

Motion: M-041-2020

SUMMARY:

A Motion of Council supporting the passage of the Akron Zoological Park's (Akron Zoo) renewal with an increase levy, to appear on the ballot at the general election on November 3, 2020, and urging the residents of Summit County to vote in favor of the Akron Zoo's levy.

MOTION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE COUNTY OF SUMMIT

WHEREAS, this Council previously adopted Resolution No. 2019-449, which declared it necessary to renew an existing 0.8 mill and provide for an increase of 0.4 mill, to constitute a tax levy of 1.2 mill to maintain and operate existing facilities and to expand physical facilities and education programs in order to continue to provide zoological park services at the Akron Zoological Park ("Akron Zoo"), and to increase the duration of the levy to ten years and to submit the question of the renewal and increase of that levy to electors of this County at the general election on November 3, 2020; and

WHEREAS, the aforementioned Akron Zoo levy will appear on the ballot for the general election on November 3, 2020; and

WHEREAS, the Akron Zoo has been an exemplary steward of public funds, using the levy in the past to build and operate several capital improvements and exhibits; and

WHEREAS, the Akron Zoo has grown significantly since passing its first levy – attendance as grown from 114,000 visitors in 2000 to over 400,000 visitors last year; and the zoo generates nearly \$8.00 for every \$1.00 it receives in public support, having had economic activity to support Summit County's economy of over \$500 million since 2011.

WHEREAS, the Akron Zoo reaches over 90,000 individuals each year with science-based education programs and enhances the quality of life for the residents of Summit County by providing a fun and educational environment for children and families; and

WHEREAS, the renewal with an increase levy will allow the Akron Zoo to continue providing the same exceptional care for its animals and to keep adding new habitats, animals, educational programs and services to Summit County residents; and

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS MOVED AND APPROVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE COUNTY OF SUMMIT, that:

This Council hereby expresses its support of the Akron Zoo's levy to renew 0.8 mill and increase 0.4 mill for a total tax levy of 1.2 mill, for the Akron Zoological Park, appearing on the ballot at the general election on November 3, 2020, for the purpose of operating, education programs and capital expenses for the provision and maintenance of zoological park services and facilities at the Akron Zoological Park.

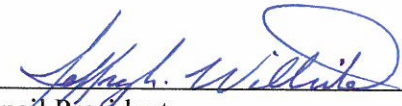
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Movant: Mr. Wilhite


First Consideration: August 17, 2020

Read and Approved:



Council President

August 17, 2020
Date Approved



Clerk of Council

Voice Vote: YES: 10-0 - Dickinson, Donofrio, Feeman, Koehler,
McKenney, Prentice, Rodgers, Schmidt, Sims, Wilhite
ABSENT: Walters