Town Council Meeting
Monday, November 24, 2025
6:00PM

Edinburgh Town Council met in a regular session on Monday, November 24, 2025, at 6:00PM at the Town Hall, 107 South Holland Street, Edinburgh, IN.

Council President Ryan Piercefield called the meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call- Council President Ryan Piercefield, Councilwoman Miriam Rooks, Councilwoman Debbie Buck, Councilwoman Sherri Sweet, and Councilman Michael Bryant.

Also present were Town Manager John Myers, Clerk-Treasurer Rhonda Barrett, and Town Attorney Dustin Huddleston.

Minutes- Council Meeting November 10, 2025

Councilwoman Buck made a motion to approve the November 10, 2025, Council Meeting minutes. Councilman Bryant seconded. Motion carried 4-0.

Council President Piercefield abstained.

Claims- Clerk-Treasurer Barrett presented three claim dockets: the end of month for August in the amount of $125,210.75, the end of month for September in the amount of $143,916.44, and a claim docket for tonight in the amount of $720,825.02. All claims have been reviewed and signed.

Councilwoman Rooks made a motion to approve the three claim dockets as presented in the amounts of $125,210.75, $143,916.44, and $720,825.02. Councilwoman Buck seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

Ordinance 2025-15 Annexing Real Estate (2nd Reading)- Attorney Huddleston stated that a public hearing was held at a previous Council meeting for this and the ordinance was introduced at the previous Council meeting. The zoning classification of 7995 S US31 stays a roadside business.

Councilwoman Buck made a motion to approve Ordinance 2025-15 Annexing Real Estate at 7995 S US 31. Councilwoman Sweet seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

Ordinance 2025-16 Amending Chapter 74 Regarding Traffic in Certain Alley (2nd Reading)- Attorney Huddleston stated that this ordinance was introduced at the previous Council meeting. Attorney Huddleston stated that this restricts semi-truck traffic in the alley one block east of Main Street after the Council received a concern from a citizen.

Councilwoman Rooks and Councilwoman Sweet agreed that they are not in favor of Ordinance 2025-16. Councilwoman Rooks stated that she has drove through the alley several times to look at the area. Councilwoman Sweet stated that she has also drove through the alley and does not see the need to restrict the alley from semi-truck traffic.

Discussion was held regarding how many calls the police department receives regarding the alley, if any action was taken, and how long the issue with the guardrail being damaged has been going on. Chief Little stated that they receive a couple of calls per year from the citizen concerning the alley.

Discussion was held regarding the language used in the ordinance concerning truck traffic in the alley. Attorney Huddleston stated that he picked up the language from a similar restriction of an alley but can change it if the Council requests.

Discussion was held regarding the smaller trucks the post office would have to use to go through the alley and whether they would be violating this ordinance the way it is written if passed.

Council President Piercefield stated that this ordinance does not restrict traffic completely but should just be semi-trucks.

Councilwoman Rooks made a motion to authorize Attorney Huddleston to amend the language in the ordinance before presenting again. Councilwoman Buck seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

Ordinance 2025-18 Unified Development Ordinance and Zoning Map (2nd Reading)- Attorney Huddleston stated that this was introduced and a public hearing was held at the previous Council meeting. This updates the Town's zoning maps and development ordinances.

Councilwoman Rooks made a motion to approve Ordinance 2025-18 Unified Development Ordinance and Zoning Map. Councilwoman Sweet seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

Ordinance 2025-19 Adopting Internal Control Policy Regarding Federal Grants and Principles (1st Reading)- Clerk-Treasurer Barrett stated that updating the Town's purchasing policies to meet State Board of Accounts requirements was discussed at a previous Council meeting in August. This is a policy needed for Federal Grants to meet State Board of Accounts requirements.

Councilwoman Buck made a motion to waive the first reading of Ordinance 2025-19 Adopting Internal Control Policy Regarding Federal Grants and Principles. Councilwoman Rooks seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

Councilwoman Sweet made a motion to approve Ordinance 2025-19 Adopting Internal Control Policy Regarding Federal Grants and Principles. Councilman Bryant seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

Amended Resolution 2025-10 Electing to Join the 1977 Police Officers and Firefighters Pension and Disability Fund- Attorney Huddleston stated that the Council previously approved this resolution, but the state's 77 fund department requested a certain section that quotes the statute it governs be removed. Attorney Huddleston stated that he took out the section as requested by the state.

Councilwoman Buck made a motion to approve Amended Resolution 2025-10 Electing to Join the 1977 Police Officers and Firefighters Pension and Disability Fund. Councilwoman Rooks seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

Amended Resolution 2025-11 Electing to Join the 1977 Police Officers and Firefighters Pension and Disability Fund- Attorney Huddleston stated that the Council previously approved this resolution, but the state's 77 fund department requested a certain section that quotes the statute it governs be removed. Attorney Huddleston stated that he took out the section as requested by the state.

Councilwoman Buck made a motion to approve Amended Resolution 2025-11 Electing to Join the 1977 Police Officers and Firefighters Pension and Disability Fund. Councilwoman Rooks seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

2026 ERC Spending Plan- Clerk-Treasurer Barrett presented the 2026 ERC spending plan in the amount of $370,509 that was approved at the 11/10/25 ERC meeting. The plan includes line items for capital expenditure. Clerk-Treasurer Barrett stated that this plan must be submitted annually before December 1st to the DLGF and presented to the Council President and Town Council. No action is needed.

Park & Rec Basketball Sponsorship/Donations- Clerk-Treasurer presented a total of $1,500 in basketball sponsorship donations from American Legion SAL, Spartan Renovation, GTR Enterprises, Tri Kappa, Delta Sigma, and Fletcher Chrysler.

Councilwoman Sweet made a motion to approve the Park & Rec Basketball Sponsorship/Donations as presented in the amount of $1,500. Councilwoman Rooks seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

Michael Buening Consulting Agreement- Town Manager John Myers stated that this is the annual renewal of the consulting agreement with Michael Buening. Mr. Myers stated that Mr. Buening does review for utility infrastructure improvements for residential and commercial properties. Mr. Myers recommended approving the renewal of the consulting agreement.

Councilwoman Rooks made a motion to approve the Michael Buening Consulting Agreement. Councilwoman Buck seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

Councilwoman Rooks made a motion to authorize Council President Piercefield to sign off on the Michael Buening Consulting Agreement. Councilwoman Buck seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

Driftwood Utilities Discussion- Council President Piercefield stated that this was discussed during the public comments part of a previous Council meeting.

Jason Newton with Driftwood Utilities distributed a report to the Council with their average daily flows from the last nine years. Mr. Newton requested the Town investigate the possibility of Driftwood Utilities becoming their customer to a level that the council is comfortable with. Mr. Newton stated that they will not fully dissolve their relationship with Columbus and will have flows going south and north. Mr. Newton stated that their district comes all the way up to Edinburgh on the west side of US 31 and they are looking at future growth north from Hardees. Mr. Newton requested a team be established to evaluate this request and come up with a plan, they are not requesting for the Town to spend $5 million to upgrade the plant at this time, the intent is to get a discussion started, to help the Town maximize their capacity. Mr. Newton stated that their system has four or five areas that they can selectively choose what and how much they push north. Mr. Newton stated that they would cover all of their costs of the infrastructure needed to get to 800 North but would like to have a set rate for a period of time to offset the infrastructure costs. Mr. Newton stated that 3 of the 5-member board for Driftwood Utilities was in attendance to answer any questions.

Councilwoman Rooks asked if the Town would be taking a portion of the waste from Driftwood Utilities and the other portion would continue to go to Columbus.

Mr. Newton stated that it was correct and a previous discussion was that the Town could take up to 100% as long as it stays in the 300,000-400,000 gallons per day and a system would need to be devised to determine that the town only receives a certain amount per day.

Mr. Newton stated that there are some areas of their territory that cannot be pushed north and must go to Columbus. Approximately 70% of the flow could be pushed north and the other 30% would have to go to Columbus due to the infrastructure cost to flow north. Mr. Newton stated that they are growing and there is potential for another 200,000 gallons a day currently.

Wastewater Superintendent Robert Jessie stated that discussion would be vital as to the limits to ensure the Town does not agree to more than what it can handle. Superintendent Jessie stated that he thinks this is a fabulous opportunity because it is a revenue source, as we are looking at rate increases.

Discussion was held regarding the wastewater's equipment being able to handle the additional flow. Superintendent Jessie stated that the youngest of the equipment is over 20 years old and modifications need to be made regardless of whether the Town receives the additional flow or not. Superintendent Jessie stated that they are already at the point of needing to make drastic improvements with equipment. Superintendent Jessie stated that the revenue received from taking the additional flow could be used to help offset equipment upgrades or replacement costs. Superintendent Jessie stated that discussion needs to be held to come to terms that benefit both the Town and Driftwood Utilities.

President Piercefield stated that if the Council chooses to pursue this further, a committee needs to be appointed to work with Driftwood Utilities. President Piercefield stated that the financial expenditures would fall on Driftwood Utilities since they are the ones who approached the Town. President Piercefield asked if the Council has any interest in further discussing this.

Councilman Bryant asked if Driftwood Utilities brings the infrastructure to 800 North, are we able to connect to them. Council President Percifield stated that we would be able to as we are already at 800 North.

Discussion was held regarding what the wastewater plants capacity would be brought too. Superintendent Jessie stated that the Town's lift station at 800 North is only working at 20% capacity currently.

Town Manager John Myers stated that he believes the Town should look further into this as it could be beneficial to both parties as long as there could be a compromise between both.

Mr. Newton stated that Taylorsville has a lot of low-income families and they try to do everything they can to keep their rates low.

President Piercefield stated that if the Council is interested in pursuing, Wastewater Superintendent Robert Jessie and Town Manager John Myers should be appointed to discuss with Driftwood Utilities.

Mr. Myers stated that President Piercefield should also be appointed as he has knowledge in this field.

President Piercefield stated that he, Mr. Myers, and Superintendent Jessie will meet with Driftwood Utilities representatives then when ready they will come back to Council and present what would be advantageous to both Driftwood and the Town.

Purchase of Personal Protective Turn-Out Gear- Fire Chief Justin Lollar presented four quotes with the lowest from Hoosier Fire Equipment in the amount of $25,220. Chief Lollar stated that they try to purchase ten sets of protective gear every other year to stay compliant. Chief Lollar stated that it is a 60-day window until the gear would be delivered so he plans to pay for this using his 2026 budget. Chief Lollar stated that he did budget for it in his 2026 budget.

Councilwoman Rooks made a motion to approve the Purchase of Personal Protective Turn-Out Gear from Hoosier Fire Equipment in the amount of $25,220. Councilman Bryant seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

Stryker Power Load Cot System- Fire Chief Justin Lollar announced that a Stryker Power Load Cot System was donated to them from the Johnson County Health Department. Chief Lollar stated that this system is approximately over $60,000 and will be a huge improvement to their ambulance service. Chief asked for approval to accept the donation of the power cot system.

Council President Piercefield made a motion to approve the donation of the Stryker Power Load Cot System. Councilwoman Buck seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

Request to Purchase Police Vehicles- Police Chief Doyne Little requested to purchase two 2026 Chevrolet Silverado trucks for police vehicles. Chief Little stated that the JAG grant did not open this fall due to the government shutdown. Chief Little stated that there is a possibility that the JAG grant will still open late and it is a reimbursement grant. Chief Little stated that he did budget for the vehicles for 2026. Chief Little stated that he wanted to switch to a Chevrolet product this year. Chief Little stated that he wants to do a truck this year because of the storage capacity and discussed the surrounding police departments that have purchased trucks. Chief Little presented three quotes and the lowest was from Kelly Chevrolet Fort Wayne in the amount of $50,252 per vehicle. Chief Little stated that they currently have some vehicles that are costing them a lot in repairs.

Discussion was held regarding when Chief Little would order the trucks.

Councilwoman Buck made a motion to approve the purchase of two 2026 Chevrolet Silverado trucks from Kelly Chevrolet Fort Wayne in the amount of $50,252 per vehicle. Councilwoman Sweet seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

Elevated Storage Tank Mixing System Bid Award- Adam Sitka with Wessler Engineering stated that bids were opened for two projects on October 30, 2025, these projects will spend down the leftover SRF contingency dollars from the water treatment plant project. The two projects were first Tank Mixers and second the Hydrants and Valve replacements.

Mr. Sitka stated that two quotes for the tank mixers were received in the lump sum quote: Huston Electric in the amount of $73,277 and Electric Plus, Inc in the amount of $122,200. Mr. Sitka stated that both companies neglected to provide a correct certification but provided an alternative copy. Mr. Sitka stated both contractors are well qualified to complete this work. The voluntary alternate system that a bid was received for Huston provided a deduction in the amount of ($12,371) and Electric Plus neglected to bid on that which was fine as it was a voluntary alternate and was not a requirement.

Mr. Sitka stated that based on those two bids received, Wessler can prepare the notice of award to Huston Electric for the lump sum base quote and the voluntary alternate.

Discussion was held regarding what certification both contractors neglected to provide. Mr. Sitka stated that it was the contractor's evidence to do business in Indiana, which is the IDOA certification and both contractors provided the INDOT certification. Mr. Sitka stated that these are very similar forms and just a different version of the form. On a normal typical bid, it would be either/or on the forms, but on a quote only one form is asked for and not both. The incorrect form does not invalidate or cause concern for the quote.

Councilwoman Buck asked Attorney Huddleston how the incorrect form could affect the bid and if it would void the bid.

Attorney Huddleston stated that the form provided according to Mr. Sitka was just on a different form and in Mr. Sitka's opinion, it does not affect the bid. Attorney Huddleston stated that the council has the right to say it is a non-responsive bidder if they want, but Mr. Sitka stated that the bidders provided the correct information just on the wrong form.

Mr. Sitka stated that Wessler estimated $125,000 for this project.

Discussion was held regarding whether Huston Electric has done work for the Town before.

Councilwoman Buck made a motion to award the Elevated Storage Tank Mixing System to Huston Electric in the amount of $73,277. Councilwoman Sweet seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

Hydrants and Valve Replacements Bid Award- Adam Sitka with Wessler Engineering stated that bids were opened for two projects on October 30, 2025, these projects will spend down the leftover SRF contingency dollars from the water treatment plant project. Mr. Sitka stated that three bids were received on the Hydrants and Valve Replacements: Infrastructure Systems, Inc. in the amount of $300,933, Piercefield Contracting Services $299,868.45, and SLB Pipe Solutions $484,000. Mr. Sitka stated that Infrastructure Systems, Inc., was the only bidder to submit a complete responsive bid package and they are qualified and capable to perform the work. At the council's discretion Wessler can prepare a notice of award to Infrastructure Systems, Inc.

Councilwoman Buck asked Mr. Sitka to explain the math used on the bids.

Mr. Sitka stated that bids were collected in four different parts, first was the base bid which was the work that was required, and there were three adders. Mr. Sitka stated that there was a discrepancy in one of the bids where the items 1-4 did not add up to the total and needed clarification. Mr. Sitka stated that getting clarification on a bid amount could subject the playing field to what might be considered an unfair advantage.

Mr. Sitka stated that Wessler estimated $400,000 for this project.

Discussion was held regarding whether Infrastructure Systems, Inc., has done work for the Town before. Mr. Sitka stated that they check the bidders' references and he has worked with this company before.

Water Superintendent Bill Jones stated that they have done work for the Town before.

Councilwoman Buck made a motion to award the Hydrants and Valve Replacements Bid Award to Infrastructure Systems, Inc. in the amount of $300,933. Councilwoman Rooks seconded. Motion carried 4-0.

Council President Piercefield abstained.

Mr. Sitka stated that they will prepare the notice of awards for each project.

Other Business

Councilwoman Sweet thanked the fire department for assisting with the community dinner on Saturday. Councilwoman Sweet stated 565 dinners were served, 50 of those were delivered to home bound people by the fire department.

Clerk-Treasurer Barrett stated that there is not enough time left this year to get the redevelopment bond issued, so the tax rate will drop to 2.1274.

Police Chief Doyne Little stated that they are preparing for the possible snow this weekend.

Fire Chief Justin Lollar thanked the Council for their support and wished everyone a happy Thanksgiving.

Cemetery Superintendent Stan Brown stated that they have had several meetings regarding the Wreaths Across America ceremony. Superintendent Brown asked if the Council would like them to still offer cemetery services that day since one entrance will be blocked off. The ceremony starts at noon. Superintendent Brown stated that there will be trucks and people throughout the cemetery placing wreaths as it must be done within three hours.

Councilwoman Buck stated that it seems like they would have to close the cemetery to services for that day.

Discussion was held regarding how many volunteers they had for the event.

Council President Piercefield stated that it would be an administrative decision to close the cemetery to services for that day.

Water Superintendent Bill Jones wished everyone a happy Thanksgiving.

Planning Director Julie Young stated that the building and zoning official job opening has been posted.

Director of Economic Development Sarabeth Drybread stated that the Legion informed her that there will be at least 25 soldiers from Camp Atterbury assisting with Wreaths Across America. Director Drybread stated that demolition of the building at 201 West Main Cross Street starts next week.

Director Drybread stated that they have continued to work with carriage companies regarding insurance. Director Drybread reached out to neighboring communities to ask what they do in terms of insurance coverage and what they require from vendors. A carriage company that worked with the Town last year reached back out and Director Drybread has been speaking with them and the insurance representatives. Director Drybread stated that they provided a waiver and their insurance and she is awaiting feedback from the Town's insurance representative.

Discussion was held regarding the process this has been.

Discussion was held regarding doing a tiered system so that every vendor is only asked what is needed from them based on their size and what services they provide.

Director Drybread stated that everything is on a case-by-case basis and the insurance is requiring more due to prior litigation.

Discussion was held regarding having Attorney Huddleston look over the waiver that every carriage passenger would need to sign.

Parks Director Daniel Teter stated that the Christmas lights are being put up and will be turned on Wednesday evening.

Adjourn

Being no further business or comments, Councilwoman Rooks made a motion to adjourn. Councilwoman Buck seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

The full video archive of the meeting is available for viewing at https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL0pagNU7lg5FkjGffQyWphtcPehlL-R5g for as long as this media is supported.

EDINBURGH TOWN COUNCIL

Ryan Piercefield, President

Miriam Rooks, Vice President

Debbie Buck

Sherri Sweet

Michael Bryant

ATTEST:

Rhonda Barrett, Clerk-Treasurer