

## AGENDA REPORT

TO: Mayor Pat Humphrey and the Clare City Commission  
FROM: Jeremy Howard, City Manager  
DATE: January 13, 2022  
RE: Approval of Ballot Language – Street Millage Renewal

For the Agenda of January 17, 2022

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*Background.* The voter-approved 3-mill street millage expires soon. We have been able to make extraordinary improvements in the City of Clare on our city streets including John R. Street, Wilcox Parkway, Second Street, Forest Avenue, Ann Arbor Trail, Beech Street, Seventh Street, Dunlop Road, Hillcrest Street, Fourth Street, Park Street, Witbeck Drive; 6,290' curb and gutter; and 7,300' of sidewalk since this dedicated, voter-approved millage was instituted. There remains a long list of proposed capital improvements for streets improvements yet to be completed in the next several years including Rainbow Drive from Glendale Drive to Glendale Drive reconstruct, East Fourth Street 200 Block reconstruct, thin overlay on Schoolcrest Avenue, mill and fill Maple Street from Seventh Street to State Street, East Sixth Street 200 Block reconstruct including sidewalks, and the 200 and 300 Block of East Seventh Street with sidewalks that are all listed in the City's CIP, which simply will not be accomplished or will be long-delayed if the millage is not again approved by the electorate of Clare.

The proposed future capital improvements are essential to maintaining and improving quality of life for Clare residents and continuance of this dedicated millage is imperative to continue the type of improvements that have been made to date as a result of the millage.

If this millage is to continue, the Clerk's office must provide the proposed ballot language to the Clare County Clerk by February 8, 2022, for inclusion on the May ballot. Therefore, the City Commission is asked to consider approving this topic as an item on the May ballot. Suggested ballot language for this millage proposal is attached. The Commission is asked to approve the proposed ballot language.

*Issues & Questions Specified.* Should the City Commission approve the proposed streets millage proposal ballot language?

*Alternatives.*

1. Approve the proposed ballot language.
2. Amend and approve the ballot language.
3. Do not approve the ballot language, thereby terminating the streets improvement program.
4. Defer/delay decision of this matter to a subsequently scheduled City Commission meeting.

*Financial Impact.* If the millage is not approved, any future streets capital improvements will have to be funded using other tax funds and will be required to "compete" with other City requirements funded in this manner.

Recommendation. I recommend the City Commission approve the proposed ballot language by adoption of Resolution 2022-010.

Attachment.

1. Proposed ballot language.
2. Resolution 2022-010.

## **PROPOSED BALLOT LANGUAGE**

### **City of Clare Proposal 2**

#### **Title: Renewal of Streets Improvement Millage**

Shall the City of Clare, Clare and Isabella Counties continue to levy three mills (\$3.00 per \$1,000.00) on taxable value of property located in the City of Clare for five years beginning with the 2022 tax year and running through 2026 tax levy year (inclusive), which will raise in the first year of such levy an estimated revenue of \$282,370.22 to be used for the purpose of street improvements authorized by law. This is a renewal of a millage that will otherwise expire in 2022. Taxes within the Downtown Development Authority (DDA) and Tax Increment Finance Authority (TIFA) districts will be distributed as prescribed by law.

**RESOLUTION 2022-010**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CLARE CITY COMMISSION APPROVING THE BALLOT LANGUAGE FOR A STREETS MILLAGE FOR THE MAY 2022 ELECTION.**

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

**WHEREAS**, said millage is due to expire soon; and

**WHEREAS**, City Staff have recommended that said millage again be submitted to the City's electorate for consideration; and

**WHEREAS**, the City Commission has considered and concurs with said recommendations; 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 the renewal of 3 mills for improvement of streets throughout the City of Clare, said millage proposal to be presented at the May, 2022 election, and said ballot language to read, "Shall the City of Clare, Clare and Isabella Counties continue to levy three mills (\$3.00 per \$1,000.00) on taxable value of property located in the City of Clare for five years beginning with the 2022 tax year and running through 2026 tax levy year (inclusive), which will raise in the first year of such levy an estimated revenue of \$282,370.22 to be used for the purpose of street improvements authorized by law. This is a renewal of a millage that will otherwise expire in 2022. Taxes within the Downtown Development Authority (DDA) and Tax Increment Finance Authority (TIFA) districts will be distributed as prescribed by law."

**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 May, 2022 election 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 \_\_\_\_\_ supported by Commissioner \_\_\_\_\_. The Resolution declared adopted by the following roll call vote:**

**YEAS:**

**NAYS:**

**ABSENT:**

Resolution approved for adoption on this 17<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2022.

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Diane Lyon, City Clerk