

RESOLUTION NO. 41-2023

**TITLE: LOCAL GOVERNMENT FUND
RESTORATION**

A RESOLUTION STRONGLY URGING THE OHIO GOVERNOR AND MEMBERS OF THE OHIO GENERAL ASSEMBLY TO RESTORE THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT FUND TO PRERECESION LEVELS, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

WHEREAS, the Local Government Fund was reduced in 2011 by 50% during Gov. Kasich's Administration from 3.68% of General Revenue Funds to its current level of 1.66% of General Revenue Funds; and

WHEREAS, past Ohio General Assemblies have repeatedly decreased funding and revenue sharing in recent years in addition to significantly reducing the Local Government Fund, including eliminating the Estate Tax and phasing out the Tangible Personal Property Tax; and

WHEREAS, these reductions have resulted in a loss of revenue of \$6,882,445.53 for the City of Barberton; and

WHEREAS, this sudden revenue loss has made it increasingly difficult to provide basic services, rebuild infrastructure, and bolster public safety services; and

WHEREAS, when municipalities experience success in fostering safe communities, building sound infrastructure, and increasing economic development, the State of Ohio reaps the benefits as well.

WHEREAS, a reinvestment in the Local Government Fund would aid the state in its goal of lowering taxes on the individual by enabling municipalities to decrease the local tax burden.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Council of the City of Barberton, State of Ohio:

SECTION 1. The Ohio General Assembly should restore the Local Government Fund to prerecession levels, ensuring that local communities are able to provide crucial services and improvements in infrastructure and public safety.

SECTION 2. This Council does hereby declare its opposition to any further cuts to the Local Government Fund or the future diversion of revenues from the Local Government Fund.

SECTION 3. That it is hereby found and determined that all formal actions of this Council concerning and relating to the passage of this resolution were taken in an open meeting of this Council and that all deliberations of this Council and of any of its committees that resulted in such formal action were meetings open to the public in compliance with the law.

SECTION 4. That this resolution is hereby declared to be an emergency measure necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, safety, convenience and welfare of the City of Barberton and the inhabitants thereof, in order to provide this resolution in a timely manner to our state legislators, and provided it receives the necessary votes required by the City Charter, shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage and approval; otherwise to be in full force and effect from and after the earliest period allowed by law.

Passed March 27, 2023

Clerk of Council

President of Council

Approved _____ 2023

Mayor