

BUDGET COMMISSION

The Geauga County Budget Commission met in special session on Thursday, December 29, 2022 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: Chief Deputy Auditor Ron Leyde, Deputy Auditors, Pam McMahan, Tammy Most and Kristen Sinatra, and Chief Administrator, Frank Antenucci.

Special Meeting was advertised for the purpose: Regular Business
Virtual attendance was available

2022 Amendments

Newbury Township Amendment #3

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

General Fund

Increase Tax revenue 59,089.89, from 237,142.00 to 296,231.89

Increase Other- other source revenue 15,610.59, from 113,760.00 to 129,370.59

Net Adjustment: \$74,700.48

Special Revenue Fund

Increase Road & Bridge Tax revenue 7,832.48, from 271,019.00 to 278,851.48

Increase Cemetery other source revenue 12,500, from 15,000.00 to 27,500.00

Increase Fire Levy Tax revenue 15,474.56, from 1,297,588.00 to 1,313,062.56

Increase Fire Levy Property Tax other source revenue 20,667.98 from, 32,312.00 to 52979.98

Increase Road Improv. Tax Levy revenue 19,118.38, from 602,514.00 to 621,632.38

Decrease Road Improv. Levy property tax other source revenue (428.57), from 80,609.00 to 80,180.43

Increase Road Improv. other source revenue 20,804.25, from 0.00 to 20,804.25

Increase ARPA Fund other source revenue 1,159.44, from 291,581.74 to 292,741.18

Net Adjustment: \$97,128.52

Capital Projects Fund

Increase Ohio Public Works other source revenue 140,000.00, from 0.00 to 140,000.00

New General Fund Total:	\$ 1,125,624.38
New Special Revenue Fund Total:	\$ 4,394,216.73
New Capital Project Fund Total:	\$ 148,255.25
New Total 2022 Certificate:	\$ 5,668,096.36

Voice vote: Three ayes. Motion carried.

A discussion arose around some items in the revenue amendment as submitted about the ARPA revenue. A call was made to the Fiscal Officer who agreed with the Budget Commission’s recommended changes to disburse directly from the ARPA Fund rather than comingle revenue by performing a transfer into another fund. The Fiscal Officer will update the board of trustees of the suggested changes at the township’s next meeting.

General Discussion:

A question about the Interim Fiscal Officer of Auburn Township and how he is doing as the situation there evolves. A brief discussion ensued.

Housekeeping:

None.

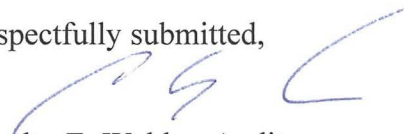
Public Comment:

Question was raised about a violation of the open meetings act and the context of the comment. Mr. Flaiz answered that the Budget Commission questioned paying off a debt at this point when the loan was used to pay construction costs and the interest rate was low or zero interest. The question was when was this decision made? During an open meeting? Mr. Gorton, the Finance and Budget Director, said he had met with each Commissioner singly.

The next issue was the removal of 240K from the Auditor's salary budget. This removal of funds was never discussed in an open meeting. Mr. Gorton said the issue was discussed in meeting on December 6th. Mr. Gorton said the item was in his Power Point presentation for the 6th. Mr. Flaiz further noted the funds had already been moved in the county accounting software application on November 18th. The main concern is a growing pattern of discussions and decisions occurring outside of open public County Commissioner meetings.

Being no further business to conduct, C.P. Hitchcock moved to adjourn the December 29, 2022 special meeting at 10:32 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Charles E. Walder, Auditor
Secretary/Budget Commission

