

VOTERS' GUIDE – CANDIDATES & ISSUES For Portage County, Ohio MAY 6, 2025 PRIMARY/SPECIAL ELECTION

This voter's guide is a joint venture of *The Portager* and the League of Women Voters of Kent and the League of Women Voters of Northern Portage County.

The League of Women Voters is a non-partisan political organization that promotes political responsibility through informed and active participation in government and acts on selected governmental issues. **The League of Women Voters does not support or oppose any candidate or political party.** The League is fully committed to ensure compliance—in principle and in practice—with the LWVUS' Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Policy. Any person who subscribes to the purposes and policy of the League shall be eligible for membership.

Candidates at the local level.

KENT CITY: There is only a Democratic primary election in Kent for Council at Large. The LWV of Kent asked the candidates to provide biographical information and to answer questions. The candidates were invited to participate by entering their responses on the VOTE411 website in accordance with the following guidelines.

The League of Women Voters of Kent reserves the right not to publish any material determined to be libelous, damaging to a person or group, or offensive in accordance with the League's values and as outlined in its publishing policy. It reserves the right to offer alternative wording to the candidate. The League will not correct spelling, grammar or punctuation. Each candidate is solely responsible for the text they submit, including the truth of his/her statements. Each candidate is advised in writing to carefully note the word limitations listed on their questionnaire since no text beyond the word limit will be included. A candidate's answers are accepted and printed only with the understanding that the material will not be used in any way that may be deemed to be an endorsement by the League of his or her candidacy or views.

TALLMADGE CITY (Voters in Brimfield A Split 2 and Brimfield E Split 2): There is only a Democratic primary election in Tallmadge for Council at Large. The candidates were invited to participate by the LWV Hudson by entering their responses on the VOTE411 website.

RAVENNA CITY AND STREETSBORO CITY: There are no primary elections for candidates in Ravenna and Streetsboro. All candidates who filed and were approved will appear on the November 5, 2025 General Election Ballot.

<u>Issues</u>: State Issue 2 information was provided by the League of Women Voters of Ohio Education Fund. The descriptions of the Portage County issues were provided by the Portage County Board of Elections. Summit County overlap issue descriptions (Issues 15-17) were provided by the Summit County Board of Elections.

Visit <u>www.vote411.org</u> to view a side-by-side comparison of the candidates' biographical information and all of the questions and answers.

The League of Women Voters of Kent and Northern Portage County thank *The Portager* for providing the print version of the Voter Guide. We also thank Faith Lyon, Director, Theresa Nielsen, Deputy Director, and the staff at the Portage County Board of Elections for their valuable assistance in compiling this material. The information contained in this publication may not be reproduced without consent of the League of Women Voters of Kent.

League of Women Voters of Kent my.lwv.org/ohio/kent

President: Sherry Rose; Voter Guide Co-Chairs: Nena Hankins, (330)673-0128, and Barbara Hipsman Springer

League of Women Voters of Northern Portage County <u>northernportagecountylwv.org</u> President: April Secura; Voter Service Co-Chairs: Raji Alladi and Janice Simmons-Mortimer

To print a copy of your ballot, go to the Portage County Board of Elections web site View Ballots page:

https://lookup.boe.ohio.gov/vtrapp/portage/ballotlist.aspx

Select Election Date: 5/6/2025 Primary/Special Election Select District Type: Cities, Villages, or Townships e.g. Cities

Select District Name: e.g. Kent City

Click the Find Ballots box.

Find your precinct and click the View Ballot box. The sample ballot should appear.

If you don't know your precinct, click on "searching" in the paragraph on the View Ballots page or follow this link:

https://portage.ohioboe.com/apps/vtrlookup.aspx

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KENT CITY COUNCIL AT LARGE

Vote for not more than 3

DEREK SALUSTRO



Party: Democratic Biographical Info:

Campaign Email: Derekkentohio@gmail.com

Volunteer & Community Service: Have run numerous events to raise money for local charities. Food

drives for Kent Social Services

Campaign Mailing Address: 133 N. Pearl St. "Kent OH 44240

Campaign Phone Number: 3307349292

Education: college

Training & Experience: member of the Kent Planning Commission for past 2 years

Questions:

Q: What is your vision for your community and how would you implement it?

A: I believe that a "Rising tide raises all ships" I think it's important that whatever we do for this town that it has the ability to affect all people positively. Since our community is only as strong as our weakest we need to find ways to help and protect them. Any economic diversification and incubation should correspond with job training for those in town willing to shift their focus. Also, as we face possibly harder economic times due to the current terrible administration it is important that we focus on strengthening all programs that help those in need. Kent Social Services has already faced increased demand in the last few years it is important to find ways to back them up. I'd like to see a push for a victory garden program to help provide fresh produce as well as teach those who want to provide for themselves. Mainly I envision Kent as a town that holds strong against prevailing self-centered sentiments.

Q: What do you see as the most important issue facing the City of Kent and how do you propose addressing it?

A: Kent's reliance on the University as its primary economic driver puts the town at risk especially in times like this. Kent State is facing budget deficits while the current administration is cutting funding for schools and students. The health of this town is directly tied to the health of the university and it's student population. A downturn in this sector could debilitate a town already facing financial pressures of the last few years.

Economic diversification is key. A focus on emerging tech and green energy sectors. also, focus on incubating and incentivizing startups and small businesses that emerge from the University to stay in town. Plenty of commercial property in town that can be repurposed as incubators/ accelerators.

Salustro:

Q: Identify the challenges facing the City of Kent and your recommendations for solving them.

A: I believe the challenges are tied to housing and population. How can Kent continue economic growth with a declining and aging population and continued tourism competition from neighboring towns with their own redevelopment projects. Kent is a mature land-locked city with multiple decades of stagnant population growth due to limited housing supply. While property values are stable, the lack of housing has created an affordability problem for young professionals who just graduated and families. Recommendations would be for City Management to focus on finding and working with private firms and non-profit organizations whose goals align with the mission to create suitable affordable housing whether it be repurposing older facilities or new builds. The focus would also be on transitional housing for our older population. Which would free up some of the larger houses while giving them the ability to stay and live in the town they love.

MICHAEL L. THRASHER



Party: Democratic Biographical Info:

Campaign Email: MThrasherlaw@gmail.com

Volunteer & Community Service: Volunteer campaign worker for the general election and primary

campaigns of John Kerry, Barack Obama, Bernie Sanders, and Joe Biden Campaign Mailing Address: 1236 Munroe Falls Rd.````Kent``OH``44240

Campaign Phone Number: (330)203-0853

Education: Ohio University, Bachelors of Business Administration, 1990. Cleveland - Marshall College of Law, Juris Doctorate, 1993.

Training & Experience: 18 years of employment with third party administrator's handling worker's compensation claim, 9 years solo practice, license currently inactive Questions:

Q: What is your vision for your community and how would you implement it?

A: Residents and visitors should find Kent to be a good city to live in, raise a family, and visit for entertainment. Obviously no one would want anything else. Approaching that goal requires competent city administration that solicits input from involved parties, fairly weighs competing interests, and makes decisions based upon applicable law.

Q: What do you see as the most important issue facing the City of Kent and how do you propose addressing it?

A: Kent has seen rapid growth in recent years, particularly in the downtown area, and there's no good reason to think it will stop anytime soon. That's a good thing. But with growth comes a number of issues, not the least of which are traffic, parking, and infrastructure strain. Solutions for problems associated with growth can often be addressed by capital improvements where the decision making rests primarily with the civil engineers. On the other hand, those problems that may arise due to private property and business concerns require city council's focus on the preparedness of the parties; have they planned for parking and occupancy for example? And can we expect negative consequences following a projects completion such as pollution, noise, and crime? Getting the answers to these questions before a decision is made is largely how I propose addressing this issue.

Thrasher:

Q: Identify the challenges facing the City of Kent and your recommendations for solving them.

A: Aside from the growth issue addressed in the previous question the challenges facing Kent seem to be much the same as they are in other cities: the condition of our roads and sidewalks and parks, the safety of our school zones, the maintenance and appearance of our properties, and so on. Its a long list. With that in mind I'll note that should I be elected to city council, I will be part of a administrative body that makes decisions democratically and most importantly, makes decisions representing the needs of our constituency. Rest assured I'll have plenty to say as the need arises but my highest priorities will always be availability and the willingness to listen to the people that put me there.

BENJAMIN TIPTON



Party: Democratic Biographical Info:

Volunteer & Community Service: City of Kent Board of Zoning Appeals (6.5 years); City of Kent Fair Housing Board (3 years), City of Kent Salary Review Committee; Kent Rotary Board Member, Service; Treasurer Kent Episcopal Church

Campaign Mailing Address: 128 N. Prospect St. ````Kent``OH``44240

Campaign Phone Number: 3308614189

Education: Master of Arts in Asia-Pacific Policy, University of British Columbia (2012); Bachelor of Arts, Cum Laude, Kent State University (2003)

Training & Experience: Assistant Vice President, Foundation Relations – Kent State University (2024–Present); Executive Director, Foundation Relations – Kent State University (2019–2024)

Campaign Website: sites.google.com/view/benjamin-tipton-kentcouncil/home Questions:

Q: What is your vision for your community and how would you implement it?

A: Kent is where I live, work and recreate. Every day, I walk to work at Kent State University, my kids attend Kent City Schools, and my family is deeply rooted in this community. I believe in a Kent community that continues to be a vibrant, welcoming, and forward-thinking city—a place where residents can thrive, businesses can grow, and the unique character of our town is preserved.

To implement this vision, I will advocate for thoughtful development that supports affordable housing, attracts good jobs, and enhances the cultural vibrancy of our city. My many years of experience volunteering on Kent City Board of Zoning Appeals, Fair Housing Board, and Salary Review Committee have given me firsthand insight into the challenges we face, and the importance of making strategic decisions that benefit all residents. I will work to ensure that Kent remains a place where families, students, employees, and businesses all feel valued and supported.

Tipton:

Q: What do you see as the most important issue facing the City of Kent and how do you propose addressing it?

A: One of the most pressing issues facing Kent is the need for balanced growth that maintains affordability while fostering economic and community development. Over the past 15 years, Kent has experienced significant improvements, from downtown redevelopment to new housing options. However, as we continue to grow, we must ensure that development aligns with the needs of all residents, particularly in terms of housing affordability and access to good jobs.

I propose addressing this by supporting policies that encourage smart, right-sized development—projects that enhance Kent's infrastructure and economic base without displacing residents, or altering the character of our neighborhoods. My experience in Kent zoning and housing policy has given me the knowledge to navigate these challenges effectively, ensuring that future growth is both sustainable and beneficial to the entire community.

Q: Identify the challenges facing the City of Kent and your recommendations for solving them.

A: Kent faces several challenges, including housing affordability, economic growth, and cost efficiencies paired with sustainability efforts.

Affordable Housing & Development – As demand for housing increases, we must ensure that Kent remains an affordable and accessible place to live. I will advocate for development policies that encourage a mix of housing options, protect renters, and support responsible growth that aligns with the needs of the community.

Economic Development & Job Growth – Encouraging local business growth and ensuring strong job opportunities for residents is crucial. My background in public policy and my work with Senator Sherrod Brown's office have given me experience in advocating for investment in communities like Kent.

Sustainability & Cost Efficiencies – We can achieve both cost savings to our city budget AND address the pressing need to address sustainability at the same time.

TRACY WALLACH



Party: Democratic Biographical Info:

Campaign Email: twallach@kent.edu

Volunteer & Community Service: Vice-Chair for Portage County Solid Waste Management District's Policy Committee, On Kent's Sustainability Commission, Go to tracywallach.org for additional community service works

Campaign Mailing Address: 231 Starr Ave. "Kent" OH" 44240

Campaign Phone Number: 330-678-0540

Education: B.A. Kalamazoo College, Kalamazoo MI / M.Ed. Kent State University

Training & Experience: Former Member of Kent City Council, First Recycling Coordinator for the City of

Kent

Campaign Website: www.tracywallach.org

Questions:

Q: What is your vision for your community and how would you implement it?

A: More affordable housing for seniors and young families. Turn the river into a destination point. Make Kent more sustainable.

Regarding sustainability, the City has adopted a CAP - a climate action plan - which will help guide the City in actions towards more sustainable operations like extending solarization of City buildings beyond the fire station and water plant, solar fields to generate energy to power City services and replacing old City vehicles with electric ones. Replacing vehicles might initially be more expensive, but in the long run electric vehicles are cheaper and have better acceleration and power. Many communities are already doing this with their police vehicles with much success.

For housing for senior and young families, developers of low-income and senior housing could be partnered with to provide the right mix of housing.

Turn the river into a destination point by constructing kayak and tubing runs.

Q: What do you see as the most important issue facing the City of Kent and how do you propose addressing it?

A: Currently, the most important issue facing the City is the uncertainty of federal funding. Many of the City infrastructure projects depend heavily on state and federal grants and loans to move forward. If federal funding is no longer available, City staff will need to come up with creative ways to support these projects. We will need to prioritize and localize response to fund critical projects.

Wallach:

Q: Identify the challenges facing the City of Kent and your recommendations for solving them.

A: One of the most important concerns currently facing the City is the aging infrastructure. With the current chaos in Washington, funding is now up in the air. For these projects, green infrastructure could be localized such as rain gardens, swales and permeable pavers to offset storm water runoff. State programs could make up some of the difference for sewer and water projects.

Providing affordable housing for seniors and young families is also a challenge. One way to approach this problem would be private/public projects such as Maple Brook near route 261 which was a result of pressure from Council members applied on the City in response to the change of Silver Oaks from a 55 and older senior complex near campus to student housing. Developers of low-income and senior housing could be partnered with to provide the right mix of housing.

SARAH ELIZABETH WESLEY



Party: Democratic Biographical Info:

Campaign Email: Sbowers@kent.edu

Volunteer & Community Service: Longcoy School Association Member since 2016 Newest member of

the Kent Civil Service Commission

Campaign Mailing Address: 1027 Roy Marsh Dr.```Kent``OH``44240

Education: 2008 Graduate of Kent State University

Training & Experience: 19 years of teaching in Early Education at Kids Kare Kent Campus Questions:

Q: What is your vision for your community and how would you implement it?

A: I envision the future of Kent where every person in the community feels empowered to contribute to our community in such a way that everyone feels that their voices are heard and they feel welcome and accepted for who they are. Maintaining a sense of belonging for local residence and college students attending our wonderful university. I would implement this by encouraging community involvement by participating in the numerous events that the city works so hard to put on year round for our beautiful city.

Wesley:

Q: What do you see as the most important issue facing the City of Kent and how do you propose addressing it?

A: I think currently there are two issues that I would like to help address in the city of Kent. The first one being affordable, clean and safe housing. Kent is a very unique city, we have both permanent residents and college students. One of the biggest complaints that I talk with young people about is the housing crisis and lack of affordable, maintained housing. I am proposing that we address these issues and work with both landlords and tenants to come to an agreement to provide safe affordable housing. Which will be no easy feat but I feel up to the challenge and I think holding a town hall to discuss this issue is a great way to start.

The other issue in Kent is the crumbling roads. I have been taking car rides down both main and side streets to get know know all areas

Of Kent, the city that I hope to get to represent and I am certain that there are very few roads in Kent that are not in serious need of repair. I will fight for funds to get these roads repaired!

Q: Identify the challenges facing the City of Kent and your recommendations for solving them.

A: I think economic growth is a challenge in Kent. I see businesses come and go especially in downtown Kent and I believe that one of the reasons is the price of rent in that area. I would like to try to help bring new business into the city and help businesses find economic relief that are already doing business in our city. As Stow continues to grow and bring in commercial business I think Kent deserves a chance to have some of those businesses possibly move into our town to increase our economic growth and bring jobs to Kent. We have older retail space especially on the East side that sit empty that could bring growth to our wonderful city.

TALLMADGE CITY COUNCIL AT LARGE

Vote for not more than 3

GO TO VOTE411.ORG FOR INFORMATION ABOUT THE CANDIDATES

JESSICA EPSTEIN

Party: Democratic

LINDSAY CAMMEL HALM

Party: Democratic

DAVID G. KLINE

Party: Democratic

TRACY PLETCHER

Party: Democratic

ISSUES

Issue 2. Proposed Constitutional Amendment TO FUND PUBLIC INFRASTRUCTURE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS BY PERMITTING THE ISSUANCE OF GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS Proposed by Joint Resolution of the General Assembly To enact Section 2t of Article VIII of the Constitution of the State of Ohio A majority yes vote is required for the adoption of Section 2t. This proposed amendment would: 1. Authorize the state to issue bonds or other obligations to finance or assist in financing public infrastructure capital improvements for local governments and other governmental entities. Capital improvement projects would be limited to roads and bridges, waste water treatment systems, water supply systems, solid waste disposal facilities, storm water and sanitary collection, storage, and treatment facilities. 2. Determine that such capital improvements are necessary to preserve and expand the public infrastructure, ensure public health, safety and welfare, create and preserve jobs, enhance employment opportunities, and improve the economic welfare of the people of Ohio. 3. Limit the total principal amount of the state general obligations issued under the amendment to no more than \$2.5 billion over a ten-year period. Any principal amount that could have been issued in any prior fiscal year. but was not issued, may subsequently be issued. 4. Require that obligations issued under this amendment mature no later than thirty (30) years after their date of issuance, and that any obligation issued to retire or refund other obligations mature no later than the permitted maturity date for the obligations being retired or refunded, 5. Authorize the General Assembly to pass laws implementing this amendment, including laws establishing procedures for incurring and issuing obligations, and laws providing for the use of Ohio products, materials, services and labor to the extent possible. If approved, the amendment shall take effect immediately. A "YES" vote means approval of the amendment. A "NO" vote means disapproval of the amendment.

GO TO VOTE411.ORG FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

(Portage Co.) Issue 3. Kent City 3C Local Liquor Option--Sunday sales by Blind Squirrel Pub Shall the sale of spirituous liquor and wine and mixed beverages be permitted for sale on Sunday by Blind Squirrel Pub, LLC, a holder of a D-1, D-2, D-3 liquor permit who is engaged in the business of operating a bar/restaurant at 802 N. Mantua St. Kent Ohio in this precinct?

(Portage Co.) Issue 4. Streetsboro City 3C Local Liquor Option—Sunday sales by Buffalo Wild Wings & Patio

Shall the sale of wine & mixed beverages, spirituous liquor be permitted for sale on Sunday by Mabam Enterprises Inc. II, dba Buffalo Wild Wings & Patio, a holder of a D6 liquor permit who is engaged in the business of operating casual dining, family oriented, full-service restaurant at 9062 SR 14 PO Box 2133, Streetsboro, Ohio 44241 in this precinct?

(Portage Co.) Issue 5. Garrettsville Village A Local Liquor Option—Sunday sales by FOE AERIE Shall the sale of wine and mixed beverages and spirituous liquor be permitted for sale on Sunday by FOE AERIE 2705 Garrettsville, a holder of a D4 liquor permit who is engaged in the business of a non-profit Fraternal Order of Eagles at 8149 Water Street, Garrettsville, OH 44231 in this precinct?

(Portage Co.) Issue 6. Garrettsville Village B Local Liquor Option—Sunday sales by Skylane Bowling Shall the sale of wine, mixed beverages & spirituous liquor be permitted for sale on Sunday by Skylane LLC DBA Skylane Bowling, an applicant for a D6 liquor permit who is engaged in the business of beverage drive thru and lounge at 8311-13 Windham St., Garrettsville, OH 44231 in this precinct?

(Portage Co.) Issue 7. Brimfield Township Renewal Tax Levy—Roads and bridges, 0.95 mills A renewal of a 0.95 mill tax levy for the benefit of Brimfield Township for the purpose of general construction, reconstruction, resurfacing, and repair of streets, roads, and bridges that the county auditor estimates will collect \$262,000 annually, at a rate not exceeding 0.95 mill for each \$1 of taxable value, which amounts to \$18 for each \$100,000 of the county auditor's appraised value, for 5 years, commencing in 2025, first due in calendar year 2026.

(Portage Co.) Issue 8. Brimfield Township Renewal Tax Levy—Roads and bridges, 1.9 mills A renewal of a 1.9 mill tax levy for the benefit of Brimfield Township for the purpose of general construction, reconstruction, resurfacing, and repair of streets, roads, and bridges that the county auditor estimates will collect \$546,000 annually, at a rate not exceeding 1.9 mill for each \$1 of taxable value, which amounts to \$38 for each \$100,000 of the county auditor's appraised value, for 5 years, commencing in 2025, first due in calendar year 2026.

(Portage Co.) Issue 9. Hiram Township Replacement Tax Levy—Roads and bridges, 3 mills A replacement of a 3 mills tax levy for the benefit of Hiram Township for the purpose of general construction, reconstruction, resurfacing, and repair of streets, roads, and bridges that the county auditor estimates will collect \$363,000 annually, at a rate not exceeding 3 mills for each \$1 of taxable value, which amounts to \$105 for each \$100,000 of the county auditor's appraised value, for 5 years, commencing in 2025, first due in calendar year 2026.

(Portage Co.) Issue 10. Randolph Township D Local Liquor Option—Sunday Sales by Coyotes Partners Shall the sale of mixed beverages, spirituous liquor be permitted for sale on Sunday by Coyotes Partners LLC, an applicant for a D-6 license, holder of D1, D2, D3 liquor permit who is engaged in the business of Mexican restaurant at 1477 S.R. 44, Atwater, OH 44201 in this precinct?

(Portage Co.) Issue 11. Aurora City School District Renewal Tax Levy—Current expenses, 5.61 mills A renewal tax of 5.61 mills for the benefit of the Aurora City School District for the purpose of current operating expenses that the county auditor estimates will collect \$3,829,000 annually, at a rate not exceeding 5.61 mills for each \$1 of taxable value, which amounts to \$132 for each \$100,000 dollars of the county auditor's appraised value, for 5 years, commencing in 2025, first due in calendar year 2026. (Portage Co.) Issue 12. Ravenna City School District Additional Tax Levy—5.47 mills An additional tax for the benefit of the Ravenna City School District for the purpose of emergency requirements in the sum of \$2,750,000 annually. The estimated tax outside of the ten-mill limitation necessary to raise that annual amount as certified by the county auditor is to average 5.47 mills for each \$1 of taxable value, which amounts to \$192 for each \$100,000 of the county auditor's appraised value, for 5 years, commencing in 2025, first due in calendar year 2026.

(Portage Co.) Issue 13. Streetsboro City School District Additional Tax Levy—Current expenses, 5 mills An additional tax of 5 mills for the benefit of the Streetsboro City School District for the purpose of current operating expenses that the county auditor estimates will collect \$3,885,000 annually, at a rate not exceeding 5 mills for each \$1 of taxable value, which amounts to \$175 for each \$100,000 dollars of the county auditor's appraised value, for a continuing period of time, commencing in 2025, first due in calendar year 2026.

(Portage Co.) Issue 14--(Summit Co.) Issue 15. Mogadore Local School District Additional Tax Levy—5.93 mills

Proposed Tax Levy (Additional) – Shall a levy be imposed by the Mogadore Local School District for the purpose to avoid an operating deficit in the sum of \$804,000 and a levy of taxes to be made outside of the ten-mill limitation estimated by the county fiscal officer to average 5.93 mills for each \$1 of taxable value, which amounts to \$208 for each \$100,000 of the county fiscal officer's appraised value, for a period of 6 years, commencing in 2025, first due in calendar year 2026?

(Portage Co.) Issue 15--(Summit Co.) Issue 16. Springfield Local School District Renewal Tax Levy—2.74 mills

Proposed Tax Levy (Renewal) – Shall a levy renewing an existing levy be imposed by the Springfield Local School District for the purpose of providing for the emergency requirements of the school district in the sum of \$1,600,000 and a levy of taxes to be made outside of the ten-mill limitation estimated by the county fiscal officer to average 2.74 mills for each \$1 of taxable value, which amounts to \$84 for each \$100,000 of the county fiscal officer's appraised value for a period of 5 years, commencing in 2025, first due in calendar year 2026?

(Portage Co.) Issue 16--(Summit Co.) Issue 17. Springfield Local School District Renewal Tax Levy—Current expenses, 7 mills

Proposed Tax Levy (Renewal) – A renewal of a tax for the benefit of the Springfield Local School District for the purpose of current expenses that the county fiscal officer estimates will collect \$2,378,000 annually, at a rate not exceeding 7 mills for each \$1 of taxable value, which amounts to \$113 for each \$100,000 of the county fiscal officer's appraised value, for 5 years, commencing in 2025, first due in calendar year 2026.

(Portage Co.) Issue 17--(Summit Co.) Issue 18. Akron-Summit County Public Library District Bond Issue Proposed Bond Issue – Shall bonds be issued by the Akron-Summit County Public Library District for the purpose of constructing, adding to, renovating, remodeling, furnishing, equipping and otherwise improving library buildings and facilities, and acquiring, clearing and improving the sites thereof in the principal amount of \$160,000,000, to be repaid annually over a maximum period of 20 years, and an annual levy of property taxes be made outside the ten-mill limitation, estimated by the county fiscal officer to average over the repayment period of the bond issue 1 mill for each \$1 of taxable value, which amounts to \$35 for each \$100,000 of the county fiscal officer's appraised value, commencing in 2025, first due in calendar year 2026, to pay the annual debt charges on the bonds, and to pay debt charges on any notes issued in anticipation of those bonds?