

**Town Council Meeting**  
**Monday, February 12, 2024**  
**6:00 P.M.**

Edinburgh Town Council met in a regular session on Monday, February 12, 2024, at 6:00 P.M. at the Town Hall, 107 South Holland Street, Edinburgh, Indiana.

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

**Members answering roll call:** Councilman Mike Bryant, Councilwoman Debbie Buck, Councilwoman Sherri Sweet, Councilwoman Miriam Rooks, and Council President Ryan Piercefield. Also present were Clerk Treasurer Rhonda Barrett, Town Manager Kevin McGinnis and Town Attorney Dustin Huddleston.

**Minutes** – Clerk-Treasurer Rhonda Barrett presented the Council meeting minutes of January 22, 2024.

*Councilwoman Buck made a motion to approve the January 22, 2024, council meeting minutes. Councilwoman Rooks seconded. Motion carried.*

**Claims** – Clerk-Treasurer Rhonda Barrett council received a copy of three claim dockets in their council packet.

10/31/23 End of Month \$240,109.56  
 11/30/23 End of Month \$716,499.28  
 2/12/24 Claims to be paid \$811,381.08

Those claims have been reviewed and signed and are presented to the council for approval.

*Councilwoman Buck made a motion to approve the claims as submitted. Councilwoman Rooks seconded. Motion carried.*

**Public Hearing Vacation of Public Access** – Attorney Dustin Huddleston said Water Superintendent Bill Jones requested for the alley near the Water Treatment Plant to be vacated for safety reasons. A public notice of a hearing tonight was posted in newspapers and adjoining property owners were notified. Attorney Huddleston said we will open up the Public Hearing to hear any comments. He said that if the vacation of alley is approved, the Council will need to authorize him to prepare an ordinance that removes the alley. He said that the request is for all of the alley to go to the town with none of the alley going to the adjoining property owner, usually in a vacate, the property is split between the adjoining owners. There will be a separate agreement with the adjoining property owner that says they are okay with all of the alley going to the Town. If there are no opposition during the public hearing, the council will need to authorize Dustin to prepare the documents.

Council President Piercefield opened the public hearing asking for anyone who wished to speak to state their name and address for the record. There being no one who wished to speak, the public hearing was closed. Council President Piercefield asked for a motion on the alley vacate.

*Councilwoman Rooks made a motion to approve the Alley Vacate Request. Councilwoman Buck seconded. Motion carried.*

**Library Board Appointment** – Council President Piercefield presented the request for the library board appointment. Councilwoman Buck had questions about the letter received from the library and would like some clarification on the appointment and would like to table until the next meeting to be able to receive more information. Councilwoman Rooks suggested that someone from the library be present concerning the appointment.

*Councilwoman Buck made a motion to table the Library Board Appointment. Councilwoman Rooks seconded. Motion carried.*

**Ordinance 2024-2 Electric Rate Increase (1<sup>st</sup> Reading)** – Attorney Dustin Huddleston referenced the presentations from Electric Superintendent Steve Clark at previous meetings concerning a rate increase. Dustin drafted the ordinance and sent it to Steve Clark and received his approval. This is the first reading of the ordinance which cannot be waived. No action needs to be taken tonight as this is the introduction and 1<sup>st</sup> reading of the Ordinance.

**Graves Construction Change Order #7 for Water Treatment Plant** – Attorney Dustin Huddleston said this change order is a proposal, he is still in discussions with Graves Legal Counsel and suggested this be tabled.

*Councilwoman Buck made a motion to table Graves Construction Change Order #7. Councilwoman Rooks seconded. Motion carried.*

**Wessler Invoice 43386 for Water Treatment Plant** - Clerk-Treasurer Rhonda Barrett presented the Wessler Water Treatment Plant Invoice 43386 in the amount of \$28,610.38 for Council approval. Attorney Dustin Huddleston said this goes in conjunction with the Graves Construction Change Order #7 and recommended the invoice be tabled.

*Councilwoman Rooks made a motion to table Wessler Invoice 43386. Councilwoman Sweet seconded. Motion carried.*

**Police Grant Discussion** - Police Chief Doyne Little said he is planning for 2025 and said that he had received approval for the handheld radios and those should be in soon. He said the in-car radios they currently have are not going to be able to be used if the upgrade for 2025 goes through as planned. He is requesting approval to apply for a Jag grant for new in-car radios and new vests for officers. He said the grants are pre-bid amounts, that the grantor determines. For example, if he applies for a \$10,000 grant for the needed equipment and if they cost more than the grant, the Town will need to pay the difference. If the grant is applied for now, it should be awarded around October. He would like the Council's approval to apply for this grant.

Councilwoman Sweet asked about the vests that are to be ordered, and if that supplies vests for the reserves.

Police Chief Doyne Little said that the reserve vests were purchased a couple of years ago and are not on the same rotation as the full-time officer vests. He said that State Statute requires vests be replaced every 5 years and the reserve vests still have a couple of years left. He said the vests cost approximately \$800 each and the focus is to replace those that expire in 2025. He said that for the reserve vests, he will come back for approval to replace those the year before they expire.

*Councilwoman Rooks made a motion to allow Police Chief Doyne Little to apply for the Jag grant as discussed. Councilwoman Sweet seconded. Motion carried.*

**New Service Truck Purchase** – Water Superintendent Bill Jones presented a copy of the capital improvement project plan for 2021-2024 with an estimate of improvements that totaled \$1,390,000. He discussed which capital improvements had been completed and what was still on the list which included the purchase of a new service truck. He is requesting to purchase a truck from Country Chevrolet for \$59,815 which includes the service bed and was the lowest quote, to replace the 2007 pickup truck they currently have. He said the 2007 truck would be transferred to one of the other departments that might need a truck.

Councilwoman Rooks asked if a snowplow could be put on this truck.

Water Superintendent Bill Jones said that yes, he could put a snowplow on it.

Council President Piercefield asked Clerk-Treasurer Rhonda Barrett if funds were available for this purchase. Clerk-Treasurer Rhonda Barrett said funds were available for the truck.

Council President Piercefield asked about the warranty. Water Superintendent Bill Jones said it was the standard 60,000-mile warranty.

Councilwoman Buck asked Water Superintendent Bill Jones if he budgeted for the truck. Bill said that it was included on the Capital Improvement List.

*Councilwoman Sweet made a motion to approve the purchase of the truck for the Water Department. Councilwoman Rooks seconded. Motion carried.*

**2023-2 Paving Project Bid Award** - Town Manager Kevin McGinnis presented a power point of the amounts from the bid opening on February 7, 2024, for the 2023-2 Paving Project Bid. The bid results were reviewed by Crossroad Engineers, and they are recommending to award Robertson Paving the contract for the 2023-2 Paving Project.

Council President Piercefield commented on the great work that Robertson Paving has done on past projects.

Attorney Dustin Huddleston recommended that as with previous bids to allow him to work with Robertson Paving on getting the agreement signed.

*Councilwoman Buck made a motion to approve the bid award contract to Robertson Paving. Councilwoman Rooks seconded. Motion carried.*

**115 East Main Cross Demolition Casey Bertram Agreement** – Town Manager Kevin McGinnis said we have the final draft signed by Casey Bertram for the 115 East Main Cross demolition. He said the document needs to be reviewed by Attorney Dustin Huddleston before the council signs the agreement.

Councilwoman Buck asked if there had been some interest from an outside party to purchase the property.

Town Manager Kevin McGinnis said that there had been some interest, but the two parties could not come to an agreement on the purchase.

Town Manager Kevin McGinnis said that once the project is started there will be some additional costs that may occur due to unforeseen obstacles that may appear during the process of the demolition.

*Councilwoman Rooks made a motion to approve the Casey Bertram 115 East Main Cross agreement subject to Attorney Dustin Huddleston's review. Councilwoman Buck seconded. Motion carried.*

*Councilwoman Rooks made a motion to approve Council President Piercefield to sign the Casey Bertram 115 East Main Cross agreement. Councilwoman Buck seconded. Motion carried.*

**Fire Station No. 1 Rental Rate Appraisals** – Town Manager Kevin McGinnis said he received appraisal from Don R. Scheidt and Integra Realty on a proposed rental rate of the Fire Station No. 1 property located on South Walnut Street. He said that the square footages from the appraisers didn't match, so he measured it himself. He said that he took his square footage at the rate per square foot that the appraisers had determined, to come up with an annual and monthly rental rate. He said along with the rent, the renter would be responsible for the property taxes, insurance, and utilities.

Attorney Dustin Huddleston said the process is to first have the property appraised to determine rental averages and the next process is to authorize him to do a resolution to advertise for rental of the property at those rates and terms. He said the advertisement would require potential renters to submit a bid and those would be brought before the council to review and make a decision on whether or not to lease the property.

*Councilwoman Rooks motion to allow Attorney Dustin Huddleston do paperwork for leasing of Fire Station 1 based on the appraisals as presented. Councilwoman Buck second. Motion carried. Council President Piercefield abstained from voting.*

Town Manager Kevin McGinnis said that when he was there, the roof was leaking and he has 1 quote for repairs and is waiting on the 2<sup>nd</sup> quote.

**Milestone Main Street Force Main Relocation Agreement-Approve and Sign** – Town Manager Kevin McGinnis updated the new council members that when extending Main Street to 900 North a new sewer line was put in. He said that during that process there had been a change in personnel in the Wastewater Department, and something went unnoticed that placed the force main within 12 inches of surface of the ground causing a potential to freeze. This agreement is to bore deeper to connect the lift station to an existing line. He said that we advertised for bids and Milestone was awarded the bid.

Councilwoman Rooks asked Attorney Dustin Huddleston if he had everything he needed.

Attorney Dustin Huddleston said that the agreement is good to go.

*Councilwoman Rooks made motion to approve the Main Street Force Main Relocation Agreement with Milestone Contractors. Councilwoman Sweet seconded. Motion carried.*

*Councilwoman Rooks made a motion for Council President Piercefield to sign the agreement. Councilwoman Sweet seconded Motion carried.*

Council President Piercefield asked Town Manager Kevin McGinnis if someone from the Town would be overseeing the project. Town Manager Kevin McGinnis said that there would be.

**Rumpke Contract Addendum No. 2** – Town Manager Kevin McGinnis said the original Rumpke agreement is for 5 years to be renewed annually. He said that the agreement to sign tonight is for year 2,

and that it does match the pricing on the original agreement and will be renewed on an annual basis. He is recommending approval of the Rumpke Contract Addendum No. 2.

Councilwoman Rooks asked if there were any increases on anything. Town Manager Kevin McGinnis said no.

*Councilwoman Buck made a motion to approve Rumpke Contract Addendum No. 2. Councilwoman Sweet seconded. Motion carried.*

**Enforcement of the Chicken Ordinance** – Town Manager Kevin McGinnis recommends to table the enforcement of the Chicken Ordinance.

*Councilwoman Rooks made a motion to table. Councilwoman Buck seconded. Motion carried.*

### **Other Business**

Councilwoman Sweet thanked Water Superintendent Bill Jones for tour of the new water plant and complimented Bill on the new building and his knowledge. She also thanked Police Chief Doyne Little for a tour of the police station and discussing his plans and concerns for the department. She also thanked Officer Jason Hyer for allowing her to ride along with him during his shift. Sherri said that she appreciates the diligence of the departments and for taking time to talk with her.

Council President Piercefield said they had another big fire Saturday morning and complimented the Police and Fire on their work at that fire. He complimented Parks Director Daniel Teter on the good turnout at the Father/Daughter dance and the fact they sold 350 tickets.

Town Manager Kevin McGinnis said the Comprehensive Plan Committee will be having their first meeting on February 28. He said that he and Attorney Dustin Huddleston are working on a developer electric lot contribution. He said that they had a 252-project catchup meeting today to review final agreements and concepts. He said that INDOT will be sending out for bids in September of this year. He said that the Blue River Dam is going through the permit process and is expected to start mid-July and it should take 10-14 days. He said he is working on a monument concept with Parks Director Daniel Teter and Sarabeth Drybread. He said they are looking for a location to store stones for the monument. He said that last week he went to a county wide opioid settlement fund meeting and has information to present to the council at a later date.

### **Departmental Comments**

Police Chief Doyne Little lost a K9 this week. She has been cremated, there were some paw prints made in clay, and there was a great turnout of Public Safety officials for a wake for the K9. He said they had 3 car chases this week.

Electric Superintendent Steve Clark said he wanted to follow up on easements, property owner on East or West Park is wanting to build a structure and wants to take over the easement, he was concerned with how they could legally do that as other utilities are in the easement.

Council President Piercefield ask Electric Superintendent Steve Clark to email that information to Attorney Dustin Huddleston

Fire Chief Justin Lollar said he is very appreciative of being fully supportive by all departments and town staff in his first three weeks on staff. He said the new guy from Franklin had a garage fire on second night on staff. He said that he is really glad to be here and know that he made a great move.

Parks Director Daniel Teter said they had a great Father/Daughter dance, and he wanted to thank Whosoever Will Church for donating the space & Max & Ermas for their cookie donation. He said that registration for little league programs is going on, they are having basketball every Saturday, and they are taking applications for summer staff.

Councilwoman Buck asked what the minimum age is for working. Parks Director Daniel Teter saie 14 can work concessions, but to be a lifeguard you need to be 15 per Red Cross.

Water Superintendent Bill Jones said thanks for new truck purchase, water plant is up and running well, and they are slowly moving offices over.

### **Public Comments**

Larry Rowe 107 N Main Street said that the sidewalk in front of his house is being blocked by new neighbors. The new trucking company is blocking the sidewalk causing people to walk in the street, due to the long vehicles.

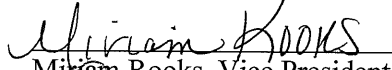
Police Chief Doyne Little said he will look into it and talk to the company about blocking the sidewalk.

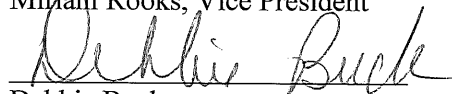
**Adjourn**

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


**EDINBURGH TOWN COUNCIL**

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Ryan Piercefield, President

  
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Miriam Rooks, Vice President

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Debbie Buck

  
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Sherri Sweet

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Michael Bryant

ATTEST:  
  
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Rhonda Barrett, Clerk-Treasurer