**Town Council Meeting**
**Monday, January 12, 2026**
**6:00PM**

Edinburgh Town Council met in a regular session on Monday, January 12, 2026, 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, Councilman Michael Bryant.

Councilwoman Sherri Sweet was absent.

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

**Election of Officers-** Attorney Huddleston stated annually the Council must elect a President and Vice-President. Attorney Huddleston stated Clerk-Treasurer Barrett is Secretary per statute.

*Councilwoman Buck nominated Ryan Piercefield for Council President. Councilwoman Rooks seconded. Motion carried 4-0.*

*Councilwoman Buck nominated Miriam Rooks for Vice-President. Council President Piercefield seconded. Motion carried 4-0.*

**Minutes-** Council Meeting January 12, 2026

*Councilwoman Rooks made a motion to approve the January 12, 2026, Council Meeting minutes. Councilman Bryant seconded. Motion carried 4-0.*

**Ordinance 2025-22 Amending Ordinance 2024-27 Fee Schedule (2nd Reading)-** Clerk-Treasurer Barrett stated this is the second reading with some updates to Park and Rec fees such as adding fees for programs, classes, and events.

*Councilwoman Buck made a motion to approve Ordinance 2025-22 Amending Ordinance 2024-27 Fee Schedule. Councilwoman Rooks seconded. Motion carried 4-0.*

**Ordinance 2026-1 Amending Ordinance 2025-20 Establishing Salaries (1st Reading)-** Clerk-Treasurer Barrett stated that this is an update to the salary ordinance that adds positions for a building inspector and an electric administrative manager.

Council President Piercefield recommended the Council waive the first reading so that the electric administrative manager position could be brought on.

*Councilwoman Buck made a motion to waive the first reading for Ordinance 2026-1 Amending Ordinance 2025-20 Establishing Salaries. Councilwoman Rooks seconded. Motion carried 4-0.*

*Councilwoman Buck made a motion to approve Ordinance 2025-1 Amending Ordinance 2025-20 Establishing Salaries. Councilwoman Rooks seconded. Motion carried 4-0.*

**Ordinance 2026-2 Amending Chapter 97 Regarding Weeds and Trees (1st Reading)-** Attorney Huddleston stated Planning Director Julie Young examined parts of this ordinance that were not in use or never set up. Attorney Huddleston stated several years ago, maybe decades ago, the Council established a tree fund ordinance and selected arborists to go around and examine trees for the Town. Attorney Huddleston stated that this was done because there was a grant available that had those requirements, but the grant was never issued and none of it was ever set up. Attorney Huddleston stated that it has caused confusion because it is in the Town's code and has certain regulations. Attorney Huddleston stated that he has removed the parts that were not in use but keep the restrictions regarding controlling vegetation per Director Young's request.

*Councilwoman Rooks made a motion to waive the first reading of Ordinance 2026-2 Amending Chapter 97 Regarding Weeds and Trees. Councilwoman Buck seconded. Motion carried 4-0.*

*Councilwoman Rooks made a motion to approve Ordinance 2026-2 Amending Chapter 97 Regarding Weeds and Trees. Councilwoman Buck seconded. Motion carried 4-0.*

**Resolution 2026-1 Transferring Funds from NRO Fire-EMS Account to General Fund-** Clerk-Treasurer Barrett stated that annually funds are transferred from the NRO Fire-EMS account to help offset the budget for the fire department. Clerk-Treasurer Barrett stated the amount this year was $300,000 for the new ambulance being purchased with the donation from Blue River Township. Clerk-Treasurer Barrett stated the Town has their share of $60,875 so $360,875 needs to be transferred to help offset the budget and pay the Town's share on the ambulance.

*Councilwoman Rooks made a motion to approve Resolution 2026-1 Transferring Funds from NRO Fire-EMS Account to General Fund. Councilman Bryant seconded. Motion carried 4-0.*

**AIC TRECS Memorandum of Understanding-** Clerk-Treasurer Barrett stated this was presented at a previous Council meeting and Attorney Huddleston reviewed it and sees no changes needed. Clerk-Treasurer Barrett stated that the Town will submit a list of their outstanding utility bill debts, and they match it to their records so that they can collect the debts through people's state tax refunds. Clerk-Treasurer Barrett stated that the Town has approximately $87,000 in outstanding utility bill debt. Clerk-Treasurer Barrett stated that the only cost to the Town is $3 fee per letter.

Councilwoman Rooks stated she is for this.

*Councilwoman Buck made a motion to approve AIC TRECS Memorandum of Understanding. Councilman Bryant seconded. Motion carried 4-0.*

**2026 Blue River Trustee Contract-** Clerk-Treasurer Barrett stated that this is the annual contract with the Blue River Township where they give the Town $10,000.

Discussion was held regarding whether the Town got $10,000 as well as the $300,000 donation from the Blue River Township.

*Councilwoman Rooks made a motion to approve the 2026 Blue River Trustee Contract. Councilwoman Buck seconded. Motion carried 4-0.*

*Councilwoman Rooks made a motion to authorize Council President Piercefield to sign off on the 2026 Blue River Trustee Contract. Councilman Bryant seconded. Motion carried 4-0.*

**Park and Rec Basketball Donations-** Clerk-Treasurer Barrett presented $450 total in donations from Drug Plastic Closures and Brown County Maple Leaf Management Group.

*Council President Piercefield made a motion to approve the donations as presented in the amount of $450. Councilwoman Buck seconded. Motion carried 4-0.*

**Appointment of Electric Manager -** Town Manager John Myers requested to appoint Kevin Killinger as Electric Manager. Mr. Myers stated Mr. Killinger is from Bargersville and has 14 years of experience. Mr. Myers stated they have had a lot of good discussions, and he thinks Mr. Killinger will be a great fit for the Town.

*Councilwoman Rooks made a motion to approve the Appointment of Electric Manager to Kevin Killinger. Councilman Bryant seconded. Motion carried 4-0.*

**Electric Assistant Superintendent-** Town Manager John Myers requested to promote Journeyman Dalton Hudson to Electric Assistant Superintendent. Mr. Myers stated Mr. Killinger is okay with it and clicked with Mr. Hudson. Mr. Myers thanked Council President Piercefield for his assistance in finding Mr. Killinger.

Council President Piercefield stated Mr. Hudson was a great part of the team and he was glad Mr. Hudson is moving into that position.

Mr. Myers stated that Mr. Hudson has been with the Town for 11 years.

*Councilwoman Rooks made a motion to promote Dalton Hudson to Electric Assistant Superintendent. Councilman Bryant seconded. Motion carried 4-0.*

**Other Business**

Councilwoman Rooks welcomed Mr. Killinger.

Council President Piercefield stated the wastewater plant's lab got an accreditation award. President Piercefield stated Chief Lollar's report this month was good and that Planning Director Julie Young is doing very well.

Clerk-Treasurer Barrett stated that the Council needs to fill out annual nepotism and conflict of interest forms.

Town Manager John Myers stated regarding the hydrant valve and mixer replacements, the Town must do a labor standard. Mr. Myers stated that he has contacted Kleinpeter Consulting Group about the Town's insurance requirement, and they cannot find anyone to meet it. Kleinpeter Consulting Group contacted their insurance company, and it would cost them approximately $12,000 to do a $6,500 job. Mr. Myers stated that they would do most of their work in the office and only be down here a few times to get names. Mr. Myers stated that they would do the insurance but would pass it on to the Town, increasing the Town's costs from $6,500 to $19,203. Mr. Myers stated that he talked to the Town's insurance and was informed that the risks needed to be weighed to see how great the risk is. Mr. Myers stated that in his opinion, it is not a risk since they are doing approximately 90-95% of the work in their office. Mr. Myers stated that they would work in their own office and come down here once or twice to find out who is working and get their information. The company will then submit their payroll to Kleinpeter Consulting Group to make sure they are meeting labor standards.

Council President Piercefield stated that they conduct audits on Infrastructure Systems and come down to make sure they are compliant with prevailing wage scale.

Attorney Huddleston asked what their insurance limit is.

Town Manager John Myers stated $4 million.

Discussion was held regarding their auto insurance. Attorney Huddleston requested Mr. Myers confirm they have auto insurance.

Mr. Myers stated that he will confirm.

Water Superintendent Bill Jones stated that he did annual well testing and maintenance a couple weeks ago. Superintendent Jones stated that well five at the park is down 30% and it is not supposed to be that low. Superintendent Jones stated that the well was put in in 2018 and last cleaned in 2022. Superintendent Jones stated that they are suggesting another cleaning which will be approximately $34,000, and they want to go through it to see if it needs rebuilding. Superintendent Jones stated that it is an unknown cost, but it should be minimal because the well is producing and there is nothing wrong other than it needs cleaning. Superintendent Jones stated that he is trying to get it with SRF money and is waiting for an answer. Superintendent Jones stated that once he receives an answer from SRF, he will ask the Council permission to do the cleaning. Superintendent Jones stated that he also has nine large water meters that are supposed to be replaced every 3-5 years but have not been replaced since approximately 2008. Superintendent Jones presented a quote in the amount of $42,000 to replace those nine meters.

Discussion was held regarding the difference between new meters and the current older meters.

Councilwoman Rooks asked if Superintendent Jones was looking at upcoming expenditures for two projects in the amount of approximately $76,000.

Superintendent Jones confirmed but stated that hopefully $34,000 to $40,000 will be with SRF funds. Superintendent Jones discussed how long it would take until the cleaning could be done and to receive the nine meters after ordering.

Electric Manager Kevin Killinger thanked the Council for the opportunity.

Director of Economic Development SaraBeth Drybread stated that there are two commercial properties in town that will be available, and they are posted on the Town's website. Director Drybread stated one is at 312 West Center Cross Street where Midwest Engines and Generators was and the other property is at 502 West Center Cross Street where Edinburgh Doggy Daycare and Grooming was. Director Drybread stated that she and Parks Director Daniel Teter are having a tri-county park and rec meeting to discuss insurance and contracts. They hope to approach the Council at a future Council meeting regarding a tiered approach to insurance. Director Drybread stated that Lola's Bakeshop at 109 West Main Cross Street opened last week and has been selling out every day. Director Drybread stated that the owner is a native to town and currently has limited hours until she has things going. Director Drybread stated that the owner has bigger plans there and that they will be doing a ribbon cutting when the weather gets a little better. Director

Drybread gave an update on the downtown plaza project thanking the street department for their help and stated that the foundation was a lot deeper than they thought. Director Drybread discussed the grant she is wrapping up and getting quotes on stage design.

**Public Comments**

Cindy Critney, 817 S Holland St, stated that there is only one stop sign on Industrial Drive on the S-curve by Davis Machine. Ms. Critney stated that twice she has been going down Walnut Street and the car on the curve goes straight instead. Ms. Critney stated that there could have been a bad accident.

Scott Finley, 504 S Main St, stated that he has had the same issue. Mr. Finley stated that when he is going north to get to Main Street, you must turn left, and it is awkward not stopping because you must look to the right to make sure another vehicle is not coming.

Council President Piercefield stated that he cannot recall why the stop sign was taken out but it was during the road improvement construction on that road.

Mr. Finley stated that he brought it up to Wade Watson when Mr. Watson worked for the Town at that time.

Jim Critney, 817 S Holland St, stated that it seems like everybody thinks they both have the right of way.

Mr. Finley encouraged the Council to take that route to look at it.

Councilwoman Rooks requested Town Manager John Myers, Police Chief Doyne Little, and Street Superintendent Sean Barnett investigate it.

Mr. Finley stated that there was an ordinance amended at that time.

Councilwoman Buck stated it was approximately four years ago.

Council President Piercefield stated that he knows what the citizens are referring to and will investigate it.

**Adjourn**

*Being no further business or comments, Councilwoman Rooks made a motion to adjourn. Councilwoman Buck seconded. Motion carried 4-0.*

*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**

ABSENT
Ryan Piercefield, President

Miriam Rooks
Miriam Rooks, Vice President

Debbie Buck
Debbie Buck

ABSTAIN
Sherri Sweet

Michael Bryant

ATTEST:
Rhonda Barrett, Clerk-Treasurer