

**Enrolled Minutes of the Seventieth-Fifth Regular Meeting or Special Meeting
For the Twenty-Ninth Highland Town Council
Regular Plenary Business Meeting (Electronic/In person Hybrid)
Monday, September 19, 2022**

The Twenty-Ninth Town Council of the Town of Highland, Lake County, Indiana met in a special plenary session on Monday, September 19, 2022 at 7:00 O'clock P.M. in the regular place, the Highland Municipal Building, 3333 Ridge Road, Highland, Indiana.

*This meeting was convened as both an in person and an electronic meeting. Some persons were participating remotely on a Zoom platform that allowed for real time interaction, and supported the public's ability to observe and record the proceedings. People were able to participate in person and remotely. When the agenda item provided for public comment, this was supported as well. Councilor Bernie Zemen,, Councilor Toya Smith, Councilor Tom Black, Councilor Roger Sheeman all participated in person.

Pursuant to HMC Section 2.05.130(A)(2), the Town Council considered and reviewed the agenda in an informal proceeding in the plenary meeting room before the president called the meeting to order.

The Town Council President Bernie Zemen presided. The Town Clerk-Treasurer, Mark Herak, was present to memorialize the proceedings. The meeting was opened with Councilor Bernie Zemen Sheeman reciting the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

Roll Call: Present on roll call were Councilors Bernie Zemen, Toya Smith, Mark Schocke, Thomas Black, Roger Sheeman and Clerk-Treasurer, Mark Herak were present. A quorum was attained.

Additional Officials Present: Edward Dabrowski, Director of Information Technology; John Reed, Attorney with Abrahamson, Reed & Bilse were present.

Guests: Theresa Badovich (remotely) and Robin Carlascio (remotely) of the Idea Factory were also present.

Minutes of the Previous Meetings:

Special Orders:

- 1. Ratify the Meeting. Ratify the special meeting with its additional purposes, pursuant to HMC Section 2.05.130(A) (4) and Section 2.05.130(F).**

Councilor Sheeman moved to ratify the Highland Town Council Special Plenary Meeting of September 19, 2022 to intro only, the Highland Civil Town Budget; the Highland Sanitary District Fund; and the Highland Water District Fund. Councilor Black seconded. Upon a roll call vote of the elected officials, there were five (5) affirmatives and 0 negatives. The motion passed and the meeting was ratified.

- 2. Pre-Adoption Hearing of the Proposed Fiscal Year 2023 Budget for the Town of Highland.**

(a) Acknowledgement of Publication: *(Under current law, no publication by unit just by Department of Local Government Finance online Gateway. The proposed components of budget must be submitted to the Gateway at least 10 days before the Preliminary Hearing. The proposed budget notice was filed with the Gateway on September 8, 2022) (See IC 6-1.1-17-3) It was noted that the budget was filed as proposed in the Gateway portal on September 8, 2022. The Town Council should take its final action at its meeting of October 10, 2022.*

- (b) Introduction of **Proposed Ordinance No. 1768**: An Ordinance of Appropriations and Budget Levies and Rates for the 2023 Budget of the Civil Town. Councilor Sheeman introduced and filed the proposed ordinance. There was no further action pursuant to I.C. 6-1.1-17-3(a); I.C. 6-1.1-17-5(a)(8) and I.C. 36-5-3-4.

ORDINANCE OR RESOLUTION FOR APPROPRIATIONS AND TAX RATES

State Form 55865 (7-15)
Approved by the State Board of Accounts, 2015

Budget Form No. 4

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Ordinance / Resolution Number: 1768

Funds				
Fund Code	Fund Name	Adopted Budget	Adopted Tax Levy	Adopted Tax Rate
0101	GENERAL	\$9,462,788	\$6,466,780	0.7301
0180	DEBT SERVICE	\$778,000	\$559,382	0.0631
0254	LOCAL INCOME TAX	\$662,750	\$0	0.0000
0342	POLICE PENSION	\$849,441	\$2,658	0.0003
0706	LOCAL ROAD & STREET	\$419,139	\$0	0.0000
0708	MOTOR VEHICLE HIGHWAY	\$990,609	\$0	0.0000
1151	CONTINUING EDUCATION	\$64,000	\$0	0.0000
1301	PARK & RECREATION	\$2,686,741	\$1,348,630	0.1523
1380	PARK BOND	\$973,800	\$1,247,649	0.1409
2379	CUMULATIVE CAPITAL IMP (CIG TAX)	\$53,000	\$0	0.0000
2391	CUMULATIVE CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT	\$918,035	\$645,874	0.0464
2411	ECONOMIC DEV INCOME TAX CREDIT	\$630,000	\$0	0.0000
2430	REDEVELOPMENT - GENERAL	\$346,870	\$314,902	0.0356
2482	REDEVELOPMENT BOND	\$217,263	\$228,537	0.0258
6421	DISTRICT SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT	\$192,725	\$0	0.0000
		\$19,245,161	\$10,814,412	1.1945

Home-Ruled Funds (Not Reviewed by DLGF)

Fund Code	Fund Name	Adopted Budget
9500	Information & Communication Technology Fund	\$358,618
9501	VIPS/Park Public Safety Fund	\$6,000

Be it 9502 Special Events Non-Reverting

\$98,600

\$463,218

ordained/resolved by the **Highland Town Council** that for the expenses of **HIGHLAND CIVIL TOWN** for the year ending December 31, **2023** the sums herein specified are hereby appropriated and ordered set apart out of the several funds herein named and for the purposes herein specified, subject to the laws governing the same. Such sums herein appropriated shall be held to include all expenditures authorized to be made during the year, unless otherwise expressly stipulated and provided for by law. In addition, for the purposes of raising revenue to meet the necessary expenses of **HIGHLAND CIVIL TOWN**, the property tax levies and property tax rates as herein specified are included herein. Budget Form 4-B for all funds must be completed and submitted in the manner prescribed by the Department of Local Government Finance.

This ordinance/resolution shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage and approval by the **Highland Town Council**.

Name of Adopting Entity / Fiscal Body

Type of Adopting Entity / Fiscal Body

Date of Adoption

Highland Town Council

Town Council

10/10/2022

ORDINANCE OR RESOLUTION FOR APPROPRIATIONS AND TAX RATES

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Prescribed by the Department of Local Government Finance

Name		Signature
Bernie Zemen	Aye <input type="checkbox"/> Nay <input type="checkbox"/> Abstain <input type="checkbox"/>	
Toya Smith	Aye <input type="checkbox"/> Nay <input type="checkbox"/> Abstain <input type="checkbox"/>	
Mark Schocke	Aye <input type="checkbox"/> Nay <input type="checkbox"/> Abstain <input type="checkbox"/>	
Thomas Black	Aye <input type="checkbox"/> Nay <input type="checkbox"/> Abstain <input type="checkbox"/>	
Roger Sheeman	Aye <input type="checkbox"/> Nay <input type="checkbox"/> Abstain <input type="checkbox"/>	

ATTEST

Name	Title	Signature
Mark Herak	Clerk-Treasurer	

MAYOR ACTION (For City use only)

Name		Signature	Date
	Approve <input type="checkbox"/> Veto <input type="checkbox"/>		

In accordance with IC 6-1.1-17-16(k), we state our intent to issue debt after December 1 and before January 1

Yes No

In accordance with IC 6-1.1-17-16(k), we state our intent to file a shortfall appeal after December 1 and before December 31

Yes No

Pursuant to IC 6-1.1-17 et seq., consideration of the proposed ordinance for adoption cannot take place sooner than ten (10) days following the pre-adoption hearing. Consideration for passage and adoption of the Proposed Ordinance will be at the regular meeting of the Town Council, Monday, October 10, 2022 at 7:00 p.m.

(c) **Public Hearing.** The Town Council President called the hearing to order.

Larry Kondrat, Highland, said the Town Civil Budget will be approximately \$19M and the amount raised from property taxes be about \$10M and I noticed that the Information and Technology Department is far being a \$100,000 item and is now \$358,000 which is not shabby budget for a one man show. He then asked Councilor Smith if anyone ever sent her the contract for the new Redevelopment Director. Councilor Smith responded in the affirmative. He asked Councilor Smith why she had to ask for the contract at a public meeting rather than receiving it at the same time as everyone else. He then he asked about the Redevelopment Debt from the 2014 Bond issue which matures in 2024. He wanted to know if this what was left over the Kennedy Park Apartment deal with Hammond. He was advised that it wasn't but was from the Downtown bond. He then asked the Council to zero out the Redevelopment Budget of \$346,000 until the Council can get these people back in line. You have a rogue organization running around here doing their own thing. They hired someone and now are set to hire another. Did the Commission ask you? The communications went through a private email. Attorney Reed sent it out under his private email, leaving off the 2 democrats. If Mr. Reed sent this email from his private email account, how many other Town Council emails has he sent out via his private server. Did he do the same with Councilor Sheeman on the Russell project, a project nobody really wants. To Councilor Smith he said don't feel excluded. My representative Councilor Schocke was excluded many times. When he tried to ask questions about the Russell project, the project Councilor Sheeman said he would negotiate, Council Schocke was told it was a secret. This all comes from the skull druggy from the Redevelopment Commission. Zero out their budget and keep the tax levy.

Councilor Black asked Mr. Kondrat to quit referring to the Redevelop Commission as these people. They are representatives of the Community.

Mr. Kondrat responded that this is a rogue Commission and this will continue until you bring them under control. Zero out their budget, get them under control or disband them. These people are out of control. They've been out of control and they need to be brought back into control.

Councilor Schocke asked if the Redevelopment Commission hires a person, do they have to notify the Council, as the Police Commission would do if the Chief decided to retire and another is hired. They would actually go through the Council, just like the Water Board did before passing a rate hike. They wanted to talk with the Council first. The same with the Park Board. They always ask our opinion. Every other Board or Commission asks our opinion.

Councilor Sheeman added, that per statute, they are an independent board with the exception of when it comes to the budget and additional appropriations which the Council must approve.

The Clerk-Treasurer added that once the Council adopts the Redevelopment Budget, the Redevelopment Commission can do as they please with the budget.

Terry Steagal, Highland, as far as the Redevelopment Commission, dismantling them is not the solution. There is always room for improvement. Highland is not a brand-new Town, and the Redevelopment Commission is one of the ways to facilitate. Highland has been known a friendly Town but so far we are not a friendly Town to work in. The other question I have is with the Police Department. There is an 8% raise built into the budget which is fine but where are the funds coming from? The other question, how does the FOP feel about the proposed salary? Has the Town been negotiating with them? I'm assuming that the FOP has informed the Town Council that they agree with the salary proposal. The FOP was trying to address equity, retention and recruitment. The Council has to be seeing the turnover. How are you going to facilitate all these things in the future and remain on an equal basis with the other towns and cities. How will we be able to recruit people. In listening to the budget process, I don't think these issues have been addressed. I think further conversations need to take place between the Council and the FOP. I think it is important that you work out an agreement. The other thing is the wheel tax, which the Town has failed to pass, even though they talked about it. This year, we were able to do \$850,000 is road repairs with a matching grant from the State. If we had a wheel tax, that money allocated out of the budget for the grant could be applied to other departments and the

wheel tax could be used as the Town's matching portion. Part of the money could then go to increase the pay of the school crossing guards.

The Clerk-Treasurer reminded the Council that State Law only requires to a meet and greet with the FOP which the Council has already done and the President of the FOP, was given a copy of the budget book. He further added, the Council can make any changes to the budgets proposed tonight. They can add, take away and then at the October 10th meeting, reverse everything they did tonight.

Councilor Smith then asked to be recognized and made a motion that the budget of Redevelopment Budget be reduced to \$0, excluding the levy. Councilor Schocke seconded.

Discussion:

Councilor Black wondered if this is the appropriate time to reduce their budget and shouldn't the Council listen to the members that appeared at our meeting tonight. See if there's some common ground we could find, and then, like Mr. Herak said, we can reduce it between now and the October 10th. We got till October tenth to work this out and come up with a compromise solution that might work best for everyone. We should let them speak.

Commission Member Georgeff said we came here to answer questions regarding the budget. He added that you can zero out our budget but it doesn't mean that the money goes to the General Fund. It goes to unappropriated balance. Our budget is based upon a tax levy. You cannot eliminate the entire capital budget because there's a bond payment due from there.

Attorney Reed said the motion was to eliminate the budget and retain the levy.

Councilor Smith said that is why I motion to reduce everything but the levy.

The Clerk-Treasurer said the Capital Budget is not found in Gateway but is funded through additional appropriations. The Capital Budget has line items for tree trimming, demolition of buildings, façade improvements, consultant fees, land acquisition. It does not require to be re-appropriated each year.

Councilor Schocke said I have to say I've been disappointed by the lack of process with the Redevelopment Commission in the past year. Frankly, I can't think of anything that has been done in 2022 to really move our town forward in terms of redevelopment. The only thing that I can think of is, we got rid of the Sip building, which I think is good idea to basically not own property and put it back on the tax rolls. That makes sense. Frankly, everything else. I've not seen a whole lot of action or movement from the Redevelopment Commission. I've been kind of dissatisfied with what's been happening, when I would hear updates on what's going on with Redevelopment, we would just hear, oh, we're doing a crawl, and this is what's on the menu, and literally nothing else. So, I have to wonder, why are we spending, you know, close to half a million dollars? I mean, maybe it's three hundred and forty thousand if you exclude the bond payment. But why are we spending that much money just to have a crawl once a month? The other thought that I had is that it's my understanding that you're hiring a Redevelopment Director. You're not even consulting the Council at all, and literally every other Board and Commission in this Town does, whether required or not, actually comes here and runs it by the Council. We've got none of that here. I don't know who you've selected. I've never met this person. I know nothing about them functionally other than Mr. Georgeff you work with this person in the same office.

Mr. Georgeff responded, she's here tonight.

Councilor Schocke said that's fine but to me it seems to be a little bit like cronyism like saying, Hey, look, this is my coworker. I'm providing them a spot a slot here,

George responded, we are not co-workers but independent contractors and I am familiar with her work in East Chicago and Hammond. She was the Redevelopment Director in East Chicago. She was the Housing Director for Hammond. We had hired Lance Ryskamp as the new Redevelopment Director and after the treatment Kathy was receiving at these Council meetings, he took another job for lessor pay. He didn't want to have to deal with all this. As for getting things done, I hope Mr. Black has shared with you our goals and objectives and what we've accomplished. I'll tell you one thing that I was on and that was downtown where the old Calumet National Bank was. I wanted to get that area redone, so that additional cars could park there because our businesses are lacking parking. I talked with Mark Knesek and the Traffic Safety Committee about it. In the meantime, the Library Board decided they are going to redo the entire parking lot after we originally agreed to pay for some of the concrete work. It will eliminate that orange snow fence.

Councilor Schocke said we invited the Commission to a meeting and nobody came. We wanted the Commission to come in and discuss our concerns and nobody ever took us up on it.

Commissioner Georgeff said no one invited us.

Commissioner Conley said this is the meeting we were advised to attend.

Councilor Schocke said I assumed Tom was communicating it to you?

Commissioner Georgeff told Councilor Schocke that you met with Commissioner Robertson to discuss some issues. In fact, I called you and you never called me back. When we were at the golf outing you even apologized to me for not calling me back.

Councilor Schocke said you told me it wasn't a big deal and don't worry about it. The issue was over.

Councilor Black responded that I did reach out to the Commissioners to attend a meeting. I think there may have been a miscommunication as I would say during a Redevelopment Meeting, the Council would like to hear your input. There seems to be some hesitancy to come before the Council and get berated.

Councilor Schocke said it not my intent to berate anyone. It's merely just to communicate here that I've frankly not been satisfied with the work that's been done, and I don't like it. I don't like the fact that we weren't consulted about the new Redevelopment Director. I think that it's just common courtesy and I don't like what's been done up to this point.

Commissioner Georgeff said he would gladly resign. For the \$40 I receive each month I will gladly resign. I was asked to come here from the Water Board. I agreed to help. The \$40 are not going to break me. In fact, it's only \$32 after taxes. I find it interesting that once I left the Water Board, the rates went up.

Councilor Schocke said that we have our departments head at every Council meeting, either in person or on zoom. They give an update to the Council events that are happening. Over the last year, all I can recall from Redevelopment is the selling of the SIP building and the crawls. We got no substantive update from Redevelopment.

Commissioner Georgeff countered saying that we gave the Council a presentation on the Bult Fuel Oil property. We found someone who was willing to buy it. They came up with a plan and implemented that plan.

Councilor Schocke said he doesn't recall that off the top of his head.

Commissioner Georgeff brought up the bicycle racks by SIP that was initiated by Redevelopment.

Councilor Schocke said I'm not sure that it was initiated there. I think, we actually started the process at the Park Board, and we actually reached out to Redevelopment. Either way, it was my understanding that it was brought up in the Park Board and reached out to Redevelopment. I'm just saying that I know that Carlos Aburto is very passionate about cycling and that was kind of his pet project.

Councilor Sheeman reminded the Council of the State code, for whatever reason created the Redevelopment Commission. It made it generally independent of the Councils, except for bonding, adopting their budgets and additional appropriations. So, it's pretty independent part of the town government. It was created by the State. Its in the law. Its in the code. You can read it. I don't disagree that there could probably have been more communication. But I can tell you, working the previous Redevelopment Director, there was so much vilification of her personally at these meetings, it was impossible for her to discuss anything at these meetings without being vilified. I mean she was treated terribly by some on this Council and the public here. That's the reason she quit. The way she was treated was terrible. When I was the liaison, I urged the Commission to sell off properties and they did. They sold off several properties. The animosity and hate toward Redevelopment were out there. I'm hearing this is the first time they've been asked to come to a meeting. Did somebody send them a formal e-mail asking them to come to a meeting. I'm assuming the Liaison did. I don't know for sure. You're not looking this from a practical point of view but making it way to personal.

Councilor Smith started to say something but Councilor Sheeman said he wasn't finished yet.

Councilor Sheeman continued if you just want to arbitrarily eliminate some of their budget, that is not rational. I mean, it is a knee jerk reaction. I think you should rather make a relationship with them. With a new Director on board, this is the time to do it. Have the Director and a Commission member attend our Council meetings.

Commissioner Georgeff said we know we all serve at the pleasure of the Council and I know our members reached out to you Mr. Schocke, in particular Alex.

Councilor Schocke said I did talk with Alex but it wasn't specifically about the hiring of any individual. I talk with him all the time. I go to his business. We're friends. In the end, you are serving at our pleasure. You merely have voting authority for us and I guess if you are going to stay and serve, I guess there needs to be a way to work together. And we've asked from time to time to bring to the Council, issues that you are interested in accomplishing, something we can work with you on and get it done.

Commissioner Georgeff said this Town will not grow unless you redevelop. The assessed value that Jim Higgins spoke about is 13% because the price of homes has escalated over the last couple of years. Like he said, two years from now, you may see that come down. The only way this Town's assessed value is going to grow is through Redevelopment. Your Commission has to be strong and encourage businesses to come to Highland. I've met with Kathy and the developer for Ultra Foods. All they want to do is suck money out of the building and put some self-storage.

Councilor Schocke point out that the developer was sitting behind Commissioner Georgeff.

Commissioner Georgeff continued that I think you would agree with me that we need to attract businesses that are going to increase the Town's assessed value. By putting Bults Fuel back on the tax rolls, property taxes are generated. We serve at the pleasure of the Council and we're here to serve the Town and do the best we can. Let's work together.

Council Smith said she wanted to thank Councilor Sheeman for saying what he did and be critical of Councilor Black to sit there and act like the Council wanting to meet with the Redevelopment Commission never came up. To act like it never came up about wanting to meet with them regarding the hiring of a new Redevelopment Director, shame on you. It came up multiple times in our conversations wanting to meet with the Redevelopment Commission. You even

said yourself, you invited them to come to the meeting and now we hear, they said they were never invited. Shame on your Mr. Black for telling the Council you invited the Redevelopment Commission to come to a meeting when in fact, they said you didn't. I'm happy they are here today because I never met them before. They are sitting there, having no clue what I'm talking about because you never expressed the Council's concerns to them, even though you said you did. And then you sit here and act as if it was never talked about at the Council.

Maria Becerra then spoke. Councilor Black did ask me to attend tonight so that the Council could meet me. My name is Maria Becerra. I've been here in the Town of Highland since 1984. I've raised my family here. If anyone from the Council would like to meet with me, my door is open. They said the budget was going to be on the agenda. Like I said, my door is always open. If you'd like to call me or stop by to visit and I'll show you the annual reports that are submitted every year by the Redevelopment Director. I've been going through them as I'm trying to get accumulated to the office.

Councilor Schocke said it was nice to meet her but he'd hoped it had been under different circumstances. He had a couple of questions he wanted answered of her. I understand you're a realtor and work with Mr. Georgeff, not directly but under the same umbrella or organization with McColly Realty.

Maria responded we are both independent contractors. We work independently.

Councilor Schocke continued, are you going to maintain your license and work as a realtor, as well as, the Redevelopment Director. This is the first time I'm meeting you and I don't know the answer to the questions.

Maria responded I applied for this full-time position and that's my intention. I have thirty-four years of government background and maybe the last five or seven years in real estate.

Councilor Schocke said I'm not questioning that but whether you are going to work as a realtor and as our Redevelopment Director at the same time.

Maria, I just answered that as I applied for the full-time position as the Redevelopment Director.

Councilor Schocke said so your resigning from real estate.

Maria said you don't resign, you keep your license active and I am going to engage in selling homes. What I do on my Saturday's and Sunday's and after 4:30 during the week is my own time.

Councilor Schocke said doesn't that appear as a conflict to be a professional realtor as well as the Redevelopment Director of Highland.

Maria said she did not view it as conflict of interest. She added that she is very knowledgeable with the State Board of Accounts and Audit and the reports that are required.

Councilor Schocke said then you are going to keep both rolls.

With no further questions, President Zemen called for the question.

Roll call on Motion: Upon a roll call vote, there were two affirmatives and three negatives. With Councilors Smith and Schocke voting in the affirmative and Councilors Black, Sheeman and Zemen voting in the negative, the motion failed, Ordinance 1768 stands as introduced.

3. **Pre-Adoption Hearing of the Proposed Fiscal Year 2023 Budget of the Sanitary District, pursuant to IC 6-1.1-17-20.** Under amendments to IC 6-1.1-17-20, the proper officers shall submit the proposed budget and property tax levies to the municipal fiscal body. The fiscal body of the city, town, or county (whichever applies) shall review each budget and proposed tax levy **and adopt a final budget and tax levy for the taxing unit.** The fiscal body may reduce or modify but not increase the proposed budget or tax levy. The final adoption vests with the Town Council. **The Town Council should take its final action at its meeting of October 10, 2022.**

(a) Acknowledgement of Publication: (Under current law, no publication by unit just by Department of Local Government Finance online Gateway. The proposed components of budget must be submitted to the Gateway at least 10 days before the Preliminary Hearing. The proposed budget notice was filed with the Gateway on August 31, 2022). (See IC 6-1.1-17-3) It was noted that the budget was filed as proposed in the Gateway portal on August 31, 2022.

(b) **Introduction of Proposed Ordinance No. 1769:** An Ordinance of Appropriations and Budget Levies and Rates for the 2023 Budget of the Sanitary District. Councilor Schocke introduced and filed proposed Ordinance No. 1769. There was no further action owing to the There was no further action pursuant to I.C. 6-1.1-17-3(a); I.C. 6-1.1-17-5(a)(8) and I.C. 36-5-3-4.

ORDINANCE OR RESOLUTION FOR APPROPRIATIONS AND TAX RATES

State Form 55865 (7-15)

Budget Form No. 4

Approved by the State Board of Accounts, 2015

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Ordinance / Resolution Number: 1769

Be it ordained/resolved by the **Town Council of the Town of Highland** that for the expenses of **HIGHLAND SANITARY DISTRICT** for the year ending December 31, **2023** the sums herein specified are hereby appropriated and ordered set apart out of the several funds herein named and for the purposes herein specified, subject to the laws governing the same. Such sums herein appropriated shall be held to include all expenditures authorized to be made during the year, unless otherwise expressly stipulated and provided for by law. In addition, for the purposes of raising revenue to meet the necessary expenses of **HIGHLAND SANITARY DISTRICT**, the property tax levies and property tax rates as herein specified are included herein. Budget Form 4-B for all funds must be completed and submitted in the manner prescribed by the Department of Local Government Finance.

This ordinance/resolution shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage and approval by the **Town Council of the Town of Highland.**

Name of Adopting Entity / Fiscal Body	Type of Adopting Entity / Fiscal Body	Date of Adoption
Town Council of the Town of Highland	Town Council	10/10/2022

Funds

Fund Code	Fund Name	Adopted Budget	Adopted Tax Levy	Adopted Tax Rate
8201	SPECIAL SANITARY GENERAL	\$2,301,543	\$251,124	0.0283
8280	SPECIAL SANITARY DEBT SERVICE	\$1,822,406	\$2,102,824	0.2374
		\$4,123,949	\$2,353,948	0.2657

Name		Signature
Bernie Zemen	Aye <input type="checkbox"/> Nay <input type="checkbox"/> Abstain <input type="checkbox"/>	

Toya Smith	Aye <input type="checkbox"/> Nay <input type="checkbox"/> Abstain <input type="checkbox"/>	
Mark Schocke	Aye <input type="checkbox"/> Nay <input type="checkbox"/> Abstain <input type="checkbox"/>	
Thomas Black	Aye <input type="checkbox"/> Nay <input type="checkbox"/> Abstain <input type="checkbox"/>	
Roger Sheeman	Aye <input type="checkbox"/> Nay <input type="checkbox"/> Abstain <input type="checkbox"/>	

ATTEST

Name	Title	Signature
Mark Herak	Clerk-Treasurer	

In accordance with IC 6-1.1-17-16(k), we state our intent to issue debt after December 1 and before January 1

Yes No

In accordance with IC 6-1.1-17-16(k), we state our intent to file a shortfall appeal after December 1 and before December 31

Yes No

Pursuant to IC 6-1.1-17 et seq., consideration of the proposed ordinance for adoption cannot take place sooner than ten (10) days following the pre-adoption hearing. Consideration for passage and adoption of the Proposed Ordinance will be at the regular meeting of the **Town Council, Monday, October 10, 2022 at 7:00 p.m.**

(c) **Public Hearing.** The Town Council President called the public hearing to order.

There were no questions or comments and the hearing was closed.

Council President Zemen read: Pursuant to IC 6-1.1-17 et seq., consideration of the proposed ordinance for adoption cannot take place sooner than ten (10) days following the pre-adoption hearing. Consideration for passage and adoption of the Proposed Ordinance will be at the regular meeting of the **Town Council, Monday, October 10, 2022 at 7:00 p.m.**

4. **Pre-Adoption Hearing of the Proposed Fiscal Year 2023 Budget of the Waterworks District, pursuant to IC 6-1.1-17-20.** *Under amendments to IC 6-1.1-17-20, the proper officers of the special taxing district shall submit the proposed budget and property tax levies to the municipal fiscal body. The fiscal body of the city, town, or county (whichever applies) shall review each budget and proposed tax levy and adopt a final budget and tax levy for the taxing unit. The fiscal body may reduce or modify but not increase the proposed budget or tax levy. The final adoption vests with the Town Council. The*

final adoption vests with the Town Council. The Town Council should take its final action at its meeting of October 10, 2022.

(a) Acknowledgement of Publication: (Under current law, no publication by unit just by Department of Local Government Finance online Gateway. The proposed components of budget must be submitted to the Gateway at least 10 days before the Preliminary Hearing. The proposed budget notice was filed with the Gateway on August 31, 2022). (See IC 6-1.1-17-3) It was noted that the budget was filed as proposed in the Gateway portal on August 31, 2022.

(b) Introduction of Proposed Ordinance No. 1770: An Ordinance of Appropriations and Budget Levies and Rates for the 2022 Budget of the Waterworks District. Councilor Black introduced and filed proposed Ordinance No. 1770. There was no further action owing to the There was no further action pursuant to I.C. 6-1.1-17-3(a); I.C. 6-1.1-17-5(a)(8) and I.C. 36-5-3-4.

ORDINANCE OR RESOLUTION FOR APPROPRIATIONS AND TAX RATES

State Form 55865 (7-15)
Approved by the State Board of Accounts, 2015

Budget Form No. 4

Generated 8/31/2022 2:22:42 PM Prescribed by the Department of Local Government Finance

Ordinance / Resolution Number: 1770

Be it ordained/resolved by the **Town Council of the Town of Highland** that for the expenses of **HIGHLAND WATER DISTRICT** for the year ending December 31, **2023** the sums herein specified are hereby appropriated and ordered set apart out of the several funds herein named and for the purposes herein specified, subject to the laws governing the same. Such sums herein appropriated shall be held to include all expenditures authorized to be made during the year, unless otherwise expressly stipulated and provided for by law. In addition, for the purposes of raising revenue to meet the necessary expenses of **HIGHLAND WATER DISTRICT**, the property tax levies and property tax rates as herein specified are included herein. Budget Form 4-B for all funds must be completed and submitted in the manner prescribed by the Department of Local Government Finance.

This ordinance/resolution shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage and approval by the **Town Council of the Town of Highland**.

Name of Adopting Entity / Fiscal Body	Type of Adopting Entity / Fiscal Body	Date of Adoption
Town Council of the Town of Highland	Town Council	10/10/2022

Funds				
Fund Code	Fund Name	Adopted Budget	Adopted Tax Levy	Adopted Tax Rate
8383	WATER DISTRICT DEBT SERVICE	\$338,992	\$361,130	0.0041
		\$338,992	\$361,130	0.0041

Name		Signature
Bernie Zemen	Aye <input type="checkbox"/> Nay <input type="checkbox"/> Abstain <input type="checkbox"/>	
Toya Smith	Aye <input type="checkbox"/> Nay <input type="checkbox"/> Abstain <input type="checkbox"/>	

Mark Schocke	Aye <input type="checkbox"/> Nay <input type="checkbox"/> Abstain <input type="checkbox"/>	
Thomas Black	Aye <input type="checkbox"/> Nay <input type="checkbox"/> Abstain <input type="checkbox"/>	
Roger Sheeman	Aye <input type="checkbox"/> Nay <input type="checkbox"/> Abstain <input type="checkbox"/>	

ATTEST

Name	Title	Signature
Mark Herak	Clerk-Treasurer	

In accordance with IC 6-1.1-17-16(k), we state our intent to issue debt after December 1 and before January 1

In accordance with IC 6-1.1-17-16(k), we state our intent to file a shortfall appeal after December 1 and before December 31

Yes No

Yes No

(c) **Public Hearing.** The Town Council President called the public hearing to order.

1. Larry Kondrat, Highland, as a member of the Water Board, gave an explanation as to the 2 bonds outstanding which make up the debt service, the 2015 bond which matures is 2025 and the 2021 bond which expired is 2031. He reiterated, that regardless whether the Council adopted the budget or not because it is debt, the DLGF will reinstate, so he encouraged the Council to adopt. These are debt service paid by property taxes.

The hearing was closed. The Town Council President read aloud the following statement:

In all cases above, ten (10) or more taxpayers may object to a budget, a tax rate or tax levy by filing a petition with the Office of the Clerk-Treasurer not more than seven (7) days following these hearings. (Monday, September 19, 2022) The objection petition must identify the provisions of the budget, tax rate or tax levy to which taxpayers object. If a petition is filed, the Town Council shall adopt with the budget a finding concerning the objections in the petition and the testimony presented.

Adjournment of Special Plenary Meeting. There being no further business on the agenda, the Town Council President declared the Special Plenary Meeting of the Highland Town Council of Monday, September 19, 2022, adjourned at 8:13 O'clock p.m.

Mark Herak
Clerk-Treasurer

Approved by the Town Council at its meeting of September 26, 2022.