

**Authorization of Outreach Initiative  
Public Safety Millage Renewal**

July 7, 2021

The Honorable Mayor Fournier and  
Members of the City Commission:

The transmittal letter in the recommended budget for fiscal year 2021 / 2022 detailed the rationale and the proposed rate for the public safety millage proposal. As discuss in the current ballot language as prepared by the office of the city attorney, administration is recommending that the levy be presented up to 3.9750 mills to support police, fire, and emergency services. The maximum authorized Michigan Headlee Act is setting the rate at 3.7120 mills. In short, assuming approval of the voters, the city commission would be authorized to restore the millage rate at the same rate level as originally approved back in 2012.

Past practices for the last nine years indicate the city manager's office would prepare a letter and communicate to voters about local ballot proposals and it would be recommended to continue this approach as a proactive measure. Part of this comprehensive initiative would consist of informing residents and registered voters of the necessary funding requirements and how the millage, if approved, would be spent through website information, official public meetings and a direct mailing to all homes with registered voters. This effort will be informational and will not advocate a position.

After consideration of the proposed community outreach initiatives, if the city commission agrees, the following resolution is recommended for adoption:

**Be it resolved**, the city commission authorizes the city manager to prepare an informational letter and related background material regarding the renewal and restoration of the original public safety millage as part of the outreach initiative to all registered Royal Oak voters.

Respectfully submitted,



Paul J. Brake, ICMA-CM, CEcD  
City Manager

