

**Commissioners' Journal**  
**June 19, 2018**

*The Geauga County Board of Commissioners met in session on June 19, 2018 at 9:00 a.m. in the Commissioners' Chambers located at 470 Center Street in Chardon, Ohio.*

*It is declared and determined that all formal actions of the Board of County Commissioners concerning and relating to the adoption of all resolutions that were adopted in this meeting, and that all deliberations of the Board of County Commissioners that resulted in such formal action were open to the public and were in compliance with all legal requirements, including section 121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code.*

*The President of the Board, Ralph Spidalieri opened the meeting at 9:00 a.m. by leading the Board and audience in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.*

*\*Commissioner Lennon was running late, and had not yet arrived when the meeting was opened.*

MEETING MINUTES

*Motion: by Commissioner Claypool, seconded by Commissioner Spidalieri to approve and execute the minutes for the meeting of June 12, 2018.*

|                        |                                |                |
|------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------|
| <i>Roll Call Vote:</i> | <i>Commissioner Claypool</i>   | <i>Aye</i>     |
|                        | <i>Commissioner Lennon</i>     | <i>Absent*</i> |
|                        | <i>Commissioner Spidalieri</i> | <i>Aye</i>     |

COMMISSIONERS OFFICE- COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

*Mr. Lair reported on the items approved June 14, 2018 included for the Department on Aging the approval of hiring Leah Byler and Deborah Markovic to the positions of Information and Referral Assistant (#1017) to be effective June 25, 2018 at the rate of \$13.04 per hour with a one year probationary period. This offer of employment is contingent upon the successful completion of the required pre-employment conditions; and June 18, 2018 included for the Department of Water Resources the approval of hiring Nick Crow to the position of Maintenance Worker (#2330) to be effective July 16, 2018 at the rate of \$17.51 per hour with a one year probationary period. This offer of employment is contingent upon the successful completion of the required pre-employment conditions; by the County Administrator, authorized by Resolution #18-077 under the direction and supervision of the County Commissioners that was approved June 5, 2018 pursuant to O.R.C. 305.30.*

FINANCIALS

*County Administrator David Lair reported on financials from June 14, 2018, Resolution #18-080, that included a Blanket Encumbrance for the Building and Improvement account within the Building Improvement Fund; as approved by the County Administrator pursuant to Resolution #18-077 approved June 5, 2018 to authorize the County Administrator to execute, in the case of a lack of quorum of Commissioners and / or if session is cancelled on a regular financial day or on a day when financials need to be approved, the required approvals for county financials on behalf of the Board during the Year 2018, as authorized by O.R.C. 305.30.*

APPROVE FINANCIALS

*Budget and Finance Manager Adrian Gorton explained the financials for today as including an Appropriation transfer to the Maintenance Equipment Account to replace an old vehicle deemed too expensive to fix; a Supplemental appropriation for the Department of Development – Community Development Revolving Loan Fund to increase available appropriations for new loans; a Supplemental appropriation into the Building Improvement Fund for various projects at the Safety Center and Annex; a Supplemental appropriation from Job and Family Services to the Children Services Fund for increased needs in contract services, residential placements and foster care accounts; a Cash transfer from various funds including the General Fund to pay the May 2018 Windstream bill; a Cash transfer to the Sewer /Water Debt Retirement fund for the 2018 first half debt payment for the County Water Tower and Potable Water Treatment plant (ending in 2021); an increase to the Encumbrance for Walter & Haverfield LLP for anticipated legal expenses; Travel request for the Auditor's Office, an Encumbrance for the Department of Development (Community Development) for a revolving loan fund loan to Great Lakes Growers for machinery and equipment; a payment to Treasurer for the State of Ohio – Ohio Department of Health, BCMH Treatment Expenditures for May 2018 in the amount of \$26,087.01; a payment to Junction Auto Sales for the County Engineer's Office for a 2018 GMC Sierra 2500 truck in the amount of \$34,996.96; and a payment to Board of Mental Health for Job and Family Services for second quarter 2018 therapeutic youth center costs in the amount of \$32,000.00.*

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*\*Commissioner Lennon arrived at the meeting, noted that he had reviewed the financials for today and was comfortable approving them.*

*There was a brief discussion on the BCMH invoice and where we are so far this year.*

*Motion: by Commissioner Claypool, seconded by Commissioner Lennon to approve and execute Resolution #18-081 itemizing the financials for the meeting of June 19, 2018.*

|                        |                                |            |
|------------------------|--------------------------------|------------|
| <i>Roll Call Vote:</i> | <i>Commissioner Claypool</i>   | <i>Aye</i> |
|                        | <i>Commissioner Lennon</i>     | <i>Aye</i> |
|                        | <i>Commissioner Spidalieri</i> | <i>Aye</i> |

*PROBATE / JUVENILE COURT – OHIO DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH SERVICES SUBSIDY GRANT, JUVENILE COURT FUNDING APPLICATION FOR FY2019*

*Beth Williams and Ann Walden asked the Board to approve the yearly subsidy grant. It was noted that this year's grant will cover both Probation Officers, the community service program (garden), electronic monitoring costs, drug testing and FLIP programs. Commissioner Lennon thanked them for being there to explain the program, noting the size of the grant being requested and it's nice to hear good news. Commissioner Spidalieri inquired if the juvenile probation side are seeing the same things the adult probation is also experiencing, to which Ms. Williams agreed, and that the reason the RE-CLAIM was started was to keep the kids monitored, keeping them in the community while getting them the treatment they need. In addition to GPS monitors, they also have alcohol monitoring.*

*Motion: by Commissioner Claypool, seconded by Commissioner Lennon to approve and authorize the President of the Board to execute the Ohio Department of Youth Services Subsidy Grant, Juvenile Court Funding Application for FY2019 for the period July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2019 in the amount of \$284,029.81.*

|                        |                                |            |
|------------------------|--------------------------------|------------|
| <i>Roll Call Vote:</i> | <i>Commissioner Claypool</i>   | <i>Aye</i> |
|                        | <i>Commissioner Lennon</i>     | <i>Aye</i> |
|                        | <i>Commissioner Spidalieri</i> | <i>Aye</i> |

*PLANNING COMMISSION – FINAL PLAT – VILLAS OF GATES LANDING – BAINBRIDGE TOWNSHIP*

*Director Dave Dietrich stated that the Planning Commission approved this re-plat at the last meeting, adding that they wanted to split the open space between the Villas and Gates Landing and give each home owners association responsibility for their own portion of the space. There was discussion on storm water management and the ongoing maintenance of home owners association on retention and storm water ponds.*

*Motion: by Commissioner Claypool, seconded by Commissioner Lennon to approve and execute the Final Plat of Villas of Gates Landing, a Re-plat of Block B-2, creating Block B-2A and Block B-2B in Bainbridge Township.*

|                        |                                |            |
|------------------------|--------------------------------|------------|
| <i>Roll Call Vote:</i> | <i>Commissioner Claypool</i>   | <i>Aye</i> |
|                        | <i>Commissioner Lennon</i>     | <i>Aye</i> |
|                        | <i>Commissioner Spidalieri</i> | <i>Aye</i> |

*COUNTY ENGINEER'S OFFICE – UNIT PRICE CONTRACT – CHAGRIN VALLEY PAVING – RESURFACING OF GEORGIA ROAD*

*Deputy Engineer Nick Gorris asked the Board to execute the unit price contract with Chagrin Valley Paving for the Asphalt Resurfacing of Georgia Road in Burton and Middlefield Townships.*

*Motion: by Commissioner Claypool, seconded by Commissioner Lennon to approve and execute the Unit Price Contract with Chagrin Valley Paving, Incorporated for the Asphalt Resurfacing of Georgia Road (CH 40, Sections A-D) in Burton and Middlefield Townships in the amount of \$696,051.58. The Bid Bond submitted shall be held to serve as the Performance Bond for this project.*

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*Roll Call Vote:*            *Commissioner Claypool*        *Aye*  
                                  *Commissioner Lennon*        *Aye*  
                                  *Commissioner Spidalieri*      *Aye*

*COUNTY ENGINEER'S OFFICE – AWARD THE BID – CHAGRIN VALLEY PAVING – ASPHALT PAVING OF THE ENGINEERS SOUTH YARD*

*Mr. Gorris asked the Board to award the Bid to Chagrin Valley Paving for the South Yard, noting that the estimate on the project was \$150,000.00 so it came in under the estimate.*

*Motion:*            *by Commissioner Claypool, seconded by Commissioner Lennon to award the Bid to Chagrin Valley Paving for the Asphalt Paving of the Engineer's South Yard, located at 12665 Merritt Road in Claridon Township in the amount of \$137,385.00 as they represented the lowest and best bid. The Bid Bond submitted shall be held to serve as the Performance Bond for this project.*

*Roll Call Vote:*            *Commissioner Claypool*        *Aye*  
                                  *Commissioner Lennon*        *Aye*  
                                  *Commissioner Spidalieri*      *Aye*

*COUNTY ENGINEER'S OFFICE – CONSTRUCTION OF A STEEL STORAGE BUILDING*

*Mr. Gorris asked the Board to reject all the bids on the Construction of a Steel Storage Building due to the bids being in excess of ten percent of the estimate. There was discussion on the timing of the project, and they would be relooking at the plans and time frame.*

*Motion:*            *by Commissioner Claypool, seconded by Commissioner Lennon to reject all bids submitted for the Construction of a Steel Storage Building, located at 12665 Merritt Road, as all bids submitted were in excess of ten percent (10%) of the estimate of the project.*

*Roll Call Vote:*            *Commissioner Claypool*        *Aye*  
                                  *Commissioner Lennon*        *Aye*  
                                  *Commissioner Spidalieri*      *Aye*

*DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENT (COMMUNITY & ECONOMIC) – RESIGNATION*

*Executive Director Dave Favorite explained that Ms. Stusek had been contemplating this for a long time and expressed concern on the timing and now feels comfortable and is ready to go.*

*Motion:*            *by Commissioner Claypool, seconded by Commissioner Lennon to accept the Resignation of Joni Stusek, Program Administrator to be effective July 3, 2018.*

*Roll Call Vote:*            *Commissioner Claypool*        *Aye*  
                                  *Commissioner Lennon*        *Aye*  
                                  *Commissioner Spidalieri*      *Aye*

*\*The public hearing was scheduled for 9:30 a.m. and with respect for Judge Grendell's time the Board chose to move the hearing back.*

*PROBATE / JUVENILE COURT – DISCUSSION ON LEGAL FEES*

*Judge Timothy Grendell briefly talked about the direction juvenile justice is heading in Ohio and Nationally, to holding the juveniles more accountable, but addressing the underlying needs. Judge Grendell noted that the detention needs are being reduced, along with utilizing a resource center in Ashtabula and getting an assessment done sooner.*

*Judge Grendell wanted to clarify some things that have been printed in the local newspapers regarding some cases that have mislead the Commissioners and the Taxpayers. The Juvenile Court is not a criminal court, the Judge has the authority to appoint an attorney other than the Prosecutor to handle a case, and in other counties things are handled differently. In our County Job and Family Services use the Prosecutor that is their choice. When it comes to a child being unruly in a delinquent case, a complaint is filed and you are given a juvenile record. A business can utilize rule 10 and file a complaint directly with the Court., not going through the Prosecutor's Office. When that complaint is filed, there is no lawyer and no Prosecutor, unless they are brought by the parents and then it is handled differently, often as a pre-trial. Depending on how the child pleads, pleading true, there is often no lawyer. If the child pleads*

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*not-true, under rule 29 (E)(1), the Court shall direct the Prosecuting attorney or another attorney at law to assist the Court with the allegations of the complaint. In Juvenile proceedings the Court controls the proceedings, the Judge can choose to do certain things and how things are handled. If a person wants to defend, the Judge has options to use the Prosecutor or appoint another attorney. Judge Grendell asked everyone to imagine their child has been giving you a hard time and you cannot gain control, and you have gone through counseling and it is suggested to use the court to get the attention of the child to get them to behave. Judge Grendell stated that it is being claimed that he did something wrong, but in fact he followed Rule 29 (E)(1). Last November/December he invoked Rule 29 (E)(1) in an unruly case, explaining that the West Geauga School District filed a complaint, based on a child that had unruly issues, noting that the complaint was based on an act by a child, after they walked into an event mocking actions of shooting a machine gun at students in the audience feeling that it needed some sort of attention. The case came to the Court and the child asked for a defense lawyer, one was appointed and the judge asked the Prosecutor to assist with the case, and asked the Assistant Prosecutor if they were prepared, the day of the hearing the defense lawyer asked the case to be dismissed because the Prosecutor was not moving forward as they didn't file the complaint. The Judge hired an outside attorney to assist with the complaint, the case was handled and the child is getting the necessary assistance needed. Judge Grendell stated that he evoked Rule 29 (E)(1) in January in two other cases, he left town and the Board knows the rest. Judge Grendell recognizes that it is cheaper to use the Prosecutor's Office, he prefers it because they are already getting paid to do the job, however, because of Juvenile Rules he is the gatekeeper, and shouldn't be expected to not follow the rules, and wants to resolve this without using taxpayer money.*

*Judge Grendell expressed that the Ohio Supreme Court set these rules, and that when he invoked it in January he had no idea there was an issue, after invoking it in the prior year. There are cases pending in appeals and he cannot discuss it. Commissioner Lennon asked how much it costs to bring in the outside attorneys, to which Judge Grendell said between \$1,000-\$2,000.00 and that in November / December of last year was the first time in seven years he ever had to do that. Judge Grendell said a lot of them have emotional and behavioral problems that have never been addressed that cause the unruly cases. Judge Grendell added that we want to get them the help to change the behavior so they don't end up across the street later in their years. Mr. Lennon stated that we want to avoid legal billings, and asked to see if there was a way to work something out with the Prosecutor's Office when cases like this come up that we keep the communication open and agree for the outside counsel. Judge Grendell stated that he wanted to make note that he had not filed anything yet about anybody, stressing yet. He noted that he is not a party to the 11<sup>th</sup> District Court of Appeals case, noting that there was no party except the Prosecutor but the CASA Guardian et Litem has filed to get the information before the Court of Appeals. Judge Grendell added that the docket would need to be checked but believes that the Prosecutor has filed to not allow CASA to participate in the case. Judge Grendell stated that he hadn't spent any money yet, but he wasn't going to let Geauga County Juvenile Court to be treated differently than others. Judge Grendell stated that they were forced to spend money on, is that the Prosecutor's Office filed affidavits of bias of prejudice against him, and the Board authorized defense of that, and denied by the Supreme Court. Judge Grendell added that if this is not resolved he feels that there will be additional issues down the line, and that he would like to avoid those. The way to resolve this would be have an understanding of what is the authority and recognize the rules in place, giving the Prosecutor the option and if they don't agree, then appoint. The Appeals cases need to be resolved and while he is not a party, but it all becomes moot if a settlement is not reached that is affective.*

*Commissioner Claypool asked about how the Prosecutor views the rules, to which Judge Grendell stated that he can address the public record aspect of the filing of the Bias of Prejudice against him, asserting that the Prosecutor views the Juvenile Court as a criminal court and that he has the right to decide what complaints can be filed, and if he doesn't find probable cause you cannot file the complaint. Judge Grendell stated that they are not a criminal court and are not governed by 309, noting that the T. J. Lane case is a caveat, if you are bound over to be tried as an adult, the Prosecutor has the right to try those, and that is his exclusive authority.*

*Judge Grendell added that he invoked the system in December and it worked and in January he did it again, and now it's not working and he doesn't understand. He suggested looking at several other counties juvenile court websites and see how complaints are able to be filed. Judge Grendell explained how it used to be done under Judge Henry thought about the process and changed it be done correctly and that a lot of complaints are done through the Prosecutor's*

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*Office. He wants to give the Prosecutor the first opportunity. Mr. Lennon asked to agree working towards a plan forward. Judge Grendell reiterated the rules about being able to appoint an outside attorney and that he wanted it understood by the public.*

*Judge Grendell noted that he read the Board was closing the County Home, and while he understands their decision and wanted them to know they have three people there from the Probate Court.*

*Judge Grendell explained that four months ago Ashtabula County Judge Campleis has closed their detention center and is looking to create a resource center process, adding that he is now trying to place people. Judge Grendell stated that our costs at the detention center are coming down because they are using an alternative form of service placements, and thanked the Board for allowing him to send 4 juveniles to the George Junior Republic facility just into Pennsylvania. Judge Grendell wants to revisit ideas to continue to reduce costs. While we still will have juveniles that will need to be detained, we are working on other forms, including the weekend program and monitoring. Judge Lavrich worked hard to establish the youth center that was under control of the Court, and back in the day the Court gave up control to Ravenwood, and has trouble putting Geauga County kids in there because they put private kids and kids from Lake County in the center. Judge Grendell expressed that he is being forced to use the detention center on the weekends because he can't use the youth center. Judge Grendell stated that he wants to work with the Board to look at other options.*

*TRANSIT DEPARTMENT – TRANSPORTATION AGREEMENT – GEAUGA COMMUNITY ACTION, INCORPORATED*

*Jack Jackson explained that this agreement is for transportation of kids to the community center for a variety of activities.*

*Motion: by Commissioner Claypool, seconded by Commissioner Lennon to approve and execute the Transportation Services Agreement between the Geauga County Board of Commissioners on behalf of Geauga Transit and Geauga Community Action, Incorporated to provide transportation services for Chagrin Falls Park Community Center's Explore and Excel Summer Program for the period June 25, 2018 through July 27, 2018 in the amount of \$2.95 per mile with a not to exceed amount of \$5,000.00.*

|                        |                                |            |
|------------------------|--------------------------------|------------|
| <i>Roll Call Vote:</i> | <i>Commissioner Claypool</i>   | <i>Aye</i> |
|                        | <i>Commissioner Lennon</i>     | <i>Aye</i> |
|                        | <i>Commissioner Spidalieri</i> | <i>Aye</i> |

*MAINTENANCE DEPARTMENT – SERVICE CONTRACT AGREEMENT – GEAUGA MECHANICAL*

*Assistant County Administrator Gerard Morgan explained that the process had been being put into place and the unit failed before we could get the contract finalized, so we are moving forward with the contract to get the repair done with allowance for any additional repairs.*

*Motion: by Commissioner Claypool, seconded by Commissioner Lennon to approve and execute a service Contract Agreement with Geauga Mechanical to perform the Maintenance and Repair of the Courthouse Annex Trane Air Handler, including Appendix A, for the period June 14, 2018 through December 31, 2018 in an amount not to exceed \$15,000.00.*

|                        |                                |            |
|------------------------|--------------------------------|------------|
| <i>Roll Call Vote:</i> | <i>Commissioner Claypool</i>   | <i>Aye</i> |
|                        | <i>Commissioner Lennon</i>     | <i>Aye</i> |
|                        | <i>Commissioner Spidalieri</i> | <i>Aye</i> |

*COMMISSIONERS' OFFICE – PUBLIC HEARING – 2019 TAX BUDGET*

*Motion: by Commissioner Claypool, seconded by Commissioner Lennon to waive the reading of the legal notice.*

|                        |                                |            |
|------------------------|--------------------------------|------------|
| <i>Roll Call Vote:</i> | <i>Commissioner Claypool</i>   | <i>Aye</i> |
|                        | <i>Commissioner Lennon</i>     | <i>Aye</i> |
|                        | <i>Commissioner Spidalieri</i> | <i>Aye</i> |

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Mr. Spidalieri opened the Public Hearing at 10:17 a.m.



Geauga County  
2019 Tax Budget

Public Hearing  
June 19, 2018

Dave Lair, County Administrator  
Deborah Ashburn, Fiscal Specialist  
Adrian Gorton, Budget & Finance Manager

Mr. Lair explained that the County follows a calendar year, and we start with a tax budget, which is a spending plan for the following year, and is used by the Budget Commission to have a basis to levy taxes that are affected by the Commissioners budget. What is not included in the Commissioners budget is the County Library, Health District and Park District. Today's presentation focuses on the General Fund which is the portion that the Commissioners have discretionary spending. In the fall the Commissioners hold Budget Hearings which helps the Commissioners make adjustments before they approve the permanent appropriation in December, and in January make any final appropriations for 2019.



Geauga County 2019 Tax Budget  
Overview

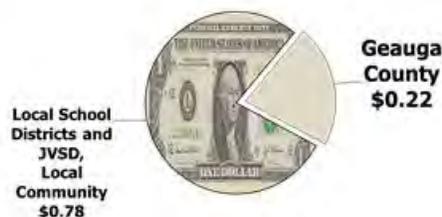
Total 2019 Tax Budget - \$119.9M  
General Fund Budget - \$34.3M  
General Fund Requests - \$37.8M

Budget and Finance Manager Adrian Gorton, stated that this tax budget is about \$3 million more from last year, but not in the General Fund. The General Fund actually decreased slightly. Mr. Gorton noted a change from last year that the County Tax expenses are being done as a separate line item expense rather than being distributed as a net amount, along with some increases for maintenance costs from the aging buildings. Mr. Gorton stated that of the \$3.5 million in unfunded requests are related to equipment, vehicles, contract services and personnel related costs.



Geauga County 2019 Tax Budget  
Property Tax Overview

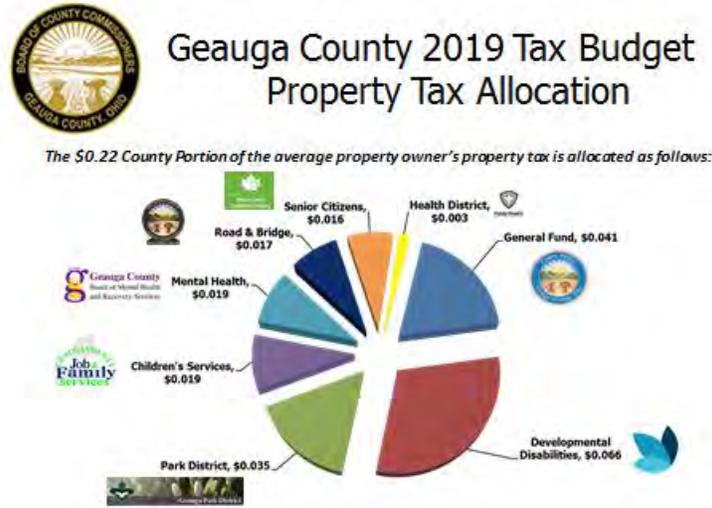
For every \$1.00 of property tax paid by a homeowner in Geauga County, on the average **\$0.22 is used to fund County programs**. In general, the remaining \$0.78 is allocated predominately to the local school districts and JVSD, with the balance going to the local community.



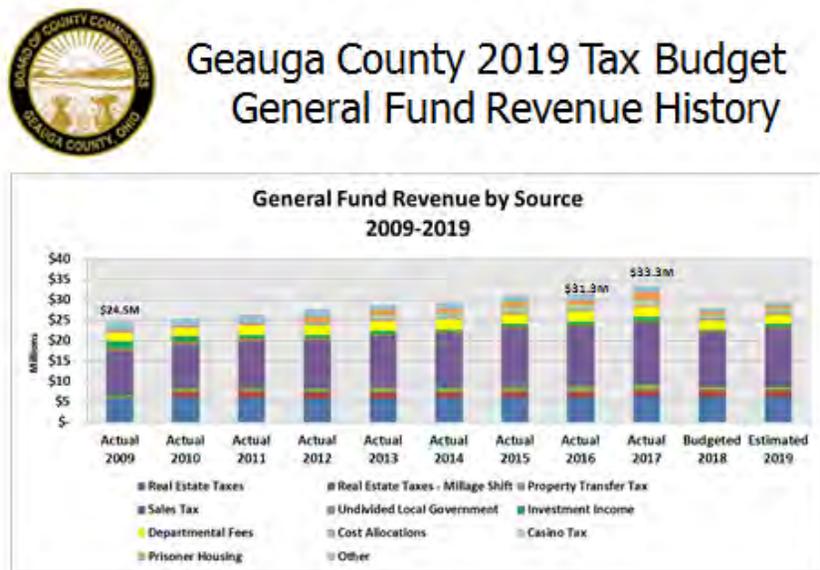
Source - Geauga County Auditor's Office

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*Fiscal Specialist Deborah Ashburn explained that there are several sources of revenue, but the two main sources include property tax and sales tax. It is estimated that the County will receive about \$7.8 million in 2019 in property tax revenue. Ms. Ashburn noted that only 22 cents of \$1.00 goes to fund county programs, and the remaining 78 cents goes to school districts and local community (townships).*



*Ms. Ashburn shows how the 22 cents is distributed within the county. There was a brief discussion about the breakdown of where your property tax goes to. In the 78 cents, it goes to Townships, the Library and Schools Districts. Aside from the inside millage to the General Fund, the remaining portion of the 22 cents is voted upon by the taxpayers. Mr. Lair suggested people look at the REAlink from the website to see that property tax breakdown, because most often people don't see the tax bill since they are paid within the mortgage. Commissioner Spidalieri noted that he had received several complaints about the school district levy in Chardon, and the misconception of the Board of Commissioners having anything to do with their levy funding, and with them closing schools and reducing staff, people are questioning where those funds are going with the passing of the new levy. Discussion continued regarding the amount of taxes increasing, and the threat of people not being able to afford to live here, including the elderly.*



*Mr. Lair explained that the Commissioners used to put funds into a debt retirement fund to help pay down the safety center, saving a lot of money in interest by paying it off in less than 9 years. Mr. Lair also noted that the funding that was being received from prisoner housing, abruptly stopped when Cuyahoga County couldn't afford to pay the cost of sending prisoners to our safety center. Mr. Lair stated that the sales tax has continued to grow with retail growth, benefitting from the big box stores that have opened in the County. Mr. Lair noted that the County is*

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*funding all sides of the opiate epidemic, citing the Sheriff, the Prosecutor's Office, the Courts, the Public Defender. Thanks largely to the sales tax, we have seen some growth, but we cannot rely on it with changes in how purchases are being made. Mr. Lair stated that we are being very conservative in our budgeting. Mr. Lair noted that the millage shift happened when the debt retirement fund was shifted back into the General Fund in 2009 when revenue dropped. Mr. Lair explained that there was a higher than normal carryover in 2017 because the money that was set aside for debt retirement wasn't set aside since there was no debt, it remained in the General Fund. Going forward if the County chooses to update the current buildings or constructing something new, that funding will then be used to cover those costs.*

*Mr. Lair also noted that investment income since 2009 started to fall off from over \$1 million to only a couple hundred thousand. Mr. Gorton added that in 2018 the prisoner housing is estimated conservatively.*



**Geauga County 2019 Tax Budget  
Revenue Overview**

2019 General Fund Revenue:       \$29.3M  
Increase from 2018:  
\$1.4M                               (2018 CY Budget vs 2019 Tax  
Budget)

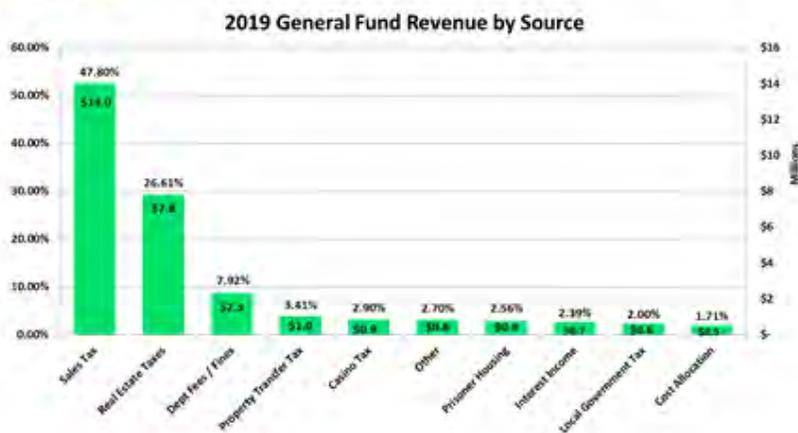
Revenue sources increased from 2018 Budget amounts:

- County Sales Tax projected to increase \$1M over 2018 levels due to a consistent increase in taxable retail activity and \$400K increase in investment income.
- All other sources of income have been held to 2018 levels including Real Estate Taxes, Casino Tax and Prisoner Housing

*Mr. Gorton shows an over view for 2019, that includes an increase from 2018, with projected increases in sales tax and in investment income.*



**Geauga County 2019 Tax Budget  
2019 General Fund Revenue**



*Mr. Gorton stated that this shows a contrast of the revenue sources. Mr. Lair stated that the local government tax used to be much higher, and Governor Kasich dialed that back, adding that Townships got hit much harder than Counties. The Counties got substitute revenue from the Casino tax. Mr. Lair stated that you shouldn't be building an expectation on Casino tax because you cannot count on it.*

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**Geauga County 2019 Tax Budget  
Available Resources History**

Changes to Available Resources 2015-2019

|                                   | 2015<br>Actual | 2016<br>Actual | 2017<br>Actual | 2018<br>Budgeted | 2019<br>Estimated |
|-----------------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|------------------|-------------------|
| Unencumbered Carryover Balance    | \$6.8          | \$7.3          | \$8.3          | \$5.0            | \$5.0             |
| Calendar Year Revenue             | \$30.7         | \$31.3         | \$33.3         | \$27.9           | \$29.3            |
| Total Resources                   | \$37.5         | \$38.6         | \$41.6         | \$32.9           | \$34.3            |
| Increase to Calendar Year Revenue |                |                |                |                  | \$1.4             |

*Mr. Gorton stated that this is a history of total resources available.*



**Geauga County 2019 Tax Budget  
Expense Overview**

2019 General Fund Operating Expenses: \$30.5M  
 Decrease Net of Transfers: ( \$128K)  
 (2018 CY Budget vs 2019 Tax Budget)

Key Assumptions in 2019 General Fund Tax Budget

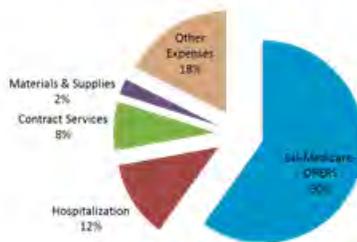
- 0% wage increase
- No increase budgeted for County portion of hospitalization
  - 2017 – 13.1% Increase to General Fund
  - 2018 – 4.5% Overall Increase (1.5% General Fund, 1.5% Increased Employee contributions and 1.5% in plan changes)
- \$447K of Equipment in 2018 Budget
  - \$45K included in 2019 Tax Budget (\$25K Sheriff & \$20K ADP)

*Mr. Gorton explained that on the expense side shows a slight decrease over the 2018 calendar year budget, that includes a 0% wage increase and hospitalization increases. Mr. Gorton stated that it allowed for a different way of looking at handling the increase that was received.*



**Geauga County 2019 Tax Budget  
2019 General Fund Expenses**

2019 General Fund Budget by Expense Category  
(Net of Transfers Out)



72% of General Fund Expenses related to Personnel

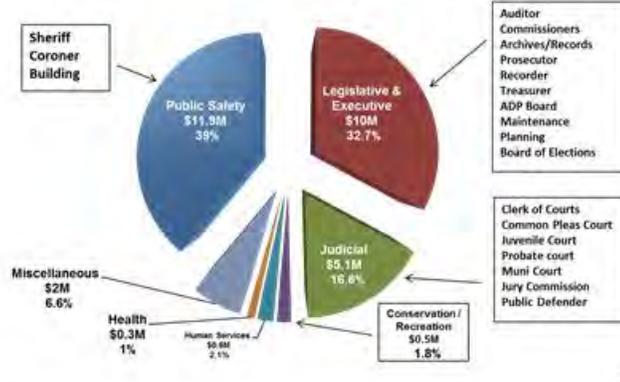
*Mr. Gorton stated that this is just a pie chart showing how the funds in the General Fund are spent. Mr. Gorton went over what was included in the types of services. Adding that obviously this shows the vast majority of General Fund expenses are related to personnel.*

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Geauga County 2019 Tax Budget  
2019 General Fund Expenses

2019 General Fund Operating Expenses by Category



Mr. Gorton noted Commissioner Spidalieri has spoken about the County's portion of the General Fund going to services that people see. Mr. Spidalieri added that there is a lot going on for that little sliver we get. Commissioner Claypool noted that the Commissioners oversee a \$30 million dollar budget and the Library just got a \$24 million dollar bond levy on top of their already \$20 million dollar levy, adding that the schools are huge, and they have one function, and there is a lot getting done for that amount of funding.



Geauga County 2019 Tax Budget  
2019 General Fund Expenses

| General Fund Operating Expenses (Net of Transfers Out) |               |               |
|--|---------------|---------------|
| \$'s in Millions                                       |               |               |
| Category   | 2018          | 2019          |
| Public Safety  | \$12.2        | \$11.9        |
| Legislative & Executive                                | \$9.8         | \$10.0        |
| Judicial   | \$5.2         | \$5.1         |
| Conservation / Recreation                              | \$0.5         | \$0.5         |
| Human Services   | \$0.6         | \$0.6         |
| Health   | \$0.3         | \$0.3         |
| Miscellaneous  | \$2.0         | \$2.0         |
| <b>Total</b>   | <b>\$30.6</b> | <b>\$30.5</b> |

Mr. Gorton is a further breakdown of the \$30.5 million budget.



Geauga County 2019 Tax Budget  
Questions

Thank you for your attention

Questions ?

Commissioners' Journal  
June 19, 2018



Geauga County 2019 Tax Budget  
Future Planning

- Continuing conservative approach to revenue and expenses
- Looking to maximize the utilization of available funds to improve County buildings, increase operational efficiencies and available workspace
- Building new approaches to attracting and retaining businesses in Geauga County

Typically this last slide usually talks about debt, however the County doesn't currently have any. Mr. Lair expressed that the County needs to live like a taxpayer and make do with what we have to work with. At some point change has to come to make government more efficient. Mr. Lair stated that we want to continue to attract business into our County, along with keeping current business here, that more importantly will create jobs here. Mr. Spidalieri added that having been with the County for six years, he thanked both Mr. Lennon and Mr. Claypool along with staff in the office, that have asked the tough questions, and assisted with the continuity to move forward. Mr. Spidalieri added that we are long term debt free in this county, and while he cannot take credit for it, but the torch has continued to burn and make it a reality. Commissioner Lennon added that we are moving forward in this county, and proud to be part of this group. Mr. Claypool expressed that he was thankful for being part of this team, and is encouraged to see what is going to happen moving forward. There was a brief discussion on business making adjustment when other new business moves in. Being no further questions or comments, the Public Hearing was closed at 11:29 a.m.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

- a) A weekly report filed by the County Dog Warden of all dogs seized, impounded, redeemed or destroyed for the week ending June 6, 2018 as required by O.R.C. 955.12.
- b) Western Reserve Land Conservancy Annual Stewardship visit to the Mayer East conservation easement property.

OTHER

The Board reviewed upcoming events.

MEETINGS

- Tue., 6/19 Investment Advisory Board, 8:45 a.m. Chambers
- Tue., 6/19 ADP Board meeting, 2:00 p.m. Auditor's Office
- Mon., 6/25 Board of Revision, 9:00 a.m. Auditor's Office
- Tue., 6/26 The Commissioners will hold regular session at 9:00 a.m.
- Thu., 6/28 Geauga Trumbull Solid Waste Management District, Board of Directors meeting, 10:00 a.m., Warren (District Office)
- Tue., 7/3 The Commissioners will hold regular session at 9:00 a.m.
- Wed., 7/4 Geauga County offices closed in observance of the 4<sup>th</sup> of July holiday. 24 hour operations will continue to operate as normal.**
- Tue., 7/10 Planning Commission meeting at 7:30 a.m. in the Planning Commission meeting room, Bldg. #1C, 470 Center Street, Chardon
- Tue., 7/10 The Commissioners will hold regular session at 9:30 a.m.

**Commissioners' Journal**  
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*Wed., 7/11 Geauga County Township Association Dinner Meeting, 6:30 p.m. St. Denis Golf Club*

*Mr. Claypool expressed some serious concern about the Solid Waste program and will be scheduling a special meeting to discuss this. It's being set up for July 18<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Claypool stated that the market around the world is changed and impacting the program.*

*Mr. Lair reminded the Board about the Library Board meeting at 4:00 p.m. today that he was going to attend and thank them for allowing them to look at the building.*

*The Board acknowledged the Scout from Montville that was in attendance working towards a merit badge that is helps him in earning his Eagle Scout.*

*Another member in the audience today was Candace Lloyd, running under the Libertarian Party as Geauga County Commissioner. They will be considered a party at the end of the month, and went over an outline of what they need to do before she is able to be on the ballot.*

**BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE BOARD**

*Motion: by Commissioner Claypool, seconded by Commissioner Lennon to adjourn the meeting at 11:38 a.m.*

*Geauga County Board of Commissioners*

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*Ralph Spidalieri*

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*Timothy C. Lennon*

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*Walter M. Claypool*

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*Deborah Ashburn, Acting Commissioners' Clerk*  
*Christine Blair, Commissioners' Clerk*

**Commissioners' Journal**  
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