

Commissioners' Journal
December 6, 2022

The Geauga County Board of Commissioners met in session on December 6, 2022 at 9:30 a.m. in the Commissioners' Offices located at 12611 Ravenwood Drive, Room B303 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, James W. Dvorak opened the meeting at 9:42 a.m. by leading the Board and audience in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

Commissioner Dvorak read the following prayer:

Dear Lord

"Today, as we gather with our family and friends to honor Christ, we can experience the same peace and joy as the shepherds and the Magi did almost 2,000 years ago. If we make the peace and joy a part of our lives, our example will serve as a guide and an inspiration for everyone we meet."

-President Ronald Reagan

December 1984, Message on the Observance of Christmas

FINANCIALS

County Administrator Gerard Morgan reported on financials from November 29, 2022, Resolution #22-191 that included Appropriations transfers from the Sheriff to provide for a reimbursement cash transfer to the General Fund and from the Commissioners in the Miscellaneous COBRA expense account to cover November and December payments and Supplemental Appropriation from the Treasurer's Office in their Delinquent Tax Fee fund hospitalization account to cover November and December payments; as approved by the County Administrator pursuant to Resolution #22-032 approved March 15, 2022, 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 2022, as authorized by O.R.C. 305.30.

MEETING MINUTES

Motion: by Commissioner Spidalieri, seconded by Commissioner Lennon to approve and execute the minutes for the meeting of October 13, 2022.

<i>Roll Call Vote:</i>	<i>Commissioner Spidalieri</i>	<i>Aye</i>
	<i>Commissioner Lennon</i>	<i>Aye</i>
	<i>Commissioner Dvorak</i>	<i>Aye</i>

Motion: by Commissioner Spidalieri, seconded by Commissioner Lennon to approve and execute the minutes for the meeting of October 18, 2022.

<i>Roll Call Vote:</i>	<i>Commissioner Spidalieri</i>	<i>Aye</i>
	<i>Commissioner Lennon</i>	<i>Aye</i>
	<i>Commissioner Dvorak</i>	<i>Aye</i>

Motion: by Commissioner Spidalieri, seconded by Commissioner Lennon to approve and execute the minutes for the meeting of October 25, 2022.

<i>Roll Call Vote:</i>	<i>Commissioner Spidalieri</i>	<i>Aye</i>
	<i>Commissioner Lennon</i>	<i>Aye</i>
	<i>Commissioner Dvorak</i>	<i>Aye</i>

APPROVE FINANCIALS

Budget and Finance Manager Adrian Gorton explained the financials for today as including Supplemental Appropriations from the Commissioner's office in the Operating Transfer Out Sales Tax MHZ and Capital Transfer in preparation for year end cash transfers from the General Fund, Then and Now from the County Engineer to Rick Weikart for Kent State Tuition Reimbursements and from the Municipal Court to Jerri Mitchell-Tharp for court appointed

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counsel fees that were not previously encumbered; a Travel request for the Juvenile Court; a payment for the Commissioners Office to the CCAO/CEAO for Commissioners' office membership dues in the amount of \$11,343.00, a payment for the Commissioners' Office to Destination Geauga for 3rd Quarter 2022 Bed Tax Distribution in the amount of \$24,304.53 (in the last year we have distributed a little over \$86,000.00 to Destination Geauga to promote tourism for the county), and a payment for the County Engineer's Office to Valley Ford for a single and tandem axle Freightliner 108SD cab and chassis trucks to be outfitted as plow trucks in the amount of \$223,856.00 (two older trucks will be cycled out at the conclusion of the winter season).

Motion: by Commissioner Spidalieri, seconded by Commissioner Lennon to approve and execute Resolution #22-192 itemizing the financials for the meeting of December 6, 2022.

<i>Roll Call Vote:</i>	<i>Commissioner Spidalieri</i>	<i>Aye</i>
	<i>Commissioner Lennon</i>	<i>Aye</i>
	<i>Commissioner Dvorak</i>	<i>Aye</i>

COMMISSIONERS OFFICE – RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING ACCEPTANCE OF PAYMENTS BY FINANCIAL TRANSACTION DEVICE FOR COUNTY EXPENSES OWED TO COUNTY OFFICIALS / OFFICES

Mr. Gorton asked the Board to approve and execute the resolution authorizing the acceptance of payments by financial transaction device for county expenses. Mr. Gorton explained that the contract with MSB is expiring and are doing a new resolution that includes additional departments.

Motion: by Commissioner Spidalieri, seconded by Commissioner Lennon to approve and execute Resolution #22-194 Authorizing the Acceptance of Payments by Financial Transaction Devices for county expenses owed to County Officials / Offices in Accordance with R.C. 301.28.

Board of County Commissioners, Geauga County Ohio

Date: December 6, 2022

Resolution: #22-194

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ACCEPTANCE OF PAYMENTS BY FINANCIAL TRANSACTION DEVICES FOR COUNTY EXPENSES OWED TO COUNTY OFFICIALS/ OFFICES IN ACCORDANCE WITH R.C. 301.28

The Board of County Commissioners of Geauga County, Ohio (the "Board"), met on the day of December 6, 2022 in regular session with the following members present.

James W. Dvorak

Timothy C. Lennon

Ralph Spidalieri

WHEREAS, Ohio Revised Code Section 301.28, permits a Board of County Commissioners to adopt a resolution authorizing the acceptance of payments by financial transaction devices for county expenses by county officials; and

WHEREAS, "financial transaction devices" as defined by R.C. 301.28(A)(1) "includes a credit card, debit card, charge card, or prepaid or stored value card, or automated clearinghouse network credit, debit, or e-check entry that includes, but is not limited to, accounts receivable and internet-initiated, point of purchase, and telephone-initiated applications or any other device or method for making an electronic payment or transfer of funds"; and

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WHEREAS, "county expenses" as defined by R.C. 301.28(A)(2) "includes fees, costs, taxes, assessments, fines, penalties, payments, or any other expense a person owes or otherwise pays to a county office under the authority of a county official, other than dog registration and kennel fees required to be paid under Chapter 955 of the Revised Code... payment to a county office of money confiscated during the commitment of an individual to a county jail, of bail, of money for a prisoner's inmate account, and of money for goods and services obtained by or for the use of an individual incarcerated by a county sheriff...online financial transaction device payments made through the official public sheriff sale web site pursuant to section 2329.153 of the Revised Code...expenses owed to the board of health of the general health district or a combined health district in the county...fees for services and the receipt of gifts to the county law library resources fund authorized by rules adopted by the county law library resources board under division (D) of section 307.51 of the Revised Code."

WHEREAS, "county official" as defined by R.C. 301.28(A)(3) "includes the county auditor, county treasurer, county engineer, county recorder, county prosecuting attorney, county sheriff, county coroner, county park district, board of county commissioners, the clerk of the probate court, the clerk of the juvenile court, the clerks of court for all divisions of the courts of common pleas, and the clerk of the court of common pleas, the clerk of a county-operated municipal court, and the clerk of a county court."

WHEREAS, a board of county commissioners adopting a resolution is required to provide a copy of the resolution to the county officials listed in the resolution and who are thereby authorized to accept payments by financial transaction devices. After a county official receives the resolution and before accepting payments by financial transaction devices, the county official must notify the board in writing of the official's intention to adopt the resolution within the official's office. County offices subject to the board's resolution may only use the financial institutions, issuers, of financial transaction devices, and processors of financial transaction devices that contract with the board, and each such office is subject to the terms of those contracts.

WHEREAS, if a county official decides not to accept payments by financial transaction devices for county expenses, the official's office will not be required to accept payments by financial transaction devices for the expenses, even if a resolution is passed by a board of county commissioners under R.C. 301.28; and

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WHEREAS, a clerk of the court of common pleas that accepted financial transaction devices on or before July 1, 1999, and notified the board in writing within thirty (30) days after March 30, 1999, that it accepted such devices on or before July 1, 1999, and the notification described how processing costs for the financial transaction devices were being paid and if surcharge or convenience fees were passed on to consumers, is grandfathered and may continue to accept such devices without being subject to the board's resolution or financial transaction device program; and

WHEREAS, any other county office that accepted financial transaction devices before January 1, 1998, and notified the board in writing within thirty (30) days after March 30, 1999, that it accepted such devices prior to January 1, 1998, and the notification described how processing costs for the financial transaction devices were being paid and if surcharge or convenience fees were passed on to consumers, is grandfathered and may continue to accept such devices without being subject to the board's resolution or financial transaction device program;

WHEREAS, R.C. 301.28(E) authorizes a board of county commissioners to establish a surcharge or convenience fee that may be paid by a person making payment by financial transaction device if authorized by the agreement governing the use and acceptance of the financial transaction device; and

WHEREAS, upon the imposition of a surcharge or convenience fee, all county offices accepting payment by financial transaction device, even if the office is not subject to the board's resolution, must clearly post a notice in that office and must also notify each person making payment by such a device about the surcharge or fee, and the content of the notice must specifically comply with R.C. 301.28(E)(1)-(3); and

WHEREAS, if a person opts to make payment by financial transaction device, any surcharges or convenience fees charged are not refundable. If any payments are returned or dishonored, the person is liable for payment of a penalty over the above the amount of the expense due, which amount shall be established by a board of commissioners and shall be either a fee not to exceed twenty dollars or payment of the amount necessary to reimburse the county for banking charges, legal fees, and other expenses incurred in collecting the returned or dishonored payment; and

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WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners' current financial transaction device contract is nearing the end of its term and the Board desires to reauthorize county departments to accept payments by financial transaction devices and enter into a new extended term contract.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the terms and use of financial transaction devices for the payment of expenses owed to the county departments shall be authorized, as follows:

1. *Financial transaction devices that the board authorizes as acceptable means of payment for county expenses: a major bank credit card, debit card or charge card.*
2. *The county expenses that may be paid for through the use of a financial transaction device: fees, costs, taxes assessments, fines, penalties, payments, or any other expense a person owes or otherwise pays to a county office under the authority of a county official, other than dog registration and kennel fees required to be paid under Chapter 955 of the Ohio Revised Code; payment to a county office of money confiscated during the commitment of an individual to a county jail, of bail, of money for a prisoner's inmate account, and of money for goods and services obtained by or for the use of an individual incarcerated by a county sheriff; online financial transaction device payments made through the official public sheriff sale web site pursuant to Section 2329.153 of the Revised Code; county expenses owed to the board of health of the general health district or a combined health district in the county; fees for services and the receipt of gifts to the county law library resources fund authorized by rules adopted by the county law library resources board under division (D) of Section 307.51 of the Revised Code.*
3. *The county officials/offices authorized to accept payment by financial transaction devices for county expenses including but not limited to, the county expenses set forth below and those listed under R.C. 301.28(A)(2) and (3):*
 - A. *Geauga County Dept. of Water Resources: Receive payments for utility bills and testing fees*
 - B. *Geauga County Building Department: Receive payments for permits and licensing fees*
 - C. *Geauga County Archives & Records Center: Accept copy fees*
 - D. *Geauga County Maintenance Dept: Accept payment for the purchase of auction items*
 - E. *Geauga County Transit Dept.: Accept payment for fare purchases*
 - F. *Geauga County Department on Aging: Accept payment for programs*
 - G. *Geauga County Dog Warden: Receive payment for adoption and donations. [DOG REGISTRATION AND KENNEL FEES REQUIRED TO BE PAID UNDER CHAPTER 955 OF THE OHIO REVISED CODE ARE NOT AUTHORIZED FOR PAYMENT UNDER THIS RESOLUTION. 301.28(2).]*
 - H. *Geauga County Recorder: Any county expenses, including but not limited to payments for document recordings and copying fees.*
 - I. *Geauga County Auditor: Accept payments for certain charges and fees*
 - J. *Geauga County Engineer: Accept payments for permit fees and related charges*

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- K. Geauga County Health District: Any county expenses.
 - L. Geauga County Clerk of the Court of Common Pleas/Geauga County Clerk of Court, Auto Title Division: Any county expenses
 - M. Geauga County Treasurer: Any county expenses, including but not limited to the payment of real estate and mobile home taxes
 - N. Geauga County Sheriff: Any county expenses.
 - O. Geauga County Park District: Any county expenses (if applicable).
 - P. Geauga County Clerk of the Probate Court: Any county expenses
 - Q. Geauga County Clerk of the Juvenile Court: Any county expenses
4. Surcharge or convenience fee to be imposed upon the person making payment by a financial transaction device: Not to exceed a maximum of 5% of the total due.
 5. The penalty if a payment by means of a financial transaction device is returned or dishonored: The amount necessary to reimburse the county for banking charges, legal fees or other expenses incurred by the county in collecting the returned or dishonored payment.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Geauga County Treasurer is designated as the administrative agent to solicit proposals from financial institutions, issuers of financial transaction devices and processors of financial transaction devices within the guidelines established by the board in this Resolution, and in compliance with the procedures provided in R.C. 301.28(C), The Treasurer shall also make recommendations about those proposals to the Board, and assist county offices in implementing the county's financial transaction devices program. If the Treasurer declines this responsibility and notifies the Board within thirty (30) days after receiving a copy of this Resolution, the board shall perform the duties of the administrative agent.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that prior to sending any financial institution, issuer, or processor a copy of any such request, the Board shall advertise its intent to request proposals in a newspaper of general circulation in the county once a week for two consecutive weeks as provided in Ohio Revised Code Section 301.28(C).

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the County Commissioners shall solicit proposals as outlined above and shall review the proposals, choose to contract with any or all of the entities submitting proposals as appropriate, and enter into a contract with such entities.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Clerk of the Geauga County Board of Commissioners is hereby ordered to forward a certified copy of this Resolution to the County Treasurer for his action thereon and to the County Officials/Offices as outlined above for their consideration.

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, after receiving this Resolution and before accepting payments by financial transaction devices, the county departments referenced herein, shall provide written notification to the board of county commissioners of their intent to implement the Resolution within the official's office, in accordance with R.C. 301.28(D).

<i>Roll Call Vote:</i>	<i>Commissioner Spidalieri</i>	<i>Aye</i>
	<i>Commissioner Lennon</i>	<i>Aye</i>
	<i>Commissioner Dvorak</i>	<i>Aye</i>

COUNTY ENGINEER'S OFFICE – UNIT PRICE CONTRACT – RONYAK PAVING, INCORPORATED – ASPHALT RESURFACING OF MESSENGER ROAD

Deputy Engineer Shane Hajjar asked the Board to execute the Unit Price Contract with Ronyak Paving for the asphalt resurfacing of Messenger Road. The Bid Bond submitted shall serve as the Performance Bond for the project.

Motion: by Commissioner Spidalieri, seconded by Commissioner Lennon to approve and execute the Unit Price Contract with Ronyak Paving, Incorporated for the Asphalt Resurfacing of Messenger Road (CH00031, Section A) in Auburn Township in the amount of \$475,775.00. The Bid Bond submitted shall be held to serve as the Performance Bond for this project.

<i>Roll Call Vote:</i>	<i>Commissioner Spidalieri</i>	<i>Aye</i>
	<i>Commissioner Lennon</i>	<i>Aye</i>
	<i>Commissioner Dvorak</i>	<i>Aye</i>

COUNTY ENGINEER'S OFFICE – HIGHWAY EASEMENT – JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES CHAGRIN FALLS – CULVERT EXTENSION AND DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENTS – WASHINGTON STREET – BAINBRIDGE TOWNSHIP

Mr. Hajjar asked the Board to approve the Highway Easement with the Jehovah's Witnesses Chagrin Falls for the drainage improvements on Washington Street.

Motion: by Commissioner Spidalieri, seconded by Commissioner Lennon to approve and execute the Highway Easement between the Geauga County Board of Commissioners and Jehovah's Witnesses Chagrin Falls (Ohio) Company (Parcel #02-711600) for culvert extension and drainage improvements located at or near 8634 Washington Street (CH-0606, Section C) in Bainbridge Township in the amount of \$250.00.

<i>Roll Call Vote:</i>	<i>Commissioner Spidalieri</i>	<i>Aye</i>
	<i>Commissioner Lennon</i>	<i>Aye</i>
	<i>Commissioner Dvorak</i>	<i>Aye</i>

COUNTY ENGINEER'S OFFICE – CHANGE ORDER #1 FINAL – DECREASE CONTRACT – RONYAK PAVING, INCORPORATED – ASPHALT AND CONCRETE PAVING OF ENGINEER NORTH AND SOUTH YARDS

Mr. Hajjar asked the Board to execute the Change Order #1 and final for a decrease in the contract with Ronyak Paving for the asphalt and concrete paving of the Engineer's north and south yards.

Motion: by Commissioner Spidalieri, seconded by Commissioner Lennon to approve and execute Change Order #1 and Final, decreasing the Contract with Ronyak Paving, Incorporated for the Asphalt and Concrete Paving of the Geauga County Engineer North and South Yards in the amount of \$15,438.50.

<i>Roll Call Vote:</i>	<i>Commissioner Spidalieri</i>	<i>Aye</i>
	<i>Commissioner Lennon</i>	<i>Aye</i>
	<i>Commissioner Dvorak</i>	<i>Aye</i>

DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENT (COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT) – TABLED - PERMISSION TO RE-ADVERTISE BIDS – CAMP HO MITA KODA CABIN WINTERIZATION

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The Department of Development (Community & Economic) is requesting the Board grant permission to Re-Advertise for Bids for the Camp Ho Mita Koda Cabin Winterization Project (Grant #B-F-21-IAZ-1) to be held on Wednesday, February 1, 2023 at 2:00 p.m. Notice of this Bid Opening will be advertised on January 5, 2023 and on the County website.

Clerk Christine Blair asked the Board to grant permission to re-advertise again for Bids for the Camp Ho Mita Koda Cabin Winterization. Ms. Blair noted that no bids were received on the first two bids, the first bid was for gas lines, they changed the scope and went out for electrical. There was discussion about where it was being advertised and the possibility of cost of the Project being to high in relation to the estimate of the project. Mr. Morgan added that he felt with the CDBG rules after 3 advertisements with no bids they can then seek a contractor. Since the projects are submitted so far in advance the estimate of cost are a year and a half old.

After discussion about what paper to run the ad in the newspaper, the item was tabled as there is plenty of time before it gets advertised.

DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY SERVICES – AGREEMENT -GEAUGA COUNTY LOCAL EMERGENCY PLANNING COMMITTEE (LEPC)

Director Roger Peterson explained that annually the Department of Emergency services does all the required filing and this agreement will allow the LEPC to pay them \$10,000.00 to handle it.

Motion: by Commissioner Spidalieri, seconded by Commissioner Lennon to approve and authorize the President of the Board to execute the Agreement between the Department of Emergency Services and the Geauga County Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) to provide the following services to LEPC: Administrative Support; Emergency Response Coordinator (if elected by the Geauga LEPC); Secretarial / Treasurer Responsibilities; Information Coordinator (if elected by the Geauga LEPC); Compliance, Plan Development and Exercising; Grant Applications; Training and the maintaining of all required chemical filing forms and records for the Year 2023 in the amount of \$10,000.00.

<i>Roll Call Vote:</i>	<i>Commissioner Spidalieri</i>	<i>Aye</i>
	<i>Commissioner Lennon</i>	<i>Aye</i>
	<i>Commissioner Dvorak</i>	<i>Aye</i>

MAINTENANCE – SERVICE CONTRACT AGREEMENT – A.J. GOULDER ELECTRIC, INCORPORATED – TWO YEAR PERIOD

Director Glen Vernick explained that A. J. Goulder Electric was a contractor on the new building and are putting a service contract in place with them in case there is anything needed. This contract does cover all buildings and is for a two-year period.

Motion: by Commissioner Spidalieri, seconded by Commissioner Lennon to approve and execute the service Contract Agreement with A. J. Goulder Electric, Incorporated to perform electrical services as need at various Geauga County Buildings for a two-year period, effective December 6, 2022 with an option to renew for an additional one-year period in an amount not to exceed \$20,000.00.

<i>Roll Call Vote:</i>	<i>Commissioner Spidalieri</i>	<i>Aye</i>
	<i>Commissioner Lennon</i>	<i>Aye</i>
	<i>Commissioner Dvorak</i>	<i>Aye</i>

TRANSIT – FIRST ADDENDUM – MERITECH, INCORPORATED – WERE ACQUIRED AND ARE NOW DEX IMAGING, LLC

Operations Manager David Lair Jr. asked the Board to approve the first addendum to the Meritech Incorporated agreement as they were acquired and are now DEX Imaging, LLC but all remaining terms of the agreement remain the same.

Motion: by Commissioner Spidalieri, seconded by Commissioner Lennon to approve the First Addendum to the Meritech, Incorporated Agreement as they were acquired and are now DEX Imaging, LLC, and that all remaining terms and conditions for the maintenance services for a Ricoh IM C3000 Copier shall remain in full force and effect.

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

COMMISSIONERS' OFFICE – RE-ELECT SHERIFF SCOTT HILDENBRAND AND AUDITOR CHARLES WALDER – VOLUNTEER PEACE OFFICERS' DEPENDENTS FUND BOARD

Mr. Morgan explained that the next two items are to re-appoint the Sheriff and Auditor to the Volunteer Peace Officers Dependents Fund Board for a new one-year term.

Motion: *by Commissioner Spidalieri, seconded by Commissioner Lennon to re-elect Sheriff, Scott Hildenbrand to the Volunteer Peace Officers' Dependents Fund Board for the term ending December 31, 2023.*

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

Motion: *by Commissioner Spidalieri, seconded by Commissioner Lennon to re-elect Auditor, Charles Walder to the Volunteer Peace Officers' Dependents Fund Board for the term ending December 31, 2023.*

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

COMMISSIONERS' OFFICE – PERMANENT (ANNUAL) APPROPRIATIONS FOR 2023

Mr. Gorton provided the following presentation:



**2023 Permanent Appropriations
December 6, 2022**

Gerard Morgan, County Administrator
Adrian Gorton, Budget & Finance Manager



**2023 Permanent Appropriations
Budget Process**

- Budget Commission certifies the revenues expected to be received for the year, along with the unencumbered fund balance identified at the beginning of the year. Together, revenues + beginning balance = Resources
- County Commissioners appropriate funds to county departments. The total amount of the appropriations by fund cannot exceed the certified amount of resources as determined by the Budget Commission.

Mr. Gorton explained that budget process begins in August, following the Tax Budget submission, the Budget Commission certified the 2023 revenues by Fund. Mr. Gorton noted that Appropriations by fund cannot exceed the certified resources for that fund.



2023 Permanent Appropriations General Fund Certified Resources

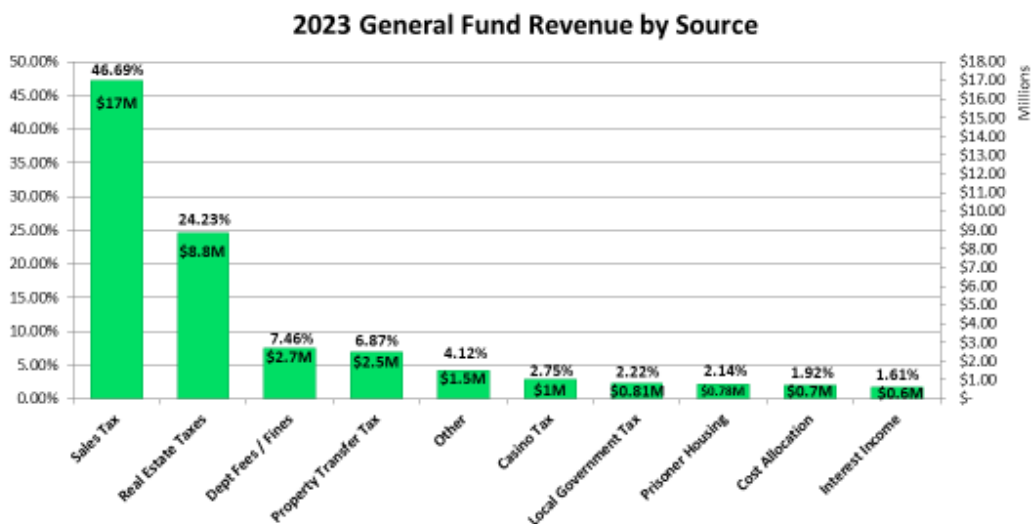
Minimum Estimated Carryover Balance	\$3,104,201
2023 Revenues	<u>\$36,412,925</u>
Total Resources	\$39,517,126

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Mr. Gorton stated that for the 2023 Permanent Appropriations the Budget Commission certified \$39,517,126.00 of resources for the General Fund.



2023 Permanent Appropriations General Fund Revenue Sources



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Mr. Gorton stated that the 2023 General Fund Revenue is estimated at \$36.4 Million. The chart above shows the breakdown of this amount.

A majority, \$17 Million or almost 46.7% of the revenue is estimated to come from Sales Tax. This is the 1% county portion of the 6.75% Sales Tax paid in Geauga County. The State of Ohio charges the other 5.75%, the average rate in the State of Ohio is 7.22%. Ohio law allows counties to option up to 2.25%. There are only four, out of 88 Counties in the State with lower sales tax rate than Geauga, that includes Lorain, Wayne, Stark and Butler at 6.5%. There are no counties lower than 6.5%. Geauga shares our rate with 14 other counties. Fifty-one counties have a rate of 7.25% including Lake County, just to the north of us. There are now seven counties in the State above the 7.25% rate, Cuyahoga, Franklin, Hamilton, Lucas, Coshocton, Mahoning and Montgomery, and only one at the maximum rate of 8% which is Cuyahoga County, just to our west. This is a benefit to some businesses in Geauga County as shoppers will come here to buy certain higher ticket items (other than vehicles) in order to enjoy saving money on taxes.

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Just under a quarter (\$8.8 Million, or about 24.23% of the revenue is coming from the 2.5 mils county general fund portion of the real estate taxes paid.

Department Fees / Fines are estimated at about 7.46% or \$2.7Million for 2023, included in these fees are those charged by the Auditor, Building Department, Courts, Recorder, Treasurer and Board of Elections for the services they provide to the residents.

Mr. Gorton stated that the Property Transfer Tax is 6.87% or \$2.5 Million, these are the fees paid when a property transfers to a new owner.

Mr. Gorton noted that the other revenue at \$1.5 Million or a little over 4% of the revenue budgeted for next year is made up of several items including rents, gas well proceeds, insurance and other reimbursements, miscellaneous grants and county auction proceeds. The Casino Tax is the tax on the gross earnings of a casino, with 51% of the casino tax set aside for counties; which of that the amount received is allocated to the counties based on population. For 2023 we are estimating that amount to be \$1 Million. Mr. Gorton explained that the Local Government Tax is a revenue sharing tax that comes back to the counties from the State.

Prisoner Housing is the revenue generated from housing inmates at the county jail from other areas, this has decreased quite a bit over the last couple years. The amount we are estimating for 2023 is \$780,000.00.

Mr. Gorton explained that Cost Allocation is the chargeback to County departments outside of the General Fund for services provided by the General Fund.

Mr. Gorton stated that the Interest Income is remaining at \$600,000.00 for 2023 although recent increases in rates have brought in quite a bit more than this. Interest income had been down over the past several years as the Fed tried to keep rates low, but with inflation pressures weighing the economy, the Fed has begun raising rates and our Star Ohio account interest has slowly been creeping up into the 3% range.



2023 Permanent Appropriations

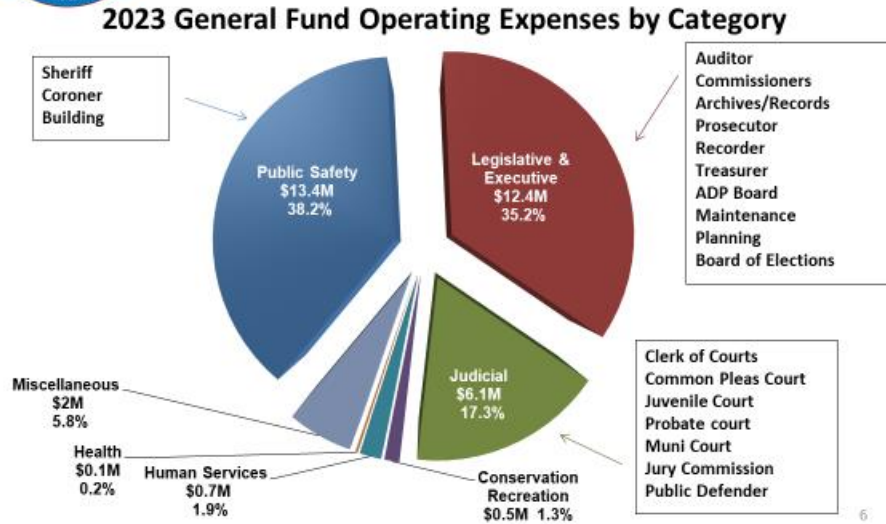
Total Appropriations, All Funds	\$127,872,944
Total Appropriations, General Fund	\$39,452,344
General Fund Line Item Requests	\$43,504,171

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Mr. Gorton explained that the total tax budget for 2023 is \$128 Million, but includes the General Fund (\$39.5 M), Special Revenue (\$65.7 M) Debt Service (\$3.2M) Capital Projects (\$5.7 M), Enterprise Funds (\$10.3 M), Fiduciary Funds (\$2.5 M) and Internal Service Funds (\$1 M). The General Fund Permanent Appropriations are submitted at \$39.5 Million, however the requests received from the departments were a little over \$43.5 Million, with the largest items waiting for funding includes \$50,000.00 for the Juvenile / Probate Court for Community Outreach appropriations, \$1.2 Million for the Sheriff for replacement vehicles, 9-1-1 and 800 Mhz, \$1.16 Million for ADP for salary and benefits for vacant positions as well as replacement equipment and contract services, \$700,000.00 for Commissioners Emergency and Operating Transfers, \$834,000.00 for Board of Elections salary and benefit accounts as well as additional contract services and equipment (fire suppression for the new building), \$200,000.00 for Maintenance for equipment (including vehicles, tractors, mowers), adding that some increased expense requests have been granted.



2023 Permanent Appropriations



Mr. Gorton explained that this pie chart shows the 2023 General Fund operating expenses by category, the numbers shown here are net of the Commissioner's transfers out accounts which total just about \$4.4 Million that support various departments outside of the General Fund including 9-1-1, 800 Communications, Court Technology, Debt Service, Capital Transfers, Grant Matches, etc. The chart shows the split of the General Fund Spending (less operating transfers out). The chart shows that 38.2% of the budget goes to Public Safety, which includes the Sheriff, Coroner and Building Department, 35.2% of the budget goes to Legislative and Executive, which includes the other Elected Officials, Auditor, Treasurer, Prosecutor, Commissioners, Recorder as well as Board of Elections, ADP Board, Planning and Maintenance. Judicial makes up almost 17.3% of the budget and includes the Courts and the Public Defender. The remaining categories are small, including Conservation and Recreation at 1.3% of the budget which includes the OSU Extension and Soil and Water Conservation District. Human Services is the Veteran Service Commission which is 1.9% of the budget. Health is for the Bureau for Children with Medical Handicaps, that is a requirement that the county fund .1 mill to treat handicapped children in the county.

The Miscellaneous items include the Portage Geauga Juvenile Detention Center at \$463,000.00, Youth Center Funding at \$416,000.00, Annual Insurance Liability at \$375,000.00, Postage costs at \$180,000.00, Legal Fees including Appointed Counsel at \$170,000.00 and Court of Appeals at \$60,000.00.



2023 Permanent Appropriations Supplemental Appropriation Process February, 2023

Description	Estimated Amount
Estimated 1/1/23 Cash Balance	\$13,500,000
Reduce for Carryover Encumbrances	(\$1,750,000)
Net Resources Available as Certified by Budget Commission 1/2023	\$11,750,000
Plus Certified Revenue for 2023	\$36,412,925
Less 2023 Appropriations	(\$39,452,344)
Actual General Fund Unappropriated Balance	\$8,710,581
Pending General Fund Reqs. (incl. Operating, Capital Transfers & Debt Ret.)	(\$8,401,827)
Estimated Unappropriated General Fund Balance remaining 12/2023	\$308,754

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Mr. Gorton explained that currently the estimated cash balance on January 1st will be \$13.5 million dollars. We are estimating our carryover encumbrances at around \$1.75 Million, leaving \$11.75 Million. The certified revenue for 2023 is \$36.4 Million less appropriations of \$39 Million, leaving \$8.7 Million for unfunded requests as well as supplementing contingency, capital and debt retirement transfers out accounts.

There was brief discussion about pending requests for payroll increases, supplemental requests and upcoming projects, including the renovations on the Courthouse. Mr. Gorton explained that last year we transferred \$3 million, we have the \$10 million in ARPA funds and plan to move another \$3 million so that would be around \$16 million as a way to try and avoid the need to borrow money.



2023 Permanent Appropriations Pending Requests for Funding

Department	Requests
ADP Board	\$1,162,104
Commissioners	\$1,500,000
Board of Elections	\$834,327
Juvenile/Probate Court	\$50,000
Maintenance	\$200,028
Sheriff (Vehicles, 9-1-1 & 800MHz)	\$1,155,368
Capital Transfers	\$2,000,000
Debt Retirement	\$1,500,000
Total Requests	\$8,401,827

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Mr. Gorton stated that the pending requests above include transfers from the General Fund to other funds, once the actual amounts are known after the start of the new year these requests will be evaluated in light of the available resources and considered for possible funding.

Commissioner Lennon expressed that there are some hefty increases being discussed and are higher than what the Board approved and we need to be mindful on that with the supplemental requests. If a department didn't budget for wage increases they will need to discuss that, and hope that they are looking at increases to their budget.



2023 Permanent Appropriations General Fund Debt

- General Fund will be working to shorten the length of time that we are carrying debt from the new office building.
- General Fund will try to avoid the issuance of any additional debt.

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2023 Permanent Appropriations Future Items

- Staffing challenges remain
- Assessment and rehabilitation of some old buildings
- Sale of old buildings and property

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2023 Permanent Appropriations

Questions ?

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Local residents asked for copies of the presentation from today.

Motion: by Commissioner Spidalieri, seconded by Commissioner Lennon to approve and execute Resolution #22-193 (Permanent) Annual Appropriation for 2023, in accordance with O. R.C. Sections 5705.38 and 5705.40.

Board of County Commissioners, Geauga County, Ohio

Date: December 6, 2022

Resolution: #22-193

**GEAUGA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
(PERMANENT) ANNUAL APPROPRIATION RESOLUTION
IN ACCORDANCE WITH O.R.C. SECTIONS 5705.38, and 5705.40**

The Board of County Commissioners of Geauga County, Ohio met in regular session on the 6th day of December, 2022 at the office of the Board of County Commissioners with the following members present:

James W. Dvorak Timothy C. Lennon Ralph Spidalieri

Commissioner Spidalieri presented the following resolution and moved the adoption, which motion was duly seconded by Commissioner Lennon:

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of County Commissioners of Geauga County, Ohio, that to provide for the current expenses and other expenditures of said County, during the fiscal year ending December 31, 2023, the following sums be and the same hereby set aside and appropriated for the several purposes for which expenditures are to be made for and during said fiscal year, as follows, viz:

Commissioners' Journal
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NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that this resolution become part of the permanent record of the Board of County Commissioners of Geauga County, Ohio.

<i>Roll Call Vote:</i>	<i>Commissioner Spidalieri</i>	<i>Aye</i>
	<i>Commissioner Lennon</i>	<i>Aye</i>
	<i>Commissioner Dvorak</i>	<i>Aye</i>

***A complete copy of the Permanent Appropriation will follow these minutes.*

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

- a) *A weekly report filed by the County Dog Warden of all dogs seized, impounded, redeemed or destroyed for the week ending November 23, 2022 as required by O.R.C. 955.12.*

OTHER

The Board reviewed upcoming events.

MEETINGS

Tue., 12/6 ADP Special Meeting, 2:00 p.m. Auditor's Office

12/7 - 12/9 CCAO Winter Conference, Columbus, Ohio

Fri., 12/9 NOACA Board of Directors meeting, 9:00 a.m., Cleveland

Mon., 12/12 Board of Revision, Special, 9:00 a.m. 1st Floor, Courthouse Annex

Tue., 12/13 Investment Advisory Board, 9:00 a.m. Room B303, Third Floor, 12611 Ravenwood Dr., Chardon

Tue., 12/13 The Commissioners will hold regular session at 9:30 a.m.

Thu., 12/15 Portage Geauga Juvenile Detention Center, Board of Directors meeting, 10:00 a.m. Portage County Offices

Mon., 12/19 Family First Council, 1:30 p.m. Mental Health Offices

Tue., 12/20 The Commissioners will hold regular session at 9:30 a.m.

BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE BOARD

Motion: by Commissioner Dvorak, seconded by Commissioner Lennon to adjourn the meeting at 10:25 a.m.

Geauga County Board of Commissioners

James W. Dvorak

Timothy C. Lennon

Ralph Spidalieri

Christine Blair, Commissioners' Clerk

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