

## AGENDA REPORT

TO: Mayor & City Commission  
FROM: Ken Hibl, City Manager  
DATE: March 31, 2016  
RE: Street Millage Ballot Proposal

For the Agenda of April 4, 2016

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Background. The City proposed a 3-mil street millage ballot proposal to the Clare electorate in November 2015. The initiative was defeated by four votes. The City Commission provided guidance to the City Staff to wait until either the August primary election or the November presidential election until we again ask Clare voters to consider the ballot proposal. As the deadline to submit ballot proposals to the respective clerks for inclusion on the August ballots is April 26<sup>th</sup>, the Commission is asked to make a decision whether to submit the proposal for consideration by the electorate at the August 2<sup>nd</sup> primary election. The deadline for inclusion on the November general election is August 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Issues & Questions Specified. Should the City Commission approve a ballot proposal for a dedicated street millage in August or November 2016?

Alternatives.

1. Approve a ballot proposal for the August election.
2. Approve a ballot proposal for the November election.
3. Do not approval a ballot proposal for either election
4. Defer/delay decision of this matter to a future meeting with the understanding that any delay will preclude placement of a ballot initiative for the November elections.

Financial Impact. The cost is totally related to the dedicated millage requested.

Recommendation. I ask that the City Commission approve the proposal for the August primary. Barring agreement with that recommendation, I suggest the proposal be placed on the ballot in November. The attached Resolution 2016-037 reflects approval of an August ballot. If the Commission elects to wait until November, the language of the resolution will be changed to accommodate that decision.

Attachment. Resolution 2016-037 (copy att'd).

**RESOLUTION 2016-037**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CLARE CITY COMMISSION APPROVING THE BALLOT LANGUAGE FOR A STREETS MILLAGE FOR THE AUGUST 2016 PRIMARY ELECTION.**

**WHEREAS**, the electorate of Clare has historically approved a millage for the improvement of streets within the City; and

**WHEREAS**, said millage has expired; and

**WHEREAS**, the City Staff developed a Five-Year Street Maintenance & Improvement Plan and has recommended that a request for special millage be submitted to the City's electorate for consideration to generate the revenues needed to implement said Plan; and

**WHEREAS**, the City Commission considered and approved said recommendation and the ballot presented to the Clare electorate at the scheduled November 2015 election; and

**WHEREAS**, said ballot proposal was narrowly (by a matter of four votes) defeated; and

**WHEREAS**, the State of Michigan has approved legislation that allows local units of government to place local matters on the ballot for primary elections scheduled for August 2, 2016; and

**WHEREAS**, the City Staff has recommended that the City take advantage of this opportunity and again place the street millage before the Clare electorate for consideration; and

**WHEREAS**, the City Commission has consider said staff recommendation and concurs with the proposal; and

**WHEREAS**, the City Attorney has reviewed the proposed ballot language for legal sufficiency.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the City Commission of the City of Clare hereby approves proposed ballot language for 3 mils for improvement of streets throughout the City of Clare, said millage proposal to be presented for referendum in August 2016, said ballot language to read, "Shall the City of Clare collect 3 mil (\$3.00 per one thousand dollars of taxable valuation) per year for the period of five (5) years (2017-2021) for streets improvements? Said millage will, in the first year, generate an estimated \$266,529.10 to improve streets."

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT** the City Commission hereby directs its City Clerk to take all necessary actions required to place said millage proposal on the August Primary ballot.

**ALL RESOLUTIONS AND PARTS OF RESOLUTIONS INsofar AS THEY CONFLICT WITH THE PROVISIONS OF THIS RESOLUTION BE AND THE SAME ARE HEREBY RESCINDED.**

**The Resolution was introduced by Commissioner \_\_\_\_\_ and supported by Commissioner \_\_\_\_\_. The Resolution declared adopted by the following roll call vote:**

**YEAS:**  
**NAYS:**

**ABSENT:**

Resolution approved for adoption on this 4<sup>th</sup> day of April 2016.

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Diane Lyon, City Clerk