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SALES TAX & BOND ELECTION

Tontitown Sales Tax and Bond Issue Election

ELECTION DATE: Tuesday, Nov. 5, 2024

What is on the ballot?

Voters in the City of Tontitown will have several ballot issues to decide on Nov. 5, 2024, including a series of bond issue questions that combined would raise \$22.2 million to pay for construction projects. The city is also asking voters to extend a sales tax they previously approved for eight years to pay off the bond debt. The 0.75% sales tax would expire in 2044 instead of 2036 under this proposal.

Each bond proposal is a separate ballot issue. If approved, the bond issues would:

- Pay off \$1.4 million in bond debt that voters approved in 2017 to build a water transmission line.
- Make available \$7.1 million to the city to pay for the costs of a new police station.
- Make available \$7.1 million to the city to pay for street improvement projects.
- Make available \$5.5 million to the city to pay for the costs of a new water storage tank and improvements to the city's water system.
- Make available \$1.1 million to the city for a community center and improvements to Sbanotto Park.

When is the election?

The election is Tuesday, Nov. 5, 2024. Early voting starts Oct. 21, 2024.

Residents can check their voter status or find out where they are supposed to vote on Election Day by calling the Washington County

QUICK LOOK: What does your vote mean?

FOR: A FOR vote on any of the bond issues means you are in favor of a 0.75% sales tax and allowing city officials to issue bond debt for that specific project, or in the case of the Refunding Bonds question, refinancing and paying down the debt of existing bond debt approved by voters in a previous election.

AGAINST: An AGAINST vote on any of the bond issues means you do not want city officials to issue bonds for those projects. An AGAINST vote on all of the bond issues means you do not favor a 0.75% sales tax to pay off the bond debt.

Exercising your voting privilege: We live in a democratic society where voting is a privilege of citizenship. Democracy works best when informed citizens exercise their voting privilege. **Election Day for this issue is Tuesday, Nov. 5, 2024. Please exercise your right to vote on this issue.**

PUBLIC POLICY CENTER

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RESEARCH & EXTENSION
University of Arkansas System

The following is the official wording for the local option question as it will appear on the ballot.

The bonds described below that are approved may be combined into a single issue or may be issued in series from time to time. If the bonds for one or more of the purposes are approved and if one of such purposes is the Refunding Bonds, there will be levied a new 0.75% sales and use tax, the net collections of which remaining after deduction of the administrative charges of the State of Arkansas and required rebates will be used solely to retire the bonds and obligations of the City with respect thereto. The tax will replace the City's existing 0.75% sales and use tax levied in 2017 for the sole purpose of retiring bonds. The effective date of the new tax will be the day following the date the existing tax expires. The rate of taxation will be 0.75% even if bonds for more than one purpose are approved. No bonds will be issued for any purpose unless the Refunding Bonds are also approved. The 0.75% sales and use tax will expire after the bonds have been paid or provision is made therefor in accordance with Arkansas statutes.

REFUNDING BONDS

Bonds of the City of Tontitown in the maximum aggregate principal amount of \$1,400,000 for the purpose of refunding the City's outstanding Sales and Use Tax Bonds, Series 2017 and, in order to pay the bonds, the levy and pledge of a 0.75% local sales and use tax within the City.

FOR
AGAINST

POLICE IMPROVEMENT BONDS

Bonds of the City of Tontitown in the maximum aggregate principal amount of \$7,100,000 for the purpose of financing all or a portion of the costs of a new police station and any land acquisition, furnishings, equipment and parking, landscaping, signage, drainage, lighting, road and utility improvements related thereto and, in order to pay the bonds, the levy and pledge of a 0.75% local sales and use tax within the City.

FOR
AGAINST

STREET IMPROVEMENT BONDS

Bonds of the City of Tontitown in the maximum aggregate principal amount of \$7,100,000 for the purpose of financing all or a portion of the costs of new streets and any land acquisition, intersection, curb, gutter, drainage and utility improvements, sidewalks, trails, lighting and traffic control devices related thereto and, in order to pay the bonds, the levy and pledge of a 0.75% local sales and use tax within the City.

FOR
AGAINST

WATER IMPROVEMENT BONDS

Bonds of the City of Tontitown in the maximum aggregate principal amount of \$5,500,000 for the purpose of financing all or a portion of the costs of betterments and improvements to the City's water system, including particularly, without limitation, a new water storage tank, and in order to pay the bonds, the levy and pledge of a 0.75% local sales and use tax within the City.

FOR
AGAINST

PARK AND RECREATIONAL IMPROVEMENT BONDS

Bonds of the City of Tontitown in the maximum aggregate principal amount of \$1,100,000 for the purpose of financing all or a portion of the costs of park and recreational facilities and improvements, including particularly, without limitation, a community center and improvements to Sbanotto Park and any furnishings, equipment and parking, landscaping, signage, drainage, lighting, road and utility improvements related thereto and, in order to pay the bonds, the levy and pledge of a 0.75% local sales and use tax within the City.

FOR
AGAINST

Conflict of interest: This fact sheet was prepared to provide the citizens of Tontitown with information to help them in making an informed choice on Election Day. An effort has been made to ensure the information is presented in a fair and balanced way that best represents the facts associated with this ballot issue. As part of this effort, we are obligated to divulge potential conflicts of interest and to recognize their influence on the educational programs and matter we produce. The University of Arkansas System Division of Agriculture and Washington County Cooperative Extension Service are partially funded by state and county general funds. As such, any laws affecting revenues of the state or county has the potential to affect the Washington County Extension Office.

If you wish to support any of the bonds, you must select "FOR" on the REFUNDING BONDS question.