

**BUDGET COMMISSION**

The Geauga County Budget Commission met in regular session on Monday, September 20, 2021 at 10:00 a.m. in the Auditor’s Conference Room at 215 Main Street, Chardon, Ohio.

Present: Geauga County Auditor Charles E. Walder, Geauga County Prosecutor James Flaiz, and Geauga County Treasurer C. P. Hitchcock.

Also Present: Deputy Auditor Tammy Most and Deputy Auditor Kristen Sinatra

Advertise: Regular Business

Meeting was offered via WebEx for public viewing.

**Prior Minutes**

Motion by Charles E. Walder, seconded C. P. Hitchcock to approve the minutes of the August 16, 2021 special meeting (Budget Hearings/Regular Business).

Voice vote: Three ayes. Motion carried

Motion by James Flaiz, seconded C. P. Hitchcock to approve the minutes of the August 27, 2021 special meeting (Reconvene Budget Hearings/Regular Business).

Voice vote: Three ayes. Motion carried

Motion made by Christopher P Hitchcock, seconded by James Flaiz, to approve the 2022 Tax Budget as presented with revenue and balances for Auburn Township totaling \$5,543,509.0

**2022 Certificates**

**Geauga County Public Library -Revised Original Certificate**

Motion by C. P. Hitchcock, seconded by Charles E. Walder, to approve the 2022 Tax Budget as presented with revised revenue and balances for the Geauga County Public Library totaling \$25,425,711.86 dated August 16, 2021- reflecting the following changes:

2010 1Mill levy will be collected at a rate of .8Mills for Tax Year 2021 Collection Year 2022

**General Fund**

Decrease in Tax revenue 577,534.00 (calculated at 98% collection) from 5,775,346 to 5,197,812

<b>New General Fund Total:</b>	<b>\$ 13,204,645.86</b>
<b><u>New 2022 Certificate Total:</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 25,425,711.86</u></b>

Voice Vote: Three ayes. Motion carried.

**Berkshire Local School District 2021/2022 - Amendment #2**

Motion by Charles E. Walder, seconded by James Flaiz to amend the Berkshire LSD Official Certificate of Estimated Resources to reflect the following changes to revenue previously certified:

General Fund

Increase beginning balance 40,000.00 from 4,268,228.19 to 4,308,228.19

Special Revenue Fund

Increase ESSER III Fund other source revenue 465,181.18 from 928,381.14 to 1,393,562.32

Increase Title I Fund other source revenue 23,907.16 from 178,112.02 to 202,019.18

Increase Title IV Fund other source revenue 13,831.50 from 0.00 to 13,831.50

Capital Projects Fund

Increase Classroom Facilities other source revenue 11,090,420.81 from 0.00 to 11,090,420.81

<b>New General Fund Total:</b>	<b>\$22,159,215.19</b>
<b>New Special Revenue Fund Total:</b>	<b>\$ 6,419,711.75</b>
<b>New Capital Projects Fund Total:</b>	<b>\$ 7,509,486.03</b>
<b><u>New 2021/2022 Certificate Total:</u></b>	<b><u>\$38,525,105.07</u></b>

Voice vote: Three ayes. Motion carried.

**2021 Amendments**

**Munson Township – Amendment #2**

Motion by James Flaiz, seconded by C. P. Hitchcock, to amend the Munson Township Official Certificate of Estimated Resources to reflect the following changes to revenue previously certified:

**General Fund**

Increase General Fund (1000) other source revenue [15,000+4477.00] from 95,125.00 to 114,602.00 (donations for park improvements and grants respectively).

*Net adjustment – 24,477.00*

**Special Revenue Fund**

Increase Fire Operating & Apparatus Fund (2192) other source revenue 9,585.55 from 0.00 to 9,585.55

Increase NDCL Stream Restoration (other source revenue 78,221.44, from 204,600.00 to 282,821.44

<b>New General Fund Total:</b>	<b>\$ 985,297.44</b>
<b><u>New Special Revenue Fund Total:</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 3,497,452.45</u></b>
<b>New Total 2021 Certificate:</b>	<b>\$ 4,482,749.89</b>

Voice vote: Three ayes. Motion carried.

**Hambden Township – Amendment #4**

Motion by C. P. Hitchcock, seconded by Charles E. Walder to amend the Hambden Township Official Certificate of Estimated Resources to reflect the following changes to revenue previously certified:

**Special Revenue Fund**

Special Revenue Fund (2273) Local Fiscal Recovery - ARP 247,003 from 0.00 to 247,003

<b><u>New Special Revenue Fund Total:</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 2,358,948.90</u></b>
<b>New Total 2021 Certificate:</b>	<b>\$ 3,358,124.39</b>

Voice vote: Three ayes. Motion carried.

**Russell Township – Amendment #3**

Motion by Charles E. Walder, seconded by James Flaiz, to amend the Russell Township Official Certificate of Estimated Resources to reflect the following changes to revenue previously certified:

**Special Revenue Fund**

Increase Local Fiscal Recovery Fund (ARP) (2272) Fund other source revenue 272,248.01 from 0.00 to 272,248.01

<b>New Special Revenue Fund Total:</b>	<b>\$ 9,870,402.22</b>
<b><u>New Total 2021 Certificate:</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 14,731,546.47</u></b>

Voice vote: Three ayes. Motion carried.

**Chester Township – Amendment #4**

Motion by James Flaiz, seconded by C. P. Hitchcock, to amend the Chester Township Official Certificate of Estimated Resources to reflect the following changes to revenue previously certified:

**Special Revenue Fund**

Increase Special Revenue Fund (2273) LFR Local Fiscal Recovery other source revenue 537,734.81 from 0.00 to 537,734.81

<b><u>New Special Revenue Fund Total:</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 12,273,297.95</u></b>
<b><u>New Total 2021 Certificate:</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 14,048,290.15</u></b>

Voice vote: Three ayes. Motion carried.

**Russell Citizen’s 511 Park – Amendment #2**

Motion by C. P. Hitchcock, seconded by Charles E. Walder, to amend the Russell Citizens’ 511 Park Official Certificate of Estimated Resources to reflect the following changes to revenue previously certified:

**General Fund**

Transfer 6,000.00 from General Fund to Special Revenue – Capital Projects Fund.

<b><u>New Capital Project Fund Total:</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 6,000.00</u></b>
<b><u>New 2021 Certificate Total:</u></b>	<b><u>\$27,386.90</u></b>

Voice vote: Three ayes. Motion carried.

**Geauga County – Amendment #15**

Motion by Charles E. Walder, seconded James Flaiz, to amend the Geauga County Official Certificate of Estimated Resources to reflect the following changes to revenue previously certified:

**Special Revenue Funds**

New Fund Increase 2098 Local Fiscal Recovery Fund other source revenue 9,095,110.00 from 0.00 to 9,095,110.00

**Enterprise Funds**

Increase 5002 Water Resources other source revenue 33,463.00 from 7,682,606.93 to 7,716,069.93

<b>New Special Revenue Funds Total:</b>	<b>\$113,782,245.78</b>
<b>New Enterprise Fund Total:</b>	<b>\$ 22,258,330.78</b>
<b>2021 New Certificate Total:</b>	<b>\$223,899,328.83</b>

Voice vote: Three ayes. Motion carried.

**General Discussion:**

Future Budget Hearing Schedules

A discussion arose with regard to options to consider to afford better time allowance when scheduling for the annual budget hearings for the county local government/taxing districts. The discussion suggested grouping of similar taxing districts such as; all townships together, Villages and then Special Districts. Another option was to hold hearings over two days; begin with more in-depth entities (based on preliminary audit of presented budgets). The concept of building in mid-day breaks to buffer run-overs was also suggested.

Geauga Park District (GPD) – Notice of Appeal

Certified letter was received 9/17/2021 from the GPD which indicated that GPD contacted the Ohio Board of Tax Appeals with regard to their 2022 tax budget.

The language of the letter does not clearly indicate what the GPD is appealing.

All requested documentation will be compiled on a flash drive and delivered to the Geauga County Prosecutor’s office, legal counsel, for the county Budget Commission.

Public Comment

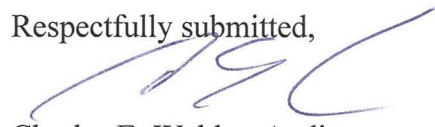
As meeting attendance is offered via WebEx, Auditor Walder opened the floor for public comment.

Ms. Gail Roussey attended the meeting virtually and thanked the Commission for the opportunity to ask questions.

Ms. Roussey inquired about the County Budget Hearings which were currently being held. Prosecutor Flaiz explained that those hearings were for the county departments and boards under the Geauga County Commissioners and not related to local government taxing authorities/taxing districts which the Geauga County Budget Commission oversees.

Being no further business to conduct, C. P. Hitchcock moved to adjourn the September 20, 2021 regular meeting at 10:42 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Charles E. Walder, Auditor  
Secretary/Budget Commission



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