

RESOLUTION NO. 184-16

BY: **DEBORAH LIME**
(By Request – Mayor)

A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE
RENEWAL LEVY FOR THE PARMA POLICE
(ISSUE 85) ON THE NOVEMBER 8, 2016,
GENERAL ELECTION BALLOT, AND
DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

WHEREAS, Issue 85 is a two mill, five year Renewal Levy for the Parma Police on the November 8, 2016, General Election ballot for the purpose of providing and maintaining motor vehicles, communications, and other equipment used directly in the operation of the Police Department, and the payment of salaries of permanent police personnel, including the payment of the police officer employers' contribution required under Section 742.33 of the Ohio Revised Code; and,

WHEREAS, Issue 85 is a renewal police levy, and therefore, does not result in an increase in property tax; and

WHEREAS, there would be a loss of almost 19% of the Police Department's annual budget of \$15 million if this five-year renewal police levy is not passed by voters in November; and,

WHEREAS, the established K-9 unit, which consists of 4 (four) dual purpose K-9 teams used to search for evidence, chase fleeing suspects and find lost residents, would have to be eliminated and the number of police patrols on City streets would have to be reduced if the renewal levy fails; and,

WHEREAS, according to the 2010 U.S. Census and the FBI website, and compared with nine other nearby west-side suburbs, the City of Parma has been one of the lowest staffed suburbs for the amount of police officers for each 1,000 residents, and has seen a significant increase in crimes against persons and property due to the heroin epidemic that has spread into Parma and all other communities throughout Ohio; and,

WHEREAS, the Police Department staffing levels should be increased in part due to the number of detectives in the Narcotics Unit recently added in response to the drastic rise in drug activity caused by the heroin epidemic, along with calls for service for overdoses in which Narcan has been successfully administered and has resulted in numerous lives being saved;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PARMA, STATE OF OHIO:

Section 1. That this Council and Administration hereby supports the Renewal Levy for the Parma Police (Issue 85) on the November 8, 2016, General Election ballot. We call on all residents to vote in favor of Issue 85 in order for the Parma Police Department to be able to provide the necessary services for this community.

Section 2. That it is found and determined that all formal actions of this Council concerning and relating to the adoption of this Resolution were adopted in an open meeting of this Council, and that all deliberations of this Council and any of its committees that resulted in such formal action were in meetings open to the public in compliance with all legal requirements.

Section 3. That this Resolution is hereby declared to be an emergency measure necessary for the immediate preservation of the public health, safety and welfare of the City of Parma, and for the further reason that this measure is necessary due to the upcoming General Election on November 8, 2016, and this Resolution shall become immediately effective upon receiving the affirmative vote of two-thirds of all members elected to Council and approval of the Mayor, otherwise from and after the earliest period allowed by law.

PASSED: _____
PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL

ATTEST: _____ APPROVED: _____
CLERK OF COUNCIL

FILED WITH
THE MAYOR: _____
MAYOR, CITY OF PARMA, OHIO