

Rules

EVB/ELN/BDB

Offered by: MAYOR HORRIGAN

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6/26/17 2017 JUN 26 AM 8:58
AKRON CITY COUNCIL

ORDINANCE NO. _____ - 2017 authorizing and directing the submission to the electors of the City of Akron a proposal to adopt Section 86e of the Charter of the City of Akron, to provide for an additional ¼ percent levy on income subject to taxation in the City of Akron, in order to provide funding for police, fire, EMS, and roadway/public service needs in the City of Akron, to be voted upon at the next regularly scheduled general municipal election to be held on November 7, 2017; and declaring an emergency.

WHEREAS, the safety of our neighborhoods and the condition of our public infrastructure are two of the most important issues that affect the quality of life and the wellbeing of residents and workers in the City of Akron; and

WHEREAS, the City of Akron has lost significant funding from the State of Ohio and the federal government in the past several years through the loss of fair tax-sharing, including substantial reductions to the local government fund, the elimination of the estate tax, and cuts to federal programs; and

WHEREAS, the City desires to continue providing all members of the Akron Police Department and the Akron Fire Department with the necessary equipment to perform their jobs safely and effectively; and

WHEREAS, the City desires to provide the Akron Police Department and the Akron Fire Department with facilities that are safe, operational, and appropriately maintained; and

WHEREAS, the City desires to make significant improvements to the City's roadways in order to address the needs of residents and motorists throughout the City; and

WHEREAS, the City desires to fund public safety, infrastructure, and related capital and operational needs of the City of Akron at levels which will enable Akron neighborhoods to remain safe, stable, and strong; and

WHEREAS, in order to better serve the citizens and workers of the City of Akron and support the City's public safety and infrastructure needs, this Council has determined to submit this proposed Charter Amendment to the voters of the City of Akron to be voted upon at the next City-wide election.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ENACTED by the Council of the City of Akron, Ohio:

Section 1. That this Council hereby authorizes and directs the submission to the electors of the City of Akron at a general municipal election to be held at the usual places of voting in said City on November 7, 2017, between the hours of 6:30 a.m. and 7:30 p.m. Eastern Standard Time of said day, of a proposal to amend the Charter of the City of Akron.

Section 2. That the ballots for said election shall, at the top thereof, be entitled “City of Akron Proposed Charter Amendment” and the question to be separately submitted on said ballot shall be as follows:

Charter Issue No. _____ - shall the proposed amendment to the Charter of the City of Akron adopting Section 86e thereof be adopted so that, as adopted, the said section shall provide as follows:

SECTION 86E: INCOME TAX FOR POLICE & FIRE/EMS PROTECTION & INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS

In addition to the tax imposed pursuant to Section 86d, an annual tax for the purposes set forth in this section is imposed on and after January 1, 2018, at the rate of 0.25% per year, on all income subject to taxation by the City of Akron, under the Constitution and the laws of the State of Ohio.

Notwithstanding the provisions of Section 86d, the funds collected under the provisions of this section shall be applied solely for the purposes of funding public safety protection, including the capital and operating expenses of the Akron police and fire departments, public service improvements, including roadway improvements, and related capital and operating expenses of the City of Akron.

Section 3. That it is the desire and request of this Council that the ballot for said question shall be substantially in the following form:

PROPOSED CHARTER AMENDMENT

CITY OF AKRON

**A Majority Affirmative Vote Is
Necessary For Passage**

Shall Section 86e of the Charter of the City of Akron be adopted to provide for an additional one-quarter of one percent (0.25%) tax on income, commencing January 1, 2018, to fund police and fire/EMS protection, roadway improvements, and related public services in the City of Akron.

	FOR THE INCOME TAX
	AGAINST THE INCOME TAX

Section 4. No provision of this ordinance shall in any way affect any rights or obligations of the City, any taxpayer, or any other person, official or entity, with respect to the municipal income tax in effect prior to the enactment of Section 86e.

Section 5. That the Clerk of Council is hereby directed to certify a copy of this ordinance to the Board of Elections of Summit County, Ohio forthwith upon the passage of this ordinance.

Section 6. That the Clerk of Council is hereby directed and authorized to have the full text of the above proposed Charter amendment published once a week for not less than two (2) consecutive weeks in a newspaper published and of general circulation in said City with the first publication being at least fifteen (15) days prior to the election at which said amendment is to be submitted to the electors of this City.

Section 7. This Council finds and determines that all formal actions of this Council concerning and relating to the passage of this ordinance were taken in an open meeting of this Council and that all deliberations of this Council and of any committees that resulted in those formal actions were in meetings open to the public in compliance with the law.

Section 8. This ordinance is hereby declared to be an emergency measure necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health and safety of the City and for the further reason that its immediate effectiveness is necessary to enable funding to support the provision of police and fire/EMS protection in the City of Akron and to support infrastructure improvements, including roadway improvements in the City of Akron; and provided this ordinance receives the affirmative vote of two-thirds of the members elected or appointed to Council, it shall take effect and be in force immediately upon its passage and approval by the Mayor; otherwise it shall take effect and be in force at the earliest period allowed by law.

Passed _____, 2017

Clerk of Council

President of Council

Approved _____, 2017

MAYOR

OFFERED BY: MAYOR HARRIGAN

RESOLUTION NO. _____ - 2017 opposing any federal or state legislation or proposal that would reduce Medicaid funding/benefits, which would in turn drastically increase the number of uninsured individuals and deepen the opioid crisis, among other things; and declaring an emergency.

WHEREAS, it appears that the U.S. Congress will attempt to significantly reduce the benefits available through Medicaid by way of immediate or eventual repeal of the Affordable Care Act (the “ACA”); and

WHEREAS, it appears that the Ohio General Assembly may attempt to significantly reduce the benefits available through Medicaid by way of a freeze on Medicaid expansion enrollment; and

WHEREAS, Medicaid is an essential source of general healthcare-related funding for millions of low-income and other American citizens;

WHEREAS, Medicaid funds are vital in order to combat the epidemics of opioid use disorder and high infant mortality rates – issues that directly affect our community; and

WHEREAS, in 2013 the Center for Disease Control estimated that the total economic cost of opioid overdose, abuse and dependence was \$78.5 billion dollars; and

WHEREAS, data from the National Survey on Drug Use and Health shows that adults with incomes below poverty are more likely to have an opioid use disorder than those with incomes above, but that those who were enrolled in Medicaid (as opposed to private insurance) were more likely to receive treatment; and

WHEREAS, many new mothers and infants within the City of Akron rely on Medicaid funding for pregnancy services and pre and post-natal care; and

WHEREAS, recognizing the significance of Medicaid’s impact on Americans, the ACA provides for an expansion of Medicaid and enhanced federal funding – effectively extending healthcare benefits and treatment to numerous persons who would not otherwise have access to healthcare; and

WHEREAS, any federal or state proposal or legislation which repeals the ACA or otherwise reduces Medicaid benefits is not in the best interest of Ohioans or citizens of the City of Akron, especially in light of the fact that Medicaid dollars represent the single largest Ohio funding source in the fights against opioid abuse and high infant mortality.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Akron:

Section 1. That Council hereby opposes any federal or state legislation or proposal that would effectively reduce Medicaid funding/benefits.

Section 2. The Clerk of Council is hereby directed to forward a copy of this resolution to the Administrator for the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, Seema Verma; U.S. Senator, Sherrod Brown; U.S. Senator, Rob Portman; U.S. Congresswoman, Marcia L. Fudge; U.S. Congressman, Tim Ryan; U.S. Congressman Jim Renacci; and to the Ohio General Assembly Delegation representing the Akron area.

Section 3. That this resolution is hereby declared to be an emergency measure necessary for the immediate preservation of public peace, health, safety and welfare for the reason that it is necessary for Council to oppose the potential loss of funding to the Medicaid program in light of the profoundly detrimental effect this proposed reduction will have on the residents of the City of Akron, Ohio, and provided this resolution receives the affirmative vote of two-thirds of the members elected or appointed to Council, it shall take effect and be in force immediately upon its passage and approval by the Mayor; otherwise, it shall take effect and be in force at the earliest time allowed by law.

Passed _____, 2017

Clerk of Council

President of Council

Approved _____, 2017

MAYOR

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