Special Council Meeting Monday, September 11, 2023 5:00 P.M.

Edinburgh Town Council met in a special session on Monday, September 11, 2023, at 5:00 P.M. at the Town Hall, 107 South Holland Street, Edinburgh, Indiana.

Vice President Dawn Graham called the meeting to order.

Members answering roll call: Councilwoman Debbie Buck, Councilwoman Miriam Rooks, Councilman Jeff Simpson, and Vice President Dawn Graham. Also present were Clerk-Treasurer Scott Finley, Town Attorney Dustin Huddleston, and Town Manager Kevin McGinnis. President Ryan Piercefield was absent.

**Budget Workshop** — Clerk-Treasurer Scott Finley presented a PowerPoint to the council regarding the state of the 2024 budget. He said historically the town has overbudgeted and underspent. The total budget has been inflated by about 10% or approximately \$400,000. The department heads have been great at cash management but inflate their budgets for what-ifs. He believes we need to sit down and discuss the actual cost required to run each department.

Mr. Finley showed a graph showing the history of the general fund budget and cash balance. He explained that in a perfect world the adopted budget and actual disbursements would line up perfectly. On the graph, the actual disbursements were always under the approved budget. This leads to the cash balance increasing consistently.

Mr. Finley showed a chart of the tax rate over the last 10 years. He explained that if the assessed value exceeds the growth quotient, the tax rate will go down. He showed a graph showing assessed value and tax rates.

Mr. Finley presented the proposed Form 4 for 2024 showing adopted budgets, levy, and tax rate. He said the council has a couple of options going forward. The first is to adopt as presented. The current budget is fundable but not sustainable long term if we spend the entire budget. Budgeting for what-ifs ties up funds that could be used in other departments. With this budget, we will have difficult decisions to make in the near future. The other option is a long-term process. It included re-working all budgets to real spending. This will involve a lot of meetings with council members and updating our capital spending plan. This will free up unused dollars to be used in other places.

The council agreed that the budgets needed to be re-worked in the coming years.

Copies of the preliminary budgets can be accessed at the Town Hall, 107 South Holland Street, Edinburgh, IN.

Being no further business or comments, Councilman Simpson made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Councilwoman Graham seconded. Motion carried.

EDINBURGH TOWN COUNCIL

Ryan Piercefield President

Dawn Graham, Vice President

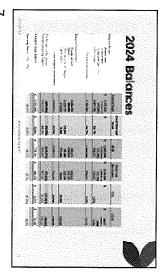
Debbie Buck

Miriam Rooks

Jeff Simpson

ATTEST:

Scott Finley, Clerk-Treasurer

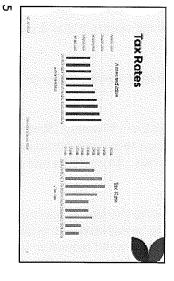


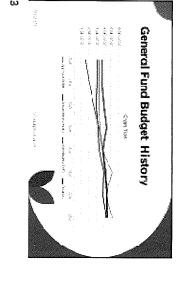




2024 Budget Discussion

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