



500 West Big Beaver
Troy, MI 48084
troymi.gov

CITY COUNCIL AGENDA ITEM



Date: August 5, 2020

To: Honorable Troy City Council Members

From: Mark F. Miller, City Manager
Lori Grigg Bluhm, City Attorney
Robert J. Bruner, Assistant City Manager
Cathleen Russ, Library Director

Subject: Approval of Ballot Questions - (Introduced by: Bob Bruner, Cathy Russ, and Lori Bluhm)

At the last City Council meeting, City Administration was directed to prepare two alternate library millage questions. One question would ask for a levy of 1.1 mills (Alternate Resolution A), and a separate question would ask for a levy of 1.0 mills (Alternate Resolution B).

City Administration has prepared the following two proposed ballot questions for City Council consideration. These ballot questions comply with the mandates of MCL 211.24f, which require the following elements to be included in a ballot question: the proposed millage rate; the estimated amount of revenue to be collected the first year; a clear statement of the purpose of the millage; a declaration of whether it's a new millage or a renewal; and a full disclosure of each unit to which revenue from the millage will be disbursed. The 2011 and 2015 ballot questions specified that the Troy Downtown Development Authority and the Troy Local Development Finance Authority would receive a disbursement from an approved millage, but the Michigan legislature subsequently amended the Tax Increment Financing statues, so that only the Troy Brownfield Redevelopment Authority will receive a disbursement from any new approved library millage. If 1.1 mills is approved by the voters, this is estimated to raise \$5,787,978 in the first year, and of this amount approximately \$ 4,642 would be disbursed to the Troy Brownfield Redevelopment Authority. A 1.0 mill levy would generate approximately \$5,261,798, with \$4,220 disbursed to the Troy Brownfield Redevelopment Authority.

We were also glad to verify that the ballot question can be slightly longer than 100 words, since it is not a charter amendment question. City Administration proposes the following alternate ballot questions for City Council consideration:

Alternate A: 1.1 Mill Levy

RESOLVED, That the Troy City Council hereby APPROVES for placement on the ballot for the November 3, 2020 General Election the following proposal:

CITY COUNCIL WOULD BE AUTHORIZED TO LEVY UP TO 1.1 MILLS FOR TEN YEARS FOR DEDICATED LIBRARY FUNDING WITH THE PASSAGE OF THE FOLLOWING QUESTION:



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In 2011, the City of Troy voters approved a levy of .70 mills against all property for the operation and maintenance of the library, and then approved a renewal in 2015. This levy is scheduled to expire June 30, 2021. Should the City of Troy replace and increase the expiring millage, and levy up to 1.1 mills against all taxable property for a 10 year period of time for the dedicated purpose of operating and maintaining the library and making capital improvements to the library building? 1.1 mills is equal to \$1.10 on each \$1000 of taxable value. If approved, the millage would raise approximately \$5,787,978 in 2021, the first year it is levied. The majority of the revenue from the levy millage would be disbursed to the City, and could be used only for library operations, maintenance, and capital improvements. State law also requires disbursement to the Troy Brownfield Redevelopment Authority.

Yes: _____ No: _____

OR

Alternate B: 1.0 Mill Levy

RESOLVED, That the Troy City Council hereby APPROVES for placement on the ballot for the November 3, 2020 General Election the following proposal:

CITY COUNCIL WOULD BE AUTHORIZED TO LEVY UP TO 1.0 MILL FOR TEN YEARS FOR DEDICATED LIBRARY FUNDING WITH THE PASSAGE OF THE FOLLOWING QUESTION:

In 2011, the City of Troy voters approved a levy of .70 mills against all property for the operation and maintenance of the library, and then approved a renewal in 2015. This levy is scheduled to expire June 30, 2021. Should the City of Troy replace and increase the expiring millage, and levy up to 1.0 mill against all taxable property for a 10 year period of time for the dedicated purpose of operating and maintaining the library and making capital improvements to the library building? 1.0 mill is equal to \$1 on each \$1000 of taxable value. If approved, the millage would raise approximately \$5,261,798 in 2021, the first year it is levied. The majority of the revenue from the levy millage would be disbursed to the City, and could be used only for library operations, maintenance, and capital improvements. State law also requires disbursement to the Troy Brownfield Redevelopment Authority.

Yes: _____ No: _____