



CITY COUNCIL AGENDA ITEM

Date: June 16, 2011

To: The Honorable Mayor and City Council Members

From: John Szerlag, City Manager

Subject: Mayor Schilling's Request for a Content Neutral Flyer for the August 2nd Election

Mayor Schilling has requested that City Council approve a content neutral flyer which will provide information relative to the library millage election on August 2, 2011. Attached is a draft for your consideration.

The estimated cost is \$2,300 for printing and funds are available in the Library –Printing account. The estimated cost for postage is \$9,900 which would be paid from the Fund Balance.

c: Mark F. Miller, Director of Economic and Community Development
Lori Grigg Bluhm, City Attorney
Cathleen Russ, Library Director
Cynthia Stewart, Community Affairs Director

As a result of months of community conversations, a citizen survey and many other public engagement strategies, it became clear that Troy residents wanted a vote on whether to keep the Troy Public Library in operation. As a result of this, Troy City Council authorized the following question:

Library Millage Ballot Question for Tuesday, August 2, 2011 Election

CITY COUNCIL WOULD BE AUTHORIZED TO LEVY 0.7 MILLS FOR DEDICATED LIBRARY FUNDING WITH THE SUCCESSFUL PASSAGE OF THE FOLLOWING QUESTION:

Shall the City of Troy levy new additional millage of 0.7 mills against all taxable property for a five (5) year period of time, 2011 through 2015, inclusive, for the dedicated purpose of operating and maintaining the library? 0.7 mills are equal to \$0.70 on each \$1,000.00 of taxable value. If approved, the additional millage levied will raise approximately \$3,114,125 in 2011, the first year it is levied. Millage revenue would be disbursed to the City for library purposes. Of this amount, state law requires the capture of approximately \$3,383 for Local Development Finance Authority, \$50,020 for Downtown Development Authority, and \$129 for Brownfield Redevelopment Authority purposes. This proposal is authorized under Section 6 of Article IX of the Michigan Constitution. Yes ____ No _____

YES A YES vote means that there will be Library operations for up to 55 hours per week, Library service for five years, Restoration of limited programming, such as: story times for children; extended summer reading program for youth; computer classes for adults; Teen Advisory Board; many youth, teen and adult enrichment programs; Better access to new books, bestsellers, eBooks and other popular materials, and more children's materials.

NO A NO vote means that the Troy Public Library will close by Friday, August 12, 2011.

**What is the cost of the proposed Library Millage for the Homeowner?
To determine the cost of your taxes, check out
<http://www.troymi.gov/taxEstimator/>
Insert your address and your specific tax costs will be calculated
or call 248.524.3311 to check the cost of your City taxes.**

There's something for everyone at the Troy Public Library

- Library is a focal point for the community and creates a sense of identity
- Library provides free access to the Internet, as well as other online resources that allow residents to do research and communicate with family and friends
- Library allows citizens to rent books as opposed to purchasing them and spending a great deal of money (the Library is GREEN!)
- Library and its staff help citizens with access to online practice tests for important exams (ACT/SAT Citizenship)
- Library provides a safe environment with low cost entertainment in challenging economic times
- Library provides essential materials that parents can use to teach their children to read
- Library is a foundation for information, as it collects books, eBooks, music, movies, newspapers, magazines and other material that would be too expensive for the public to purchase
- Library assists the unemployed to find jobs through educational materials, resume tutoring and classes related to job searches
- Library helps business people with financial resources including databases to assist in growing a business, or starting a new one
- Library allows citizens to engage written material in an electronic format via eBooks (Kindle, Nook & Sony reader). The Library subscribes to two eBook services (Overdrive and NetLibrary) which allow eBook users to download all the best selling fiction and non-fiction books
- Library has two important collections for special populations - the international language collection and the special needs collection

CITY OF TROY ELECTION DATES TO REMEMBER:

Election Day: Tuesday, August 2, 2011

Polls are open from 7 am until 8 pm

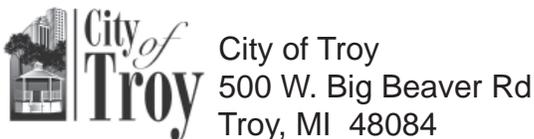
Last day to Register to Vote: Tuesday, July 5, 2011

To obtain an AV Application, call the City Clerk's Office at 248.524.3317

The Troy City Clerk's Office will be open: Saturday, July 30, 2011

from 10 am to 2 pm for ABSENTEE BALLOTING

<http://www.troymi.gov/Election/>



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