

**EDMORE VILLAGE COUNCIL
BUDGET HEARING AND SPECIAL MEETING
APPROVED JOURNAL OF MINUTES
FEBRUARY 26, 2018**

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** The special session of the Village of Edmore Council was called to order on Monday, February 26, 2018, at 7:00 p.m. in the Curtis Community Building by **President Art Schuitema**.
2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
3. **ROLL CALL:** Members Present –**Ashbaugh, Burr, Davis, Deja, Hadley, Kohn, Schuitema**. Also present were: **Elaine Leak** – Village Treasurer, **Michelle Leak-Rensland** – Village Clerk, **Neil Rankin** – Village Manager.
4. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** Motion by **Hadley** to accept the agenda as printed, supported by **Ashbaugh**. MOTION PASSES 7-0.
5. **PRESENTATION:** **Neil Rankin** presented the highlights of the 2018-2019 proposed budget. He included information about proposed millage rate increases.
6. **PUBLIC HEARING: Fiscal Year 2018-2019 Budget**

Schuitema opened a public hearing concerning the proposed 2018-2019 budget at 7:17 P.M.

Members Present: **Ashbaugh, Burr, Davis, Deja, Hadley, Kohn, Schuitema**.

Public Comments:

- a. Mrs. Drain: Millage rates and budget adjustments should be done more than once a year. Could cut back on capital improvements, some projects can wait. Look into special assessments to charge affected residents for updates. Closing office on Friday will save no money unless cutting hours. Just increased millage and now council wants more. Older residents don't have the ability to take over tasks suggested by proposed cuts.
- b. Mr. Macklin: Money was spent on Bag Factory that could have funded the proposed cuts. Council needs to be responsible for spending. Four years of deficit spending is not acceptable.
- c. Ms. Dodson: Previous clerks have run the Village Office without assistance. Deficit spending for multiple years is not good. Too many equipment costs, legal fees. Council is not questioning drainage of funds.
- d. Mr. Rasmussen: Money spent on new tractor was supposed to save time, but now cutting services? People are having trouble with trash containers, another company offered a 5-year contract with no increases. Council is now proposing increasing the rubbish millage. Residents see ways of saving money while the council doesn't.

Schuitema closed the public hearing at 7:30 P.M.

7. NEW BUSINESS:

- a. 2017-2018 BUDGET AMENDMENTS – Motion by **Hadley** to approve the 2017-2018 Budget Adjustments, supported by **Deja**. Discussion: **Rankin** presented adjustments to be made. This is based on what is budgeted in comparison to money actually spent. ROLL CALL VOTE: YES – **Ashbaugh, Davis, Deja, Hadley, Kohn, Schuitema**. NO: **Burr**. MOTION PASSES 6-1.
- b. 2018-2019 BUDGET RESOLUTION – Motion by **Hadley** to accept the 2018-2019 Budget Resolution as printed, supported by **Ashbaugh**. Discussion: **Deja** – Surprised to see cutting office hours in budget, was discussed in committee but no action taken. Could change Laura’s hours to T, TH, F to help cover office. Employees are getting a good deal at 8% for insurance. **Burr**: Insurance increase for this year is 17%, employees should pay more so village doesn’t have to cover the difference. **Rankin**: Insurance rates are changing due to family situations changing. Increase will bring village to same payments as 2 years ago. Village provides good insurance, as our employees have no legacy costs or benefits when leaving. We have lower wages compared to surrounding area. **Kohn**: Costs changing due to insurance pool changing. **Ashbaugh**: How does adding dependents to one policy affect others? **Rankin**: No changes for others. We can look at different plans in the future. **Burr**: DPW has multiple lines with same description, why? Some money is not placed in the correct categories. **Rankin**: Money can be separated out as services are filled. Council will have to approve each contract that is presented. **Kohn**: Leaf pick-up costs? **Rankin**: Hours have been freed by only needing one person. Need to monitor usage, same with chipping. **Burr**: We are charging the Equipment Fund for operational hours. **Rankin**: Receiving less revenue from state, services cost more. People don’t want higher taxes but want the services. ***Deja left the meeting at 7:55 due to a family emergency.* ROLL CALL VOTE: YES – **Ashbaugh, Davis, Hadley, Schuitema**. NO – **Burr, Kohn**. MOTION PASSES 4-2.
- c. 2018-2019 MILLAGE RATE RESOLUTION – Motion by **Hadley** to adopt Resolution 2018-1 to increase millage rates to 2.2520 for rubbish and 10.9387 for general operations, supported by **Ashbaugh**. Discussion: **Davis** – Are we paying for the cans sitting at empty houses? **Rankin**: People owning those properties are still paying taxes for the cans. **Burr**: Total Increase? **Rankin**: Determined by number of houses multiplied by rate of service. Current contract is for 400 houses. Average resident will pay about \$4.69 per month after \$1.36 increase, average cost is \$56.28 per year. Major portion of rubbish costs are covered by downtown businesses which do not receive services. ROLL CALL VOTE: YES – **Ashbaugh, Davis, Deja, Hadley, Kohn, Schuitema**. NO – **Burr**. MOTION PASSES 5-1.

- 8. MOTION TO ADJOURN:** Motion by **Hadley** to adjourn the meeting, support by **Ashbaugh**. Meeting adjourned at 8:26 p.m.



Village Clerk



Village President

Approved for Publication