

Meetings held in 2020- 2021 Regarding Tax Levy Referendum

TOWN BOARD BUDGET WORKSHOP

Eagle Municipal Building
820 E. Main Street, Eagle

Monday, October 12, 2020

APPROVED MINUTES

TOWN BOARD BUDGET WORKSHOP

Eagle Municipal Building
820 E. Main Street, Eagle

Wednesday, October 21, 2020

APPROVED MINUTES

TOWN OF EAGLE - SPECIAL TOWN BOARD MEETING

Wednesday, November 9, 2020

APPROVED MINUTES

Resolution of the Town Board exercising the referendum option for the purpose of paying operating expenditures and capital purchases - NO ACTION WAS TAKEN

TOWN OF EAGLE - SPECIAL TOWN BOARD MEETING

Thursday, December 3, 2020

APPROVED MINUTES

Resolution of the Town Board exercising the referendum option for the purpose of paying operating expenditures and capital purchases – A motion was made by Supervisor West, seconded by Supervisor Muth to adopt the resolution of the Town Board exercising the referendum option. Upon voice vote, motion carried with Supervisor Suhm opposing.

TOWN OF EAGLE - VIRTUAL TOWN BOARD MEETING HELD VIA ZOOM

December 16, 2020

APPROVED MINUTES

Resolution for the Town Board exercising the referendum option – Chairman Malek explained that he is looking at postponing this. More needs to be worked out with the county and the state.

A motion was made by Supervisor Muth, seconded by Supervisor Mommaerts to rescind the resolution to move forward with the referendum, until a later date. Upon voice vote, motion carried.

TOWN OF EAGLE - SPECIAL TOWN BOARD MEETING

August 2, 2021

APPROVED MINUTES

RESOLUTION: Tax Levy Referendum (\$300,000 ongoing levy increase)

A motion was made by Supervisor West and seconded by Supervisor Mommaerts to adopt Resolution No. 2021-04, a Resolution authorizing a Tax Levy Referendum to be held on November 9, 2021. Discussion ensued.

Meetings held in 2020- 2021 Regarding Tax Levy Referendum*****Continued

The town's history of not taking the allowable levy to keep taxes down is now causing a burden to the town because the legislature capped the levy limits. Deputy Clerk/Treasurer Howard responded to Board questions. She stated that the mil rate numbers discussed at the previous meeting were taken from the 2021 budget workshops, which were prepared for a \$150,000 ongoing levy. Handouts were distributed to the Board showing the mil rate corrections for a \$300,000 ongoing levy.

A tax levy referendum is being considered to cover annual budget shortfalls. The town estimates these shortfalls to be at least \$150,000. The Town Board would like voters to consider a \$300,000 ongoing tax levy increase. There is a cushion built in to figure to allow for future capital purchases, such as snow plows (town's oldest one is 30 years old), roadwork, fire department consolidation expenses, etc.

If the referendum fails, the town will be faced with limited options at budget time. One option is to cut services. Another option would be to borrow money and pay interest on those loans to cover the annual shortfall. Each year at budget time, the sitting board would have to decide for that year's budget. Accumulated interest on loans would cost the taxpayers more debt.

If the referendum passes, it would cost taxpayers \$55.77 per year for \$100,000 assessed value home. It should be noted that the first few years the mil rate will be higher to pay off existing loans. After that the mil rates should hold steady by the year 2023. Future additional loans would impact the levy; however, this referendum should cover the budgeted operating services and future Boards may not be faced with budget shortfalls.

Discussion continued about levy limits. New growth estimates by the state lowers the town's mil rate. Ehlers, town financial consultant, estimated the net new construction for this year. There are no guarantees that the legislature will continue with the net new construction, cable, or personal property tax aids and/or adjustments to the levy.

The referendum would allow the town to call the question and let the people decide. The town board can make final decisions on the budget afterwards.

Upon Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Supervisors Mommaerts, Schneider, Suhm and West, Chairman Malek. Nays: None. Motion carried.

TOWN OF EAGLE
REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING
August 18, 2021
APPROVED MINUTES

Finance – Tax Levy Referendum Resolution – It was reported that the Department of Revenue has required an amendment in the Tax Levy Referendum to reflect a correction from .99 to .988, a difference of \$14.00 less of the previous resolution's levy limit. A motion to pass Resolution 21-04, as amended, by Supervisor West and Supervisor Mommaerts. No discussion. Voice vote unanimous and carried.