

**EDMORE VILLAGE COUNCIL  
BUDGET WORK SESSION  
APPROVED JOURNAL OF MINUTES  
January 26, 2026**


1. **CALL TO ORDER:** The budget work session of the Village of Edmore Council was called to order on Monday, January 26, 2026, at 7:00 p.m. by **President Chet Guild**.
2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
3. **ROLL CALL:** Members present – **Colburn, Griswold, Guild, Kanine, McParland, Moore**. Absent - **Pierce**. Also present: **Mark Borden** – Village Manager, **Shirley Drain** – Village Treasurer, **Kerri Peterson** – Village Clerk
4. **APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA:** **Moore** moved to approve the agenda. Supported by **Colburn**. **VOICE VOTE: ALL YES: MOTION PASSED 6-0 with 1 absent.**
5. **PUBLIC COMMENTS: AGENDA ITEMS:** None.  
**Pierce** arrived at meeting 7:05 p.m.
6. **NEW BUSINESS – WORK SESSION: DRAFT BUDGET**  
Discussion took place on the proposed draft budget. **Borden** spoke to council about highlighted areas of the draft budget. In every fund we are spending less than we are anticipating so there will be a surplus in every fund. General fund has a surplus of \$65,000 due to a large amount for computer software upgrade. We are also losing \$58,000 in marijuana revenue. He also pointed out there is nothing budgeted for police coverage. There will not be a big software upgrade every year as there has not been one during the time **Tracy** has been working there. **Colburn** asked about software upgrade options. **Borden** responded there are two major companies; one is Fund Balance through **Tyler Technologies** that we currently use and the other is **BS&A**, which is difficult to operate and there is no good support system. We have **BS&A** for our taxes but use Fund Balance for everything else. The price difference was asked about. **Borden** stated they don't have a price for **BS&A**. He will get the cost if the board wants but the price in the budget draft is for **Tyler Technologies**. **Drain** thinks this is the first software upgrade ever. **McParland** asked about the increase in contractual expenditures on our Christmas decorations. The **DDA** has a draft budget with \$6,000 in contractual services for our downtown. Considering we spent \$10,000 in 2025 on our decorations and it was determined to continue with what we have we would need to increase our budget for 2026 from \$4,000 to \$10,000. **Borden** stated we have enough in our Edmore budget to do the same decorations as last year. It was asked why the **DDA** isn't paying for the Christmas decorations. **McParland** responded the **DDA** is budgeted for \$6,000 additional to do more, but we would still need the \$10,000 we paid this year again next year to do the same. When we extended our decoration budget in 2025 it was discussed that we needed to increase our budget for the future to continue with the decorations. After some discussion it was decided that our budget needs to be corrected and increased to up to \$10,000, with the **DDA** paying an additional \$6,000 for extra above what we already have to light up the rest of the trees downtown if they so choose. **Borden** stated to repeat what we did in 2025 for decorations we would need \$9,000. The village does need to increase their budget and hopefully the **DDA** will take on the project and do more. After the change, the Village surplus would go from \$65,000 down to \$61,000. He went on to say that the **DWAM** is suggesting we have \$2.4 million of need of water infrastructure and in order to pay for that we would have to borrow the money. They are saying we would have to raise the rates 9.9% for five years in a row. We don't have a list from the engineers of what would need to be done because we just finished it 10 days ago. At some point

that is going to become critical but there has not been a conversation with the engineers yet. **Colburn** asked if \$2.4 million was the whole project and hopefully we get a grant for part of it correct? **Borden** responded that it is telling us we need to do \$2.4 million worth of work, however you can get the money. Either 100% grant or 100% loan. If it's a loan that you're paying for you need to raise the rates the 9.9% for five years in a row. We do not have to raise the rates unless we're going to do a project. We need to in order to be able to keep up with the cost of inflation, but to cover the cost of a big project we don't need to raise the rates until we do a big project. Unless we get a 100% grant. **Colburn** asked if the grant work had been submitted. **Borden** responded that three years in a row we applied for the DWSRF and that is a points scale. Three years ago and we got 70 points, we then developed the wellhead protection plan and that got us 10 more points. So over three years we've gotten 80 points. In year one that would have gotten us some money but as the years go on you need more points and you get less funding. The most recent year we got 80 points and you needed 85 to get any money. We have not resubmitted for that funding. **McParland** asked if there was a breakdown of what is required to get those extra points. Do we know what would be required to do that? **Borden** stated we knew in year one, one of things was the wellhead protection. We've exhausted everything on the list we can do. Some of the points are based on demographics that we won't qualify for. It is just something to be aware of as we have an aging infrastructure and we'll have to pick off some projects over the years. **McParland** said the 4% increase is only \$2.08 a month on our water/sewer bill. **Drain** asked if we had a capital improvement plan. **Borden** responded that it is part of our master plan and as things are done, more things are added. **Drain** asked if it was being done. **Borden** answered, no. Not anything that costs money. Not any major upgrades besides the generator. As far as infrastructure upgrades we really haven't done any in the last three years. **McParland** asked about water tower maintenance. Are we still budgeting for it even though we're not paying it? **Drain** stated it is under contractual services, \$22,000 in tower fund on the budget draft. **McParland** said instead of paying it out it just goes in there. **Borden** agreed that instead of paying Utility Services the money gets puts in that account. **Guild** asked about hydrant repair. **Borden** said there are quite a few that need the insides replaced but it is quite expensive. Discussion took place on the current condition of the hydrants. **Guild** asked what the amount of money for Borden and Andy to spend without council approval. He said the \$1000 each occurrence is not very much and he feels it should be raised. Discussion took place on things that could have been done without council approval, including the tires that needed replaced on the tractor in an emergency. It was agreed that Andy should have a credit card for purchases. **Borden** gave the council a copy of the capital improvement plan and some discussion took place. **Guild** addressed the board about the railroad property and stated Borden has come up with a possible plan. **Borden** explained that if we adjusted the property lines to what looks like they should have been originally according to the map. Offer the residents the ability to pay the fees and legal cost and we would gift them the property. We cannot find the deeds for these properties although the County says we own them. Discussion took place on details. **Guild** stated he thinks Borden has a good idea and he needs to present it to the property owners. They are to incur all fees and legal cost. The lawyer has stated that we can sell the property. We can give them a quit claim deed. **Borden** stated that we can only sell our interest in the property because we can't prove that we own it and we can't give you title insurance. It is a confusing situation being it used to be the railroad property. The board stated they would like Borden to take this to Mr. Clark and tell him this is our final offer. **Borden** reported to the council that the personnel committee met and he has recommended a COLA increase of

2.7% for village staff. They have already been put into the budget draft so when you approve the budget you will also be approving the COLA increase.


7. **PUBLIC COMMENTS:** None.
8. **COUNCIL COMMENTS:** None.
9. **ADJOURNMENT:** Motion by Colburn to adjourn. Supported by McParland. **VOICE VOTE: ALL YES: MOTION PASSED 7-0.**

President Guild adjourned the meeting at 7:45 p.m.



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**Village President**



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**Village Clerk**

**Approved for Publication**

**NEXT MEETING: February 09, 2026**