RESOLUTION NO. CR-08-26

A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING ISSUE 2 – A 1-MIL PROPERTY TAX LEVY ASSISTING THE SOUTHWEST PUBLIC LIBRARIES

WHEREAS, on April 01, 2025, the Ohio House of Representatives introduced a budget that eliminates the Public Library Fund and replaces it with a line-item appropriation that calls for $100 million less for libraries than what was planned in Governor DeWine's proposed budget; and

WHEREAS, Southwest Public Libraries depends on the Public Library Fund for over 61% of its total revenue; and

WHEREAS, in 2024, State funding for Ohio's Public Libraries was cut by $27 million, bringing it back to the level of the 2000 appropriation. This means libraries are operating on the same amount of money as a quarter of a century ago; and

WHEREAS, the State cuts, along with the SW library levy defeat in November, 2024, have forced the library to cut library hours and dismiss staff; and

WHEREAS, Ohio's Libraries continue to evolve, adapt and innovate, keeping pace with the community's needs. Hundreds of thousands of visitors are provided access to materials, technology and programs that support lifelong learning, workforce development, and community connection; and

WHEREAS, supporting this Levy helps ensure continued access to:

- Books, audiobooks, and other digital resources
- Public computers, printing and free Wi-Fi
- Educational, cultural, and recreational programming for all ages
- Early literacy initiatives and learning support for families
- Job search assistance, reference services, and tech help
- Free meeting rooms and community gathering spaces

WHEREAS, at a cost less than the average Netflix subscription, this Levy will strengthen Southwest Public Library's long-term financial stability.

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

SECTION 1. We, the Council and Mayor, hereby support Issue 2 – a 1-mil Levy for the Southwest Public Libraries, and sincerely urge the voters of Grove City to vote Yes on May 05, 2026.

SECTION 2. This resolution shall take effect at the earliest opportunity allowed by law.

Randy L Holt - Temp Chair
Ted A. Berry, President of Council

Richard L. Stage
Richard L. Stage, Mayor

Passed: 03-16-26
Effective: 03-16-26

Attest: Tami K Kelly
Tami K. Kelly, MMC, Clerk of Council

I certify that this resolution is correct as to form

SJS
Stephen J. Smith, Director of Law