

RESOLUTION NO. 54-2020

TITLE: RESTORATION OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT FUND

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

WHEREAS, the Local Government Fund has historically served municipalities with much needed funding; and

WHEREAS, the Ohio General Assemblies have repeatedly decreased funding and revenue sharing to local communities in addition to significantly reducing the Local Government Fund; and

WHEREAS, local communities are experiencing the loss of revenue in the form of income tax and other revenue sources due to the state shut-down and the Coronavirus; and

WHEREAS, it is imperative that communities have funding to operate or face the consequences of eliminating vital services to the residents of our communities and possibly fiscal insolvency including an increase in the number of communities in fiscal caution, watch, & emergency; and

WHEREAS, the loss of revenue at the local level continues to push the burden of basic operations onto the tax payers; and

WHEREAS, this sudden revenue loss has made it increasingly difficult to provide basic services, rebuild infrastructure, and bolster public safety services to fight the many issues facing our communities; and

WHEREAS, the reinstatement of the Local Government Fund is a common sense approach to provide much needed funding to communities for basic operations; 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; and

WHEREAS, a reinvestment of 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 RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BARBERTON, OHIO:

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

SECTION 2. This Council does hereby declare its opposition 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 ordinance 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 meeting open to the public in compliance with the law.

SECTION 4. That this ordinance 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, for the reason that time is of the essence, 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 _____2020

Clerk of Council

President of Council

Approved _____2020

Mayor