

Special Council Meeting
Monday, August 10, 2015
6:40 P.M. Town Hall

Edinburgh Town Council met in a special session on Monday, August 10, 2015 at 6:40 P.M. at the Town Hall, 107 South Holland Street, Edinburgh, Indiana.

President Hoffman called the meeting to order.

Members present were: Councilman Jack Shepherd, Councilman Jeff Simpson, Councilwoman Dawn Graham, Vice President Kami Ervin, and President Ron Hoffman. Also present were Town Attorney Dustin Huddleston and Clerk Treasurer Scott Finley.

President Hoffman said the purpose of the meeting was to discuss the 2016 budgets with the different department heads.

Clerk Treasurer Finley said he handed out a packet to the council members with all of the department preliminary 2016 budgets as well as a worksheet showing the town's overall budget. He said he will have 2015 adopted budgets projected on the screen for comparison. He asked Allen Smith to start by presenting the Fire and EMS budgets.

Mr. Smith started by saying there are two things he would like to do for 2016. Both would be split between Fire and EMS. He would like to add a 3 person to work regular hours at the station. Their run load has grown and it is difficult for just two people to manage and the volunteer base is dwindling and unavailable most times during the day. That person would start out at \$12.50 per hour. The 2016 preliminary budget reflects that addition. The other thing he wanted to do was purchase an additional used pick-up for the department. He had budgeted \$26,000 for that, \$13,000 in each budget. The overall increase from 2015 for Fire was \$15,395 and for EMS was \$33,845.

Mr. Finley said the Fire and EMS NRO account does transfer money to the General Fund to offset some of the Fire and EMS costs. Specifically, in the past, enough was transferred to cover the medical billing as well as the fire truck and ambulance payments.

Parks Director Daniel Teter presented the Aquatic Center, Buildings and Grounds, and Park and Recreation budgets. He handed out a sheet showing the changes from 2015 to 2016. He started with Buildings and Grounds. The total budget projection was \$274,850, up \$11,650 from 2015. The major increase was \$10,000 added to the part time line item.

Councilwoman Ervin said she has had a lot of questions about how much the town actually spends on plants.

Mr. Teter said the town spends around \$10,000 a year on plants and another \$13,000 on landscaping materials.

Councilwoman Graham asked if the beds were planted with annuals or perennials.

Mr. Teter said the beds are planted with annuals as they have more color and stand out more. It is hard to find perennials with same colors as the annuals. He said in his opinion the flowers make the town look nice.

He moved on to the Aquatic Center. The proposed budget was \$193,440. He said 2015 was the first year the pool operated with a drastically shortened schedule because of the schools balanced scheduling. The overall increase from 2015 to 2016 was only \$2,200. The reason for the increase is the raise in sewer rates. The pool has a large water and sewer bill so the increase was significant.

He then moved on to the Park and Recreation budget. The proposed budget was \$348,741 with an overall increase of \$21,806. He said he included a \$13,000 park improvements line item to hopefully maintain equipment and possibly get some new equipment at the parks.

Mr. Finley said this is the second year of trying to keep the Parks budget low to attempt to grow the operating balance. In the previous years the fund was running far into the hole and that is not the way we want a fund to operate.

Timbergate General Manager Wayne Gibbs presented the preliminary budget for the golf course. He gave the council a handout showing the budget increases and decreases. The proposed budget for 2016 was \$447,930, an increase of \$12,370 from 2015. The main increase for the golf course was the utilities

line item. The equipment repairs line item was also increased. As the mowers and other equipment get older it requires more maintenance.

Street Superintendent Curtis Rooks presented the Street department budget. Mr. Finley said this budget will most likely be changing over the course of the next few weeks as he and Mr. Rooks find out how the money needs to be distributed.

Mr. Rooks said he is new to the department's budget and will be able to see better where money needs to be distributed as he gets more acclimated to the position. The preliminary budget for 2016 was \$687,422, a \$133,014 increase from 2015. \$100,000 of that was added to improvements to streets as the department is planning for a lot more street repairs in 2016.

Police Chief David Mann presented the Police Department's preliminary budget. The preliminary budget was \$1,250,842. The increase from 2015 was \$82,804. The biggest increase was \$62,000 for the addition of new police cruisers. This is to attempt to get on a 5 year rotation for all police vehicles. Some of the current vehicles are up to 9 years old and while the mileage may not be extraordinarily high, they have hard miles on them. The other increase in the budget was in the wages line item. The increase for personnel was \$25,982. This increase is to get the officers wages more in line with other departments in the area. Chief Mann gave the council a sheet showing the pay range for other agencies in the area. Overall he was asking for a 5% raise for the officers.

Councilwoman Ervin asked if instead of a 5% increase would it be better to give 3% and some bonuses that other departments give out.

Chief Mann said there is merit in that however the town's police department does not have many specialty positions to pay bonuses for.

President Hoffman said he believes 5% is a small price to pay as the officers are risking their lives every day to protect and serve the town. You also do not want lose good officers after you have sent them through academy because they can get more money at another department.

Cemetery Sexton John Hoskinson presented the preliminary budget for the Cemetery. The increase from 2015 was \$267,541. \$250,000 of the increase was in the capital outlays line item for a new office space for the cemetery. Mr. Hoskinson said he realized that number would be cut but this is a good time to think about what will need to be done in the coming years.

Councilwoman Ervin asked what the office area was used for at the cemetery.

Mr. Hoskinson said he uses the office for grave sales and for helping people cope after the loss of a loved one. The current office was remodeled about 15 years ago but it is attached to a garage that will not last a whole lot longer.

Mr. Hoskinson said he also wanted to present an increase in cemetery fees. He handed out a proposed fee schedule to the council. The cemetery has not had an increase in many years. A slight increase would help increase revenue in the town and offset the general fund's tax dollars.

Mr. Finley said he would be presenting the remaining budgets. He presented the sanitation budget next. This budget is operating at the minimum it can operate on barring the implementation of a trash removal user fee. The preliminary budget was \$294,212, a \$10,157 increase from 2015. One increase was a permit renewal that has been paid from the Wastewater fund in the past but since it is for solid waste it should be paid from the sanitation budget. The other increase was the standard increase form Rumpke as stated in the contract.

He continued with the Local Roads and Street budget. He said this budget is based on revenues from the state. The preliminary budget was \$109,285.

The CCI budget is also based on revenues from the state. The preliminary budget for CCI was \$28,826 and the preliminary budget for the CCD was \$73,294.

Mr. Finley said for the Clerk Treasurer budget and the Town Council budget he did some rearranging to simplify the budgets. The preliminary budget for the Clerk Treasurer was \$78,883, a decrease of \$12,071 from 2015. This decrease came mostly from moving some expenses to the council budget.

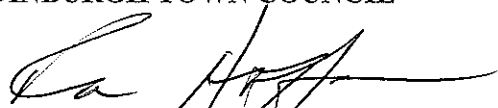
The preliminary budget for the council was \$393,254. The increase from 2015 was \$36,096 of which the majority came from moving a portion of the Town Manager's pay to the council. Because the Director of Utilities position was changed to Town Manager, it makes sense that a portion of his pay should come from the General fund as well as the three utilities.

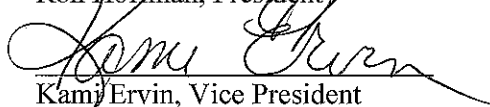
Mr. Finley said he would explain the budget work paper he had given to the council. The paper is a look at the overall budget for the town. It shows the beginning balances for each fund, the receipts and disbursements for those funds, and the ending balances. He said the DLGF should approve budget as presented as it does not take in to account circuit breakers. However the budget is still approximately \$650,000 out of balance. In order to have a balanced budget, the town would need to cut that \$650,000 from the expenses. He said he would be working with Dan Hedden at Umbaugh to get his thoughts on the budget and his projections on ending cash balances.

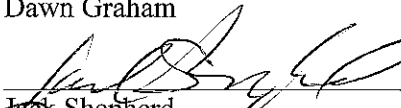
Councilwoman Ervin made a motion to accept the preliminary budget numbers as presented. Councilman Simpson seconded. Unanimous.

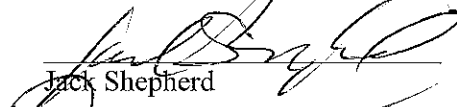
Being no further business or comments, Councilman Simpson made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Councilwoman Ervin seconded. Unanimous.

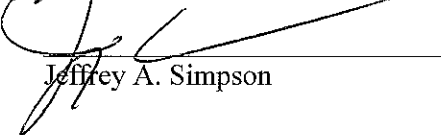
EDINBURGH TOWN COUNCIL


Ron Hoffman, President


Kami Ervin, Vice President


Dawn Graham


Jack Shepherd


Jeffrey A. Simpson

ATTEST:


Scott Finley, Clerk-Treasurer