

BUDGET COMMISSION

The Geauga County Budget Commission met in regular session on Monday, August 7, 2023 at 10:05 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 R. Flaiz and Geauga County Treasurer C. P. Hitchcock.

Also Present: Chief Deputy Ron Leyde, Chief Administrator, Frank Antenucci, Deputy Auditors: Pam McMahan, Kristen Sinatra, and Tammy Most

Regular Meeting was advertised – Annual Reorganizational meeting, 2023 est. PLF and UDLG allocations and regular business.

Prior Minutes

Motion by Charles E. Walder, seconded by James Flaiz, to approve the minutes of the July 24, 2023 special session.

Voice vote: Three ayes. Motion carried.

Annual Organizational Meeting

Pursuant to ORC 5705.27 the Budget Commission shall re-organize on the first Monday of August of each year by electing a chairman for the ensuing year.

Motion by Charles E. Walder, seconded by C. P. Hitchcock, to appoint James Flaiz, Chairman of the Budget Commission for the period covering August 1, 2023 through July 31, 2024.

Voice vote: Three ayes. Motion carried.

Motion by James Flaiz, seconded by C. P. Hitchcock, to hold regular meetings on the first and third Monday of each month at 10:00 a.m. in the Auditor's Office at 215 Main Street. Special meetings are to be held as necessary upon proper notification.

Voice vote: Three ayes. Motion carried.

Appointment of Alternate Members to the Geauga County Budget Commission

Motion by C. P. Hitchcock, seconded by Charles E. Walder, to appoint the following alternate members to the Geauga County Budget Commission for the period August 1, 2023, through July 31, 2024, in the event of a member's absence:

Chief Deputy Auditor Ron Leyde, Chief Compliance Officer Kate Jacob, Chief Administrator Frank Antenucci, and Office Manager Pam McMahan – Alternates for County Auditor Charles E. Walder,

Chief Deputy Treasurer Caroline Mansfield and Deputy Treasurer Donna Borsi – Alternates for County Treasurer C.P. Hitchcock.

First Assistant Prosecutor Laura LaChapelle and Assistant Prosecutor Kristen Rine – Alternates for County Prosecutor James R. Flaiz.

Voice vote, Three ayes. Motion carried.

2024 Public Library Fund Distribution

Motion by James Flaiz, seconded by C. P. Hitchcock, to distribute the 2024 Public Library Fund money to the libraries and eligible park districts according to the funding formula submitted by the Geauga County Library and Burton Public Library.

The Public Library Fund was presented for certification and apportionment to the eligible entities.

**ITEMIZED REPORT ON DISTRIBUTION OF
ESTIMATED PUBLIC LIBRARY FUND
FOR Calendar Year 2024**

<u>Library/Subdivision</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>%Grand Total</u>
Geauga Library	\$3,498,986.37	84.63%
Burton Library	\$617,468.18	14.93%
Thompson Park	\$3,116.47	0.08%
Russell 1545 Park	\$8,843.04	0.21%
Russell Citizens Park	\$3,116.47	0.08%
Chester Park	\$3,116.47	0.08%
	\$4,134,647.00	100.00%

\$0.01 difference to be rotated between parks as needed to balance the monthly allotment of revenue.

Allocation based on most recent agreement between Geauga County Public Library and Burton Public Library dated April 16, 2019.

The Russell 1545 Park District’s 2021 Tax Budget was further considered after the Ohio Board of Tax Appeals remanded the commission to re-hear the budget. Budget hearing was held on April 17, 2023; the budget was approved. The Geauga County Budget Commission further determined Russell Township 1545 Park was entitled to tax year 2021 PLF collection in the amount of: \$4,294.93.

Voice vote: Three ayes. Motion carried.

2024 Tax Budget

Motion by C. P. Hitchcock, seconded by Charles E. Walder to use 98% collection rate for certifying revenue generated by Real Estate, UDLG, HB49 supplemental, and Library distribution monies in the preparation of the 2024 Tax budgets.

Voice vote: Three ayes. Motion carried.

General Discussion:

Motion by Charles E. Walder, seconded by James Flaiz to accept the resolution from Bainbridge Township to shift 0.20 of inside millage from General Fund to Road & Bridge.

Bainbridge Township submitted Resolution 07242023-C to reallocate 0.20 mills from the General Fund (adjusted millage to be 1.30 mills) to Road & Bridge (adjusted millage to be 1.70 mills), effective for the 2024 calendar year.

Voice vote: Three ayes. Motion carried

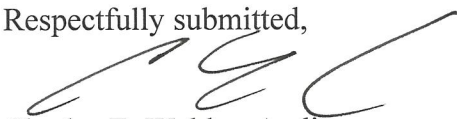
Distribution of delivery from Geauga Park District (GPD):

Envelopes were delivered to the members of the Geauga County Budget Commission. The communication from Geauga Park District Executive Director John Oros, was in response to letter sent May 1, 2023. The letter stated that the Ohio General Assembly revised section 1545.21 of the Ohio Revised Code to expressly authorize 1545 park districts to renew existing tax levies as part of the state budget bill, HB 33, and was signed into law on July 4, 2023 by Governor DeWine. The letter further stated that the legal counsel for the Park District, Ms. Bridey Matheney, reached out to Ms. Shelley Wilson, Tax Program Executive, Tax Equalization Division, to confirm what is required, if anything from the Park District with respect to the current levies. Chief Deputy Auditor, Ron Leyde, sent a follow-up email to Shelley Wilson, Ohio Department of Taxation and Equalization confirming details provided in the correspondence from GPD.

Public Comment:

Sarah McGlone (LWV) asked for all certificates to be sent to her.

Being no further business to conduct it was moved by C. P. Hitchcock to adjourn the August 7, 2023 regular meeting at 10:34a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Charles E. Walder, Auditor
Secretary/Budget Commission

