

**STATE OF INDIANA  
DEPARTMENT OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT FINANCE  
Room 1058, IGCN – 100 North Senate  
Indianapolis, IN 46204**

**IN THE MATTER OF THE REQUEST )  
OF TOWN OF SHERIDAN, )  
HAMILTON COUNTY, FOR AN ) A23-020  
EXCESS LEVY DUE TO )  
THREE-YEAR GROWTH )**

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The Department of Local Government Finance (“Department”) has reviewed an appeal by Town of Sheridan (“Town”) for an excess levy in the amount of \$25,000 to its civil maximum levy due to three-year growth. Indiana Code 6-1.1-18.5-13 allows the Department to grant permission to a civil taxing unit to increase its maximum levy if the Department finds that the quotient determined under Step Six of the following formula is equal to or greater than one and two-hundredths (1.02):

Step 1: Determine the three calendar years that most immediately precede the ensuing calendar year:  
*2023, 2022, and 2021*

Step 2: Compute separately, for each of the calendar years determined in Step 1, the quotient (rounded to the nearest ten-thousandth (0.0001)) of the sum of the civil taxing unit's total assessed value of all taxable property divided by the sum determined under this Step for the calendar year immediately preceding the particular calendar year.:

*Town assessed values for 2020, 2021, 2022, and 2023, respectively:*

2020: 88,778,158  
2021: 98,687,520  
2022: 102,683,381  
2023: 124,478,345

*Step 2 quotients:*

2021/2020: 1.1116  
2022/2021: 1.0405  
2023/2022: 1.2123

Step 3: Sum the results of Step 2 and divide by three:  
*1.1215 ([1.1116+1.0405+1.2123]/3)*

Step 4: Compute separately, for each of the calendar years determined in Step 1, the quotient (rounded to the nearest ten-thousandth (0.0001)) of the sum of the total assessed value of all taxable property in all counties divided by the sum determined under this Step for the calendar year immediately preceding the particular calendar year.

*Statewide average quotients for 2021, 2022, and 2023, respectively:  
1.0392; 1.0541; 1.1481*

Step 5: Add the Step 4 results and divide by three:  
*1.0804* (*[1.0392; 1.0541; 1.1481]/3*)

Step 6: Divide the Step 3 results by the Step 5 results:  
*1.0380* (*1.1215/1.0804*)

The maximum amount that the Department may award is the amount by which Step 3 exceeds the maximum levy growth quotient (“MLGQ”) as calculated according to IC 6-1.1-18.5-2 (this amount is 1.04 or 4% for 2024; since 1.0380 is greater than 1.020, the Town is eligible for a three-year growth appeal):

*0.0815* (*8.15%*) (*1.1215-1.0400*)

The Town’s 2023 maximum civil levy is \$1,379,810. This is the most recent civil maximum levy that the Department can use as the basis for an adjustment. Multiplying this figure by the 8.15% growth factor calculated above results in a figure of \$112,392, which is the maximum for which the Town could qualify under the statutory formula. Under IC 6-1.1-18.5-12(a), the Town must also show that it is unable to perform its government functions without this increase.

The Town states in its appeal that the excess levy is needed because the Town has “several large housing developments under construction and/or consideration,” which it claims “has placed an extreme burden on the police and fire departments.” The Town states that the excess levy is needed to address several position openings in these departments where police and fire personnel have either retired or left for positions in other communities “that offer better pay and benefits.” The Town cites an example where it “has been unable to have a paramedic on duty during a 24-hour shift.” The Town also states that its building commissioner will become a full-time position in 2024.

The Town represents to the Department that it has not yet adopted a salary ordinance, but estimates a 5% cost of living adjustment (“COLA”) and includes additional positions for police & fire departments, the town manager’s office, and the building commissioner. The Town also states that it has budgeted for 7 police officers in 2024, up from 5 in 2023.

The Town’s Form 4B shows an operating balance decrease in its general fund from \$1,404,356 in 2023 to \$60,718 in 2024. The Town’s general fund budget has increased in those years from \$3,362,976 to \$4,469,701.

The Town stated on its Budget Form 3 that it seeks an excess levy appeal of \$25,000 for its General Fund. As mentioned previously, the Town received a permanent excess levy of \$27,585 for pay-2022 and \$20,000 for pay-2023.

After a review of the petition, the Department, following IC 6-1.1-18.5-12 and 13, and in consideration of all evidence provided, finds as follows:

**APPROVED:**

The Town's excess levy appeal is approved in the amount of **\$25,000**. This figure reflects the amount for which the Town qualifies under the statutory three-year growth formula and does not exceed the amount for which the Town advertised and petitioned the Department. This is a one-time, permanent increase.

STATE OF INDIANA  
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**WITNESS MY HAND AND SEAL** of this Department on this   17   day of  
November, 2023.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D. Shackle', written over a horizontal line.

**Daniel Shackle, Commissioner**