

RESOLUTION HOLDING THE FIRST OF TWO PUBLIC HEARINGS ON RESOLUTIONS DETERMINING TO SUBMIT TO THE ELECTORS THE QUESTION OF FUNDING LAW ENFORCEMENT, CONSTRUCTION OF A DETENTION FACILITY, AND OTHERWISE SUPPORTING CRIMINAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE JUSTICE THROUGH LEVYING A COUNTY SALES AND USE TAX AT THE RATE OF ONE-HALF OF ONE PERCENT PURSUANT TO SECTIONS 5739.021 AND 5741.021 OF THE REVISED CODE

WHEREAS, this being the date set by the Board of Ashtabula County Commissioners on its Journal of June 1, 2021 by Resolution Number 2021-33FINA, for the first of two public hearing on resolutions determining to submit to the electors the question of funding law enforcement, construction of a detention facility, and otherwise supporting criminal and administrative justice through levying a county sales and use tax at the rate of one-half of one percent pursuant to Sections 5739.021 and 5741.021 of the Revised Code;

WHEREAS, such hearing was held, as follows:

Commissioner Whittington opened the hearing at 1:00 p.m. and welcomed the public to the public hearing on proposed resolutions that would put a ½ percent modification to the sales and use tax for a continuous period on the November ballot. We have proposed these resolutions as a means to address growing crime, recidivism, and addiction crises by promoting law and order in Ashtabula County. If approved by the voters, the funds generated will be used to fund the hiring and training of additional law enforcement and corrections officers, construction of a community corrections, rehabilitation, and detention facility and enable programming to address the problems of addiction, mental illness, and recidivism among those entering the county's criminal justice system.

The purpose of today's hearing is to hear comments regarding these resolutions. Public input is invaluable to us and will be used to finalize the details of the proposal. If the resolutions are adopted, this issue will be on the November ballot for consideration by Ashtabula County voters. The public will be afforded an opportunity to speak on this issue and sign in sheets are provided for those who wish to speak.

This is the first of two required public hearings to place the modification question on the ballot for the public vote. In accordance with Ohio Revised Code 5739.021(G), the Statement and Preliminary Plan for Criminal and Administrative Justice Services is available for public inspection and comment at this hearing. The Statement and Preliminary plan is a statutorily required schedule that outlines the forecasted expenditures of the revenue, should the voters approve the issue.

County Administrator Janet Discher spoke to the Statement and Preliminary Plan for Criminal and Administrative Justice Services. Sheriff Niemi spoke and introduced Lieutenant Kemmerle who gave a short presentation regarding the CCRF piece.

WHEREAS, public testimony was heard, as follows:

Michael Obernyer provided comments and asked if the levy passes how soon would money would show? If passed in November county would collect tax in April, currently 6.75 would increase to 7.25 funds would be received in July. It is currently proposed as continuous, that decision has not been finalized and could be changed to an actual term. The Board welcomes comments or input for consideration. A big part of the ask is for operations, not just staff, but food, medical, etc. The law requires a separate fund to be created for the tracking of these dollars. Construction period is projected is a 2 to 3 year long. There are processes that include a Request for Qualifications for owner's representative services to manage the project, and bidding processes throughout the project.

The Board of Commissioners thanked everyone for coming and provided brief closing comments.

WHEREAS, the Statement and Preliminary Plan for Criminal and Administrative Justice Services was available for public inspection and comment at such hearing as required by Section 5739.021(G); now

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, By the Board of Commissioners of Ashtabula County, Ohio, that there being no further testimony offered, the first hearing on the proposed resolutions determining to submit to the electors the question of

funding law enforcement, construction of a detention facility, and otherwise supporting criminal and administrative justice through levying a county sales and use tax at the rate of one-half of one percent pursuant to Sections 5739.021 and 5741.021 of the Revised Code is declared adjourned at 1:36 p.m.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Statement and Preliminary Plan for Criminal and Administrative Justice Services is hereby adopted.

**ASHTABULA COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
CERTIFICATION PAGE**

Resolution No. 2021-41FINA

July 07, 2021

RESOLUTION HOLDING THE FIRST OF TWO PUBLIC HEARINGS ON RESOLUTIONS DETERMINING TO SUBMIT TO THE ELECTORS THE QUESTION OF FUNDING LAW ENFORCEMENT, CONSTRUCTION OF A DETENTION FACILITY, AND OTHERWISE SUPPORTING CRIMINAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE JUSTICE THROUGH LEVYING A COUNTY SALES AND USE TAX AT THE RATE OF ONE-HALF OF ONE PERCENT PURSUANT TO SECTIONS 5739.021 AND 5741.021 OF THE REVISED CODE

Upon the motion of J.P. Ducro IV, seconded by Casey R. Kozlowski.

VOTE:

Kathryn L. Whittington
J.P. Ducro IV
Casey R. Kozlowski

Aye
Aye
Aye

CERTIFICATE OF CLERK

IT IS HEREBY CERTIFIED that the foregoing is a true and correct transcript of a resolution acted upon and duly passed by the Board of County Commissioners of Ashtabula County, Ohio, on the date noted above.



Lisa Hawkins, Clerk of the Board
Board of County Commissioners
Ashtabula County, Ohio