



OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF
THE CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF LANSING
SPECIAL MEETING
AUGUST 15, 2016

City Council Chambers
Lansing, Michigan

Pursuant to Section 3-202.1 of the City Charter Mayor Bernero called a special meeting of the City Council. The City Council of the City of Lansing met in special session and was called to order at 5:34 p.m. by Council President Brown Clarke.

PRESENT: Council Members Brown Clarke, Dunbar, Hussain, Spitzley, Washington, Wood, Yorke

ABSENT: Council Member Houghton (arrived at 5:36 p.m.)

The Council observed a moment of Meditation followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by President Brown Clarke.

SPEAKER REGISTRATION FOR
PUBLIC COMMENT ON LEGISLATIVE MATTERS

City Clerk Swope announced that the public comment registration form(s) for those intending to address Council on legislative matters will be collected and that only those persons who have fully completed the form(s) will be permitted to speak.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS

Michael Morofsky spoke about the Lansing Police Department.

Mary Ann Prince spoke about the millage renewal.

Claude R. Beavers spoke about the millage renewal.

Charles Stadt spoke about the millage renewal.

Mayor Virg Bernero spoke in support of the millage renewal.

COUNCIL CONSIDERATION OF LEGISLATIVE
MATTERS

RESOLUTION #2016-173

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.

Moved by Council Member Wood

Motion Carried

REMARKS BY COUNCIL MEMBERS

Council Member Wood shared that the Public Safety Committee Meeting was rescheduled.

Council Member Dunbar recognized Council Member Wood for her work on the millage renewal issue.

REMARKS BY THE MAYOR OR EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT

Executive Assistant to Mayor Bernero, Randy Hannan, shared details about the Mobile Food Pantry, the Connect to Kids Event, and that the Family Movie Night on the Capitol Lawn was rescheduled.

Mayor Bernero thanked Executive Assistant to Mayor Bernero, Randy Hannan for his work on the millage renewal resolution and shared details on the upcoming Senior Activity Fair.

ADJOURNED TIME 6:05 P.M.

CHRIS SWOPE, CITY CLERK