Council on Monday, August 15, 2016 at 5:30 p.m. at the Council Chambers, 10th Floor, City Hall.

- I. ROLL CALL
- II. MEDITATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
- III. SPEAKER REGISTRATION FOR PUBLIC COMMENT ON LEGISLATIVE MATTERS
- IV. PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS (The public may comment for up to three minutes. Speakers must sign up on white form.)
- V. COUNCIL CONSIDERATION OF LEGISLATIVE MATTERS
 1. Approval of a Ballot Proposal to renew the Millage for Police Protection, Fire Protection, and Local Road Maintenance on the November 8, 2016 General Election Ballot
- VI. MOTION OF EXCUSED ABSENCE
- VII. REMARKS BY COUNCIL MEMBERS
- VII. REMARKS BY THE MAYOR OR EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT
- IX. ADJOURNMENT

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Chris Swope".

CHRIS SWOPE, CITY CLERK

Persons with disabilities who need an accommodation to fully participate in this meeting should contact the City Clerk's Office at (517) 483-4131 (TDD (517) 483-4479). 24 hour notice may be needed for certain accommodations. An attempt will be made to grant all reasonable accommodation requests.

RESOLUTION # _____

RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LANSING

WHEREAS, the City Charter, pursuant to the Home Rule City Act, being MCL 117.1 *et seq.* (the “Act”), limits the City’s authority to levy property taxes to a rate of 20 mills (\$20 for every \$1,000 of a property’s taxable value); and

WHEREAS, the Headlee Amendment, being Section 31 of Article IX of the State Constitution, has reduced this authorized rate to 19.1692 mills (the “Headlee Cap”); and

WHEREAS, a property tax rate of 19.44 mills would exceed the Headlee Cap, and therefore require voter approval; and

WHEREAS, in November, 2011 a measure was approved by voters to override the Headlee Cap in order to restore the authorized millage to the maximum 20 mills authorized under the Charter and the Act, as well as to increase the City’s operating levy by four (4) mills to 19.44 mills for a period of five (5) years; and

WHEREAS, three (3) of the mills were approved in November, 2011 for essential services including police protection and fire protection results in \$5.8 million annually; and

WHEREAS, the one (1) of the mills was approved in November, 2011 for essential services including road maintenance results in \$1.9 million annually; and

WHEREAS, due to the need for additional investment in the City’s network of sidewalks, the expected revenue generated from the one (1) mill for essential services for local roads needs to include sidewalk maintenance; and

WHEREAS, declines in property values during the Great Recession resulted in revenue losses of \$7.2 million annually in property tax revenues, the largest City revenue source; and

WHEREAS, continuing the additional 4 mills for essential services, including police protection, fire protection, road and sidewalk maintenance funding beginning in fiscal year 2017/2018 at the 19.44 mill rate will result in property tax revenues at a similar level to fiscal year 2010 before the 4 mill increase;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that at the General Election to be held on Tuesday, November 8, 2016, the following ballot proposal shall be submitted to the qualified electors of the City of Lansing in a manner and form substantially as follows:

MILLAGE PROPOSAL

Shall the City maintain its property taxing capacity at 20 mills for the next five (5) years (from January 1, 2017 through December 31, 2022 inclusive), which is .8308 mills in excess of the current Headlee Amendment limit, and allow the City to renew the current levy of 19.44 mills for the purpose of funding essential services, including police protection, fire protection, local road and sidewalk maintenance?

For the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2017, the continuation of the additional millage levied is estimated to result in \$8 million of revenue to be disbursed to the City of Lansing. The City of Lansing currently levies 19.44 mills. While there are no current plans to do so, if this measure is approved, and the City were to levy the additional .56 mills in excess of 19.44 mills to the maximum amount of 20 mills, it would result in an additional \$1.12 million in estimated revenue to be disbursed to the City.

Yes _____

No _____

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Clerk is hereby authorized to cause the above proposal to be placed on the ballot at the election to be held on Tuesday, November 8, 2016.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the ballot wording is hereby certified to the City Clerk and the Clerk of the Counties of Ingham and Eaton for submission to the City’s electors at election to be held on Tuesday, November 8, 2016.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Clerk is hereby directed to give notice of the election and notice of registration therefore in the manner prescribed by law and to do all things and to provide all supplies necessary to submit the ballot proposal to the vote of the electors as required by law.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Clerk is hereby authorized to post this resolution in a conspicuous place in each polling place in the City of Lansing.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that the canvass and determination of the votes of said question shall be made in accordance with the laws of the State of Michigan and the Charter of the City of Lansing.