

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF OHIO

**STATE ex rel. THE CITY OF
NELSONVILLE, OHIO**

and

**THE NELSONVILLE CITY
COUNCIL**

Relators

v.

**THE ATHENS COUNTY BOARD
OF ELECTIONS**

Respondent

Case No. 2025-1061

**Original Action in
Mandamus and
Prohibition**

**Peremptory or
Alternative Writs
Requested**

**Expedited Election
Matter Under
S.Ct.Prac.R.12.08**

MOTION TO INTERVENE IN RELATORS' MANDAMUS ACTION

COMES NOW Andrea Nicole Thompson Hashman, as movant and applicant, by and through the undersigned counsel through Rule 24 of the Ohio Rules of Civil Procedure, and hereby respectfully moves this Court to permit her intervention as a necessary party to this mandamus action filed by the City of Nelsonville and its City Council as a necessary party needed for just adjudication and to protect her own interests and those in common with the Respondent Board of Elections. Andrea Nicole Thompson Hashman is a resident of the City of Nelsonville and candidate for the office of City Auditor currently set for printing on the ballot for the Nelsonville elections in November 2025. Her candidacy as a protected legal interest is affected by the instant legal actions of the Relators.

MEMORANDUM IN SUPPORT OF MOTION

On November 5, 2024, after the decision in *State ex rel. Smith v. Clement*, 2024-Ohio-5220 [Relators' Exhibit B] upholding the right of the electors of Nelsonville, Ohio to abolish their City Charter, the voters of the City of Nelsonville approved by a 70% majority vote legislation abolishing the Nelsonville City Charter and returning to a statutory form of government.

Thereafter, on the evening of January 28, 2025 Nelsonville Council passed Ordinance 5-25 (attached hereto as Exhibit 2) as an emergency measure to place on the ballot a Charter Amendment (known as Issue 4 attached hereto as Exhibit 1) to amend the Charter and to repeal Issue #23 (attached hereto as Exhibit 4). The City Attorney for the City of Nelsonville filed documents with the Athens County Board of Elections, for the May 6, 2025 primary election. On primary election day the voters of Nelsonville defeated Issue 4 to amend the Charter and to repeal Issue #23.

Thereafter on August 11, 2025 Nelsonville Council passed Nelsonville City Ordinance 54-25 [Relators' Exhibit C] to have the effect to repeal Issue #23 and thus requiring the removal of the names for candidates for public office of the City of Nelsonville to be elected to the statutory form of government, thus arguably (and illegally as the movant argues) maintaining the Charter form of government for Nelsonville. On August 13, 2025, Nelsonville's clerk transmitted a certified copy of Ordinance 54-25 to the Athens County Board of Elections.

On August 13, 2025, the Athens County Board of Elections met and apparently took no action regarding the pending statutory races. The same day this original action in mandamus or alternatively, in prohibition, was brought by the Relators pursuant to this Court's jurisdiction under Article IV, Section 2 of the Ohio Constitution and R.C. 2731, *et seq.* seeking to compel Athens County Board of Elections to remove the names of candidates from the ballot for the November 2025 election, the City having declared Issue #23, which abolished the City Charter, as repealed by Ordinance 54-25. Andrea Nicole Thompson Hashman is a candidate on the ballot for City

Auditor in the City of Nelsonville and has a direct and legally protected interest¹ as a candidate for office in Nelsonville Ohio pursuant to the passage of Issue #23 and thus in the outcome of this mandamus action. Because Issue #23 creates the rights of Ms. Hashman regarding being on the ballot for political office, her being made a party to this action is as necessary as would it would be in seeking a declaratory judgment on the same issue. Thus Ms. Hashman has a legally protected interest not merely a practical interest.

Pursuant to Ohio Civil Rule 24 (B), upon timely application anyone may be permitted to intervene in an action: (1) when a statute of this state confers a conditional right to intervene; or (2) when an applicant's claim or defense and the main action have a question of law or fact in common. When a party to an action relies for ground of claim or defense upon any statute or executive order administered by a federal or state governmental officer or agency or upon any regulation, order, requirement or agreement issued or made pursuant to the statute or executive order, the officer or agency upon timely application may be permitted to intervene in the action. In exercising its discretion the court shall consider whether the intervention will unduly delay or prejudice the adjudication of the rights of the original parties.

There are the same questions of law and fact in common with the Relator's averments and Respondent's potential defenses entitling Andrea Nicole Thompson Hashman to be permitted to intervene. A copy of Ordinance 54-25, purporting to repeal Issue #23, was sent to the Respondent Athens County Board of Elections, "BOE", for the purpose of removing named candidates for the

¹ This Court has applied the legally protectable interest standard in determining whether a person must be joined as a necessary party pursuant to Civ.R. 19(A). [See *Gonzalez v. Graves*, ¶17 2015-Ohio-1791 "[W]hether a nonparty is a necessary party to a declaratory-judgment action depends upon whether that nonparty has a legally protectable interest in rights that are the subject matter of the action. 'Rumpke Sanitary Landfill, Inc. v. State, 128 Ohio St. 3d 41, 2010-Ohio-6037, 941 N.E.2d 1161, ¶ 15'."]

November 2025 election for Nelsonville public offices from being elected to office under the statutory form of government. Ms. Hashman was one of those named candidates.

Substantively the enactment of Ordinance 54-25 is an unlawful attempt to adopt a Charter by resurrecting the now deceased Nelsonville City Charter. A virtually identical attempt was undertaken in *Hittle v. Muskingum County Bd. of Elections*, 1979 Ohio App. LEXIS 10706, (5th Dist. Ct of Appeals 1979).

In *Hittle*, as in Nelsonville in November 2024, citizens in a general election voted on a proposed initiative to abolish the Zanesville City Charter in November 1979. The vote to abolish was approved 3,785 to 3,138. *Id.* p.1.

In an attempt to reverse the effects of the vote, on February 27, 1979 a second group of citizens had a special election to submit to the electors of Zanesville the issue of "Shall the vote of the electorate of November 7, 1978, abolishing the Zanesville City Charter and all Legislative Acts done pursuant thereto be repealed hereby reinstating the Zanesville City Charter and all Amendments thereto?" *Id.* p.2. As a result of the election the issue was approved by a vote of 2577 for and 2370 against. *Id.* Nelsonville City Council attempted virtually the same thing with Issue 4 in their May 2025 primary which failed in its attempt to repeal Issue #23 and amend the Charter.

In *Hittle* however, as a result of the passage of the "repealing" legislation on February 27, 1979, the first group filed for a declaratory judgment in the Muskingum County Common Pleas Court and obtained a declaratory judgment that the February 27, 1979 election was without legal effect. *Id.* p.2. "The trial court held that the initiative petitions proposing the election to "repeal the abolition" of the Zanesville City Charter and also Zanesville Ordinance 79-7 (the same type of legislation as Nelsonville Ordinance 54-25) which called the February 27, 1979 election on the issue "[A]re in fatal conflict with Article XVIII, Sections 7 and 8 of the Ohio Constitution." *Id.* As

in the present case with the filing of the instant mandamus and prohibition actions, the unsuccessful losing group is trying to have the “repeal of the repeal” held to be valid.

The Fifth District Court of Appeals affirmed the decision of the Trial Court and ***overruled all assignments of error.*** [emphasis added] *Id.* p.2. 20. The Appellate Court echoed the Trial Court in *Hittle* that “Section 8 of Article XVIII of the Ohio Constitution expressly provides detailed procedures to be followed by a municipality in adopting a charter.” *Id.* p.2. This constitutional provision applies equally to the municipality of Nelsonville.

The *Hittle* Appellate Court also recited “The trial court held that the charter was abolished by the November 7, 1978 election and consequently the election of February 27, 1979, was an unconstitutional attempt to adopt a charter.” *Id.* p.2. Nelsonville’s Charter was abolished by vote in the November 5, 2024 general election. Here Nelsonville is attempting the same unconstitutional attempt to adopt a charter with Ordinance 54-25 by repealing Issue #23 and thus depriving Ms. Hashman of her protected interest in being a candidate for office. The Appellate Court further added “The trial court reasoned that once the charter was abolished, ***the exclusive means to enact any charter was that expressly provided in the Ohio Constitution, Article XVIII, Section 8*** [emphasis added not in the original].” *Id.*

Relators have argued “¶ 51. As such, under the Charter, and process used to place Issue 23 on the ballot, any ordinance or resolution adopted by an Article X initiative can also be repealed by an act of council (just like any ordinance or resolution originally adopted by council).”[Relator’s Petition¶ 51] and thus depriving Ms. Hashman of her candidacy. However, *Hittle* disposed of Zanesville’s virtually identical argument:

“because the election of February 27, 1979, rescinding the November 7, 1978 vote to repeal the Zanesville Charter, occurred before December 31, 1979 (the effective date of the November 7,

1978 vote to repeal the charter), the charter of the City of Zanesville continues in effect by virtue of its original enactment and not because of the February 27, 1979 election. Thus, they argue, because the charter continues in force by virtue of its original enactment, it was not necessary for the election of February 27, 1979 to comply with Article XVIII, Section 8 of the Ohio Constitution which applies only to de novo adoption of a charter by a municipality. ***The problem with that position is, in our view, that the constitution does not say it "applies only to de novo adoption".***

Hittle at p. 5.

Nelsonville Ordinance 54-25 unlawfully and unconstitutionally attempts to circumvent the requirements of the Ohio Constitution. *Hittle* is clear and its conclusion is applicable to Nelsonville in virtually identical circumstances when the Appellate Court recites “The decision by initiative election November 7, 1978, to repeal the charter effective December 31, 1979, ***constituted an exit from charter government. There can be no pathway of return to charter government except through compliance with the express special constitutional provisions of Article XVIII, Section 8 dealing therewith.*** [emphasis added not in the original]” *Id.* p.6.

Further, “Article II, Section 1f of the Ohio Constitution, reserves to the people of each municipality the power of initiative only on questions controlled by municipal legislation (See Appendix). Thus, the people of a municipality have the power implied therefrom to initiate a proposal to repeal their municipality's charter. *Youngstown v. Craver*, 127 Ohio St. 194 (1933). ***However, the subject of adoption of a charter is not governed by the general provisions of Article II, Section 1f, but is covered by specific express constitutional provision (Article XVIII, Section 8), and its requirements cannot be circumvented.*** [emphasis added not in the original]” *Id.* p.5. Nelsonville has not complied with the express constitutional provision Article XVIII, Section 8 after the voters abolished the Nelsonville City Charter by a 70% majority on November 5, 2024.

Nelsonville has unconstitutionally applied Ordinance 54-25 to deprive Ms. Hashman from her lawful candidacy for Auditor of the City of Nelsonville, attempted to abolish Issue #23 and seeks a writ from this Court to continue its unlawful conduct. Ordinance 54-25 is an unlawful attempt of the City of Nelsonville to return to charter government in a manner that is expressly recognized as violative of the Ohio Constitution Article XVIII, Section 8. Ordinance 54-25 violates the Ohio Constitution Article XVIII, Section 8.

Andrea Nicole Thompson Hashman meets the criteria for permissive intervention under Ohio Civil Rule 24 (B)(2) because applicant's claim or defense and the main action have a question of law or fact in common to her and affects her legally protected interest as a named candidate on the ballot whose position would be affected by the removing her from the ballot by claim of the Relators that Issue #23 has been repealed by Nelsonville City Ordinance 54-25.

Andrea Nicole Thompson Hashman provides her pleading as accompanying hereto, as defined in Civ.R. 7(A), setting forth the claim or defense for which intervention is sought.

WHEREFORE, Andrea Nicole Thompson Hashman respectfully requests that this Court:

1. Grant this Motion for Permissive Intervention by Andrea Nicole Thompson Hashman as a necessary party to this mandamus action and allow her to participate in all ways allowed by law;
2. Order that Andrea Nicole Thompson Hashman be served with process and all pleadings in this action; and
3. Grant such other and further relief as this Court deems just and proper.

Respectfully submitted,

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Attorney for Andrea Nicole Thompson Hashman

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

The Respondent Movant hereby certifies that a copy of the above was delivered by electronic mail to the parties of record by delivery to their Counsel as named below this 17th day of August, 2025 by electronic mail pursuant to Civ. R. 5(B)(2)(f).

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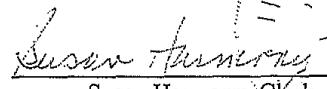
Respectfully submitted,

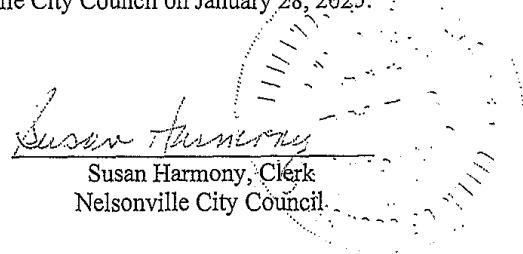
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<p>4 Proposed Ordinance City of Nelsonville A majority affirmative vote is necessary for passage.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Council Clerk shall serve all of council but report to the council president. • Vacancy for the council shall be nominated by the Mayor with a majority vote of council members present confirming the selection. • Council by 2/3 majority of all council members elected may override a mayoral veto.
<p>To give effect the wishes of the voters of Nelsonville while still preserving a continuity of government, ensuring all public services are able to be rendered uninterrupted to the citizens of Nelsonville, providing security to the employees who have faithfully served the City of Nelsonville, as well as to the residents to which they serve.</p>	<p>This proposal shall be certified to the board of elections to run on the 2025 Primary ballot and for the election of all offices to be held in the following general election. All current council seats will be considered as expiring at this term (i.e. all 7 seats will be up for election). Provided its passage, the current council will appoint an interim Mayor with 3/4th majority vote of all members elected to council. Nothing shall preclude this interim Mayor from running in the general election, nor shall it count towards their number of terms. Council shall set the pay for the Mayor by separate ordinance prior to the first election. The interim Mayor shall be paid a base salary of \$59,000.</p>
<p>An amendment to the Charter of the City of Nelsonville is recommended to make the following changes:</p>	<p>Council will have authority to effectuate all necessary steps to implement these changes.</p>
<p>The Office of the City Manager:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Office of the City Manager shall be reformed into the Office of the Mayor. 	<p>This amendment shall be certified and placed on the May 6th, 2025 primary ballot. Should this amendment pass, following the Board of Elections official result certification shall become effective no later than 30 days thereafter.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Mayor shall be a qualified elector of the City of Nelsonville. • The Mayor shall serve a term of 4 years, serving a maximum of 3 consecutive terms. • The Office of the Mayor shall be a non-partisan office. • In the vacancy of the Mayor, the Council President shall fill the vacancy until a permanent appointment can be made by 2/3 majority vote of council or until the vacancy is filled through election. • The Mayor shall have veto powers over council. • The current composition of the Office of the City Manager shall continue as it exists under the Office of the Mayor. 	<p>In the event this amendment proves ineffective in providing proper governance over the City of Nelsonville Council shall have full authority to call for the dissolution of the Charter of the City of Nelsonville to be voted on by the Citizens of the City of Nelsonville. Should the Citizens pass such provision by popular vote Council shall have full authority to implement any necessary transition into a statutory form of government.</p>
<p>The Council of the City of Nelsonville:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • City Council shall be composed of 8 non-partisan council members: • One Council President, Elected at large • Three Council Members, Elected at large • Four Council Members, Elected from wards • Wards to be established through ordinance. • Wards to be re-evaluated every 10 years commencing on the release of updated Federal Census counts. • Council members shall serve two-year terms with a lifetime limit of 12 years of service. • Council President shall be non-voting member unless the event of a tie. • Shall preside call and manage council meetings. 	<p>By enacting this amendment to the City of Nelsonville Charter, Ordinance # (issue 23) shall henceforth be repealed. At no time would this provision prohibit the Citizens of Nelsonville from calling for the abolishment of the City Charter under their rights set forth in the Constitution of the State of Ohio.</p> <p>Shall the proposed ordinance amendment 05-25 be adopted?</p> <p><input type="radio"/> YES</p> <p><input type="radio"/> NO</p>

CLERK'S CERTIFICATION

I, Susan Harmony, Clerk of Nelsonville City Council, certify that the attached copy of **ORDINANCE 05-25, AN ORDINANCE TO PLACE ON THE PRIMARY/SPECIAL ELECTION SCHEDULED FOR MAY 6, 2025 A PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO NELSONVILLE CITY CHARTER TO GIVE EFFECT TO THE EXPRESSED WILL OF THE VOTERS OF NELSONVILLE AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY** is a true and correct copy of THE Ordinance adopted by Nelsonville City Council on January 28, 2025.


Susan Harmony
Susan Harmony, Clerk
Nelsonville City Council



ORDINANCE 05-25

AN ORDINANCE TO PLACE ON THE PRIMARY/SPECIAL ELECTION SCHEDULED FOR MAY 6, 2025 A PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO NELSONVILLE CITY CHARTER TO GIVE EFFECT TO THE EXPRESSED WILL OF THE VOTERS OF NELSONVILLE AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

WHEREAS, the 2025 municipal primary/special election is scheduled for May 6, 2025;

WHEREAS, the deadline for certifying any local questions and issues for the May 6 primary/special election to the Athens County Board of Elections is February 5, 2025;

WHEREAS, the voters of the City of Nelsonville, by a vote with a margin of approximately 70% to 30% on Issue 23, have expressed their desire to change the form of government of the City of Nelsonville to have an elected mayor;

WHEREAS, the language of Issue 23 did not include any provision for authority to provide for a transition for the change in the form of government of the City of Nelsonville, thus rendering any transitional action taken by the City prior to the 2025 general municipal election subject to potential court challenges;

WHEREAS, the Ohio Constitution guarantees to the people of a municipality the right to choose their form of government;

WHEREAS, by Resolution 2305, duly passed by the Council of the City of Nelsonville, the City reaffirmed the City's long-standing commitment to respecting the right of the people of the City of Nelsonville to choose their form of government;

WHEREAS, the purpose of Resolution 2305 was to clarify for the people of the City of Nelsonville the proper procedures to follow for the exercise of the people's right to choose the form of government for the City;

WHEREAS, the City is committed to upholding the rule of law and abiding by the dictates of the Ohio Constitution;

WHEREAS, the issue for the proper and lawful procedures for abolishing a municipal charter is presently pending before the Ohio Supreme Court in case no. 2024-1737;

WHEREAS, if the Ohio Supreme Court reverses the court of appeals in case no. 2024-1737, such reversal could call into question the entire validity of Issue 23 and thereby prevent an attempt to give effect to the expressed will of the voters with respect to a change in the form of government of the City;

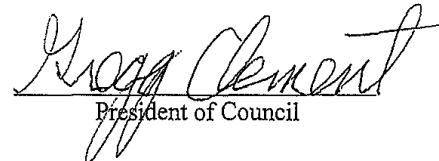
WHEREAS, Council finds it appropriate to ensure the expressed will of the voters is given effect and the City of Nelsonville can lawfully establish and provide for a form of government with an elected mayor at the earliest time practicable;

WHEREAS, the appropriate means to ensure the expressed will of the voters is given effect is the procedures set forth in Article XVIII, Section 9 of the Ohio Constitution (municipal charter amendment procedure);

WHEREAS, the Acting City Manager/Police Chief has proposed a charter

Duly enacted by Council on first reading on the 28th day of January, 2025.

NELSONVILLE CITY COUNCIL


President of Council

Susan Henney
Clerk of Council

First Reading: 01/28/2025 Under suspension of the rules

OFFICIAL GENERAL ELECTION BALLOT			Exhibit 4
Athens County	General Election	November 5, 2024	
Instructions to Voter <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To vote: completely darken the oval (●) to the left of your choice. Note the permitted number of choices directly below the title of each candidate office. Do not mark the ballot for more choices than allowed. If you mark the ballot for more choices than permitted, that contest or question will not be counted. To vote for a write-in candidate: completely darken the oval (●) to the left of the blank line and write in the candidate's name. Only votes cast for candidates who filed as write-in candidates can be counted. Do not write in a candidate's name if that person's name already is printed on the ballot for that same contest. If you make a mistake or want to change your vote: return your ballot to an election official and get a new ballot. You may ask for a new ballot up to two times. 			
For President and Vice President <small>(Vote for not more than 1 pair)</small> A vote for any candidates for President and Vice President shall be a vote for the electors of those candidates whose names have been certified to the Secretary of State.	For Justice of the Supreme Court <small>(Full term commencing 1-2-2025)</small> <small>(Vote for not more than 1)</small>	For Judge of the Court of Appeals <small>(4th District)</small> <small>(Full term commencing 2-9-2025)</small> <small>(Vote for not more than 1)</small>	
	<input type="radio"/> Melody J. Stewart Democratic <input type="radio"/> Joseph T. Deters Republican	<input type="radio"/> Jason P. Smith Republican	
<input type="radio"/> For President Peter Sonski For Vice President Lauren Onak Other-party candidate	For Justice of the Supreme Court <small>(Unexpired term ending 12-31-2026)</small> <small>(Vote for not more than 1)</small>	For Judge of the Court of Appeals <small>(4th District)</small> <small>(Full term commencing 2-10-2025)</small> <small>(Vote for not more than 1)</small>	
	<input type="radio"/> Daniel R. Hawkins Republican	<input type="radio"/> Mike Hess Republican	
<input type="radio"/> For President Jill Stein For Vice President Anita Rios Other-party candidate	<input type="radio"/> Lisa Forbes Democratic	<input type="radio"/> Jon Rose 	
	For U.S. Senator <small>(Vote for not more than 1)</small>	<input type="radio"/> Charlie R. Adkins Democratic	
<input type="radio"/> For President Donald J. Trump For Vice President JD Vance Republican	<input type="radio"/> Sherrod Brown Democratic <input type="radio"/> Don Kissick Libertarian <input type="radio"/> Bernie Moreno Republican	<input type="radio"/> For County Commissioner <small>(Full term commencing 1-2-2025)</small> <small>(Vote for not more than 1)</small>	
	<input type="radio"/> Write-in	<input type="radio"/> Jon Rose 	
<input type="radio"/> For President Richard Duncan For Vice President Mitchell Preston Bupp Nonparty candidate	For Representative to Congress <small>(12th District)</small> <small>(Vote for not more than 1)</small>	<input type="radio"/> For County Commissioner <small>(Full term commencing 1-3-2025)</small> <small>(Vote for not more than 1)</small>	
	<input type="radio"/> Jerrad Christian Democratic <input type="radio"/> Troy Balderson Republican	<input type="radio"/> Chris Chmiel Democratic	
<input type="radio"/> For President Kamala D. Harris For Vice President Tim Walz Democratic	For State Senator <small>(30th District)</small> <small>(Vote for not more than 1)</small>	For Prosecuting Attorney <small>(Vote for not more than 1)</small>	
	<input type="radio"/> Iva Faber Democratic	<input type="radio"/> Keller J. Blackburn Democratic	
<input type="radio"/> For President Chase Oliver For Vice President Mike ter Maat Libertarian	<input type="radio"/> Brian M. Chavez Republican	For Clerk of the Court of Common Pleas <small>(Vote for not more than 1)</small>	
	<input type="radio"/> For Sheriff <small>(Vote for not more than 1)</small>	<input type="radio"/> Candy S. Russell Democratic	
<input type="radio"/> For President <input type="radio"/> Write-in	For State Representative <small>(94th District)</small> <small>(Vote for not more than 1)</small>	<input type="radio"/> Rodney Smith Democratic	
	<input type="radio"/> Wenda Sheard Democratic <input type="radio"/> Kevin Ritter Republican	For County Recorder <small>(Vote for not more than 1)</small>	
 <input type="radio"/> For Justice of the Supreme Court <small>(Full term commencing 1-1-2025)</small> <small>(Vote for not more than 1)</small>	<input type="radio"/> Write-in	<input type="radio"/> Jessica Markins Democratic	
<input type="radio"/> Megan E. Shanahan Republican		Continue Voting Next Page	
<input type="radio"/> Michael P. Donnelly Democratic		Page 1 of 3	
Nelsonville 1	01	Typ:01 Seq:0024	

Athens County	General Election	November 5, 2024
For County Treasurer (Vote for not more than 1)	<p>incapacity, willful neglect of duty or gross misconduct.</p> <p>5. Prohibit any citizen from filing a lawsuit challenging a redistricting plan in any court, except if the lawsuit challenges the proportionality standard applied by the commission, requirements pertaining to an incumbent elected official's residence, or the expiration of certain senator's terms, and then only before the Ohio Supreme Court.</p> <p>6. Create the following process for appointing commission members: Four partisan appointees on the Ohio Ballot Board will choose a panel of 4 partisan retired judges (2 affiliated with the first major political party and 2 affiliated with the second major political party). Provide that the 4 legislative appointees of the Ohio Ballot Board would be responsible for appointing the panel members as follows: the Ballot Board legislative appointees affiliated with the same major political party would select 8 applicants and present those to the Ballot Board legislative appointees affiliated with the other major political party, who would then select 2 persons from the 8 for appointment to the panel, resulting in 4 panel appointees. The panel would then hire a private professional search firm to help them choose 6 of the 15 individuals on the commission. The panel will choose those 6 individuals by initially creating a pool of 90 individuals (30 from the first major political party, 30 from the second major political party, and 30 from neither the first nor second major political parties). The panel of 4 partisan retired judges will create a portal for public comment on the applicants and will conduct and publicly broadcast interviews with each applicant in the pool. The panel will then narrow the pool of 90 individuals down to 45 (15 from the first major political party; 15 from the second major political party; and 15 from neither the first nor second major political parties). Randomly, by draw, the 4 partisan retired judges will then blindly select 6 names out of the pool of 45 to be members of the commission (2 from the first major political party; 2 from the second major political party; and 2 from neither the first nor second major political parties). The 6 randomly drawn individuals will then review the applications of the remaining 39 individuals not randomly drawn and select the final 9 individuals to serve with them on the commission, the majority of which shall be from the first and the second major political parties (3 from the first major political party, 3 from the second major political party, and 3 from neither the first nor second major political parties).</p> <p>7. Require the affirmative votes of 9 of 15 members of the appointed commission to create legislative and congressional districts. If the commission is not able to determine a plan by September 19, 2025, or July 15 of every year ending in one, the following impasse procedure will be used: for any plan at an impasse, each commissioner shall have 3 days to submit no more than one proposed redistricting plan to be subject to a commission vote through a ranked-choice selection process, with the goal of having a majority of the commission members rank one of those plans first. If a majority cannot be obtained, the plan with the highest number of points in the ranked-choice process is eliminated, and the process is repeated until a plan receives a majority of first-place rankings. If the ranked-choice process ends in a tie for the highest point total, the tie shall be broken through a random process.</p> <p>8. Limit the right of Ohio citizens to freely express their opinions to members of the commission or to commission staff regarding the redistricting process or proposed redistricting plans, other than through designated meetings, hearings and an online public portal, and would forbid communication with the commission members and staff outside of those contexts.</p> <p>9. Require the commission to immediately create new legislative and congressional districts in 2025 to replace the most recent districts adopted by the citizens of Ohio through their elected representatives.</p> <p>10. Impose new taxpayer-funded costs on the State of Ohio to pay the commission members, the commission staff and appointed special masters, professionals, and private consultants that the commission is required to hire; and an unlimited amount for legal expenses incurred by the commission in any related litigation.</p> <p>If approved, the amendment will be effective 30 days after the election.</p>	freely express their opinions to members of the commission or to commission staff regarding the redistricting process or proposed redistricting plans, other than through designated meetings, hearings and an online public portal, and would forbid communication with the commission members and staff outside of those contexts.
For County Engineer (Vote for not more than 1)		SHALL THE AMENDMENT BE APPROVED?
<input type="radio"/> Taylor Sappington Democratic		<input type="radio"/> YES
<input type="radio"/> Write-in		<input type="radio"/> NO
For Coroner (Vote for not more than 1)		
<input type="radio"/> Jeff Maiden Democratic		
For Member of State Board of Education (8th District) (Vote for not more than 1)		
<input type="radio"/> Carl Ortman Democratic		
Issue 1 To create an appointed redistricting commission not elected by or subject to removal by the voters of the state Proposed Constitutional Amendment Proposed by Initiative Petition To repeal Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10 of Article XI, Repeal sections 1, 2 and 3 of Article XIX, And enact Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 and 12 of Article XX of the Constitution of the State of Ohio A majority yes vote is necessary for the amendment to pass.		
The proposed amendment would:		
1. Repeal constitutional protections against gerrymandering approved by nearly three-quarters of Ohio electors participating in the statewide elections of 2015 and 2018, and eliminate the longstanding ability of Ohio citizens to hold their representatives accountable for establishing fair state legislative and congressional districts.		
2. Establish a new taxpayer-funded commission of appointees required to gerrymander the boundaries of state legislative and congressional districts to favor either of the two largest political parties in the state of Ohio, according to a formula based on partisan outcomes as the dominant factor, so that:		
A. Each district shall contain single-member districts that are geographically contiguous, but state legislative and congressional districts will no longer be required to be compact; and		
B. Counties, townships and cities throughout Ohio can be split and divided across multiple districts, and preserving communities of interest will be secondary to the formula that is based on partisan political outcomes.		
3. Require that a majority of the partisan commission members belong to the state's two largest political parties.		
4. Prevent a commission member from being removed, except by a vote of their fellow commission members, even for		
Nelsonville 1	01	Typ:01 Seq:0024

Continue Voting Next Page
Page 2 of 3

OFFICIAL GENERAL ELECTION BALLOT		
11	Athens County	General Election
12	November 5, 2024	
23 Proposed Ordinance (By Petition) City Of Nelsonville	19 Proposed Tax Levy (Renewal) Athens County	22 Proposed Tax Levy (Renewal) Athens County
A majority affirmative vote is necessary for passage.	A majority affirmative vote is necessary for passage.	A majority affirmative vote is necessary for passage.
21 Shall the Charter of the City of Nelsonville, Ohio, submitted to the Electors of the City of Nelsonville on November 8, 1994, which became effective January 1, 1995, and it's subsequent amendments, be abolished and return to the same form of government as it had prior to and up to January 1, 1995, to be effective January 1, 2026?	A renewal of a tax for the benefit of Athens County for the purpose of operating a tuberculosis clinic for care and treatment of tubercular residents that the county auditor estimates will collect \$213,000 annually, at a rate not exceeding 0.3 mill for each \$1 of taxable value, which amounts to \$4 for each \$100,000 of the county auditor's appraised value, for 5 years, commencing in 2025, first due in calendar year 2026.	A renewal of a tax for the benefit of Athens County for the purpose of supporting children services and the care, protection, and placement of abused, neglected and dependent children that the county auditor estimates will collect \$2,871,000 annually, at a rate not exceeding 3 mills for each \$1 of taxable value, which amounts to \$60 for each \$100,000 of the county auditor's appraised value, for 10 years, commencing in 2025, first due in calendar year 2026.
22 Upon approval of this initiative submitted to the electors of the City of Nelsonville at the general election on November 5, 2024, the election of all city offices which were required by the form of government of Nelsonville Ohio prior to January 1, 1995, shall be elected during the municipal elections of 2025. Those elected shall take office on January 1, 2026.	<input type="radio"/> For the Tax Levy <input type="radio"/> Against the Tax Levy	<input type="radio"/> For the Tax Levy <input type="radio"/> Against the Tax Levy
40 Shall the proposed ordinance to abolish charter and return to same form of government as it had prior be adopted?	20 Proposed Tax Levy (Renewal) Athens County	20 Proposed Tax Levy (Renewal) Athens County
41 <input type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO	A majority affirmative vote is necessary for passage.	A majority affirmative vote is necessary for passage.
42 15 Proposed Tax Levy (Renewal) York Township (Including Nelsonville City and Buchtel Village)	A renewal of a tax for the benefit of York Township (Including Nelsonville City and Buchtel Village) for the purpose of cemeteries operation and maintenance that the county auditor estimates will collect \$111,000 annually, at a rate not exceeding 1 mill for each \$1 of taxable value, which amounts to \$25 for each \$100,000 of the county auditor's appraised value, for 5 years, commencing in 2024, first due in calendar year 2025.	21 Proposed Tax Levy (Renewal) Athens County
43 <input type="radio"/> For the Tax Levy <input type="radio"/> Against the Tax Levy	<input type="radio"/> For the Tax Levy <input type="radio"/> Against the Tax Levy	A majority affirmative vote is necessary for passage.
54 17 Proposed Tax Levy (Replacement and Increase) Athens County	A replacement of 1.2 mills and an increase of 0.3 mill for each \$1 of taxable value to constitute a tax for the benefit of Athens County for the purpose of current expenses of the library that the county auditor estimates will collect \$2,175,000 annually, at a rate not exceeding 1.5 mills for each \$1 of taxable value, which amounts to \$47 for each \$100,000 of the county auditor's appraised value, for 5 years, commencing in 2024, first due in calendar year 2025.	<input type="radio"/> For the Tax Levy <input type="radio"/> Against the Tax Levy
55 <input type="radio"/> For the Tax Levy <input type="radio"/> Against the Tax Levy		
61 Nelsonville 1	01	Typ:02 Seq:0024

My Name
Auditor & Recorder
Lori M. Linn
Ohio Auditor of State

Board Members

Page 3 of 3

