

Town Council Meeting
November 25, 2024
6:00PM

Edinburgh Town Council met in a regular session on Monday, November 25, 2024, at 6:00PM, at the Town Hall, 107 South Holland Street, Edinburgh, IN.

Councilwoman Rooks called the meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Members Answering Roll Call: Councilwoman Miriam Rooks, Councilwoman Debbie Buck, Councilwoman Sherri Sweet, and Councilman Michael Bryant. Council President Ryan Piercefield was absent.

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

Minutes- Minutes of November 12, 2024, Executive meeting and November 12, 2024 Town Council Meeting.

Councilwoman Buck made a motion to approve November 12, 2024 Executive Meeting minutes and November 12, 2024 Town Council Meeting minutes. Councilwoman Sweet seconded. Motion carried 4-0.

Claims- Clerk-Treasurer Barrett presented one claim docket in the amount of \$832,485.29.

Councilwoman Buck asked about the \$20,047 claim from Driftwood Builders. Clerk-Treasurer stated it was an insurance claim for a building at the wastewater plant that had a tree fall and damage it, there is a \$5,000 deductible and we have received a check from insurance for the difference. Councilwoman Buck asked about the \$12,020 claim from Beard Equipment for 2024 Turfco Torrent 2 turbine blower. Clerk-Treasurer Barrett stated it was for Timbergate.

Councilwoman Buck made a motion to approve the claim docket as presented in the amount of \$832,485.29. Councilwoman Sweet seconded. Motion carried 4-0.

Public Hearing 2024 Comprehensive Plan- Councilwoman Rooks opened the public hearing for the 2024 Comprehensive Plan.

Donna Anderson with Kenna Consulting stated the town of Edinburgh was awarded a comprehensive plan grant in September 2023 to replace the 14-year-old 2010 plan. Donna stated that OCRA has reviewed and approved the plan. After a brief discussion, Donna asked representatives from HWC Engineering to discuss steps they had taken in developing the comprehensive plan.

Rachel Christensen, planning studio lead and project manager with HWC Engineering, discussed the two resolutions concerning the Comprehensive Plan, one is for the use of the CDBG funds which was part of the grant received to do the Comprehensive Plan, and the other resolution is required by Indiana Code to adopt the Comprehensive Plan.

Genevieve with HWC Engineering gave a brief overview of the comprehensive plan stating Edinburgh's Comprehensive plan began in January of 2024. Genevieve discussed the steps taken in establishing a steering committee, data collection and analysis, engagement process, and discussed the major findings of the Comprehensive Plan.

Attorney Huddleston asked HWC representatives if the Plan Commissions requests were added to the draft. Rachel with HWC stated that those changes and any changes from the Council would be made in the final draft. Discussion was held on the requests from the Plan Commission which included wording and typographical errors.

With no further comments, Councilwoman Rooks closed the public hearing.

Resolution 2024-30 Approving Comp Plan- Attorney Huddleston presented Resolution 2024-30 Approving Comp Plan.

Councilwoman Buck made a motion to approve Resolution 2024-30 Approving Comp Plan. Councilman Bryant seconded. Motion carried 4-0.

Resolution 2024-33 Approval of Comp Master Plan- Planning Director Julie Young stated the previous resolution was for the state statute requirements. Director Young stated this resolution is for approval of the OCRA requirements.

Councilwoman Buck made a motion to approve Resolution 2024-33 Approval of Comp Master Plan. Councilman Bryant seconded. Motion carried 4-0.

Public Hearing Additional Appropriation- Councilwoman Rooks opened the public hearing for the Additional Appropriation for the General Obligation Bond.

Clerk-Treasurer Barrett stated we received quotes from two different banks. The First Internet Bank had the lower interest rate of 4.5% so that is who the Town will go with.

Discussion was held concerning whether we have worked with this bank before.

With no further comments, Councilwoman Rooks closed the public hearing.

Ordinance 2024-22 GO Bond Ordinance (2nd Reading)- Attorney Huddleston stated this is the second reading of Ordinance 2024-22 GO Bond Ordinance which was introduced at the previous Town Council meeting.

Councilwoman Sweet made a motion to approve Ordinance 2024-22 GO Bond Ordinance (2nd Reading). Councilman Bryant seconded. Motion carried 4-0.

Ordinance 2024-23 GO Bond Additional Appropriation (2nd Reading)- Attorney Huddleston stated this is the second reading of Ordinance 2024-23 GO Bond Additional Appropriation which was introduced at the previous Town Council meeting.

Councilwoman Sweet made a motion to approve Ordinance 2024-23 GO Bond Additional Appropriation (2nd Reading). Councilman Bryant seconded. Motion carried 4-0.

Ordinance 2024-24 Amending Chapter 75 (1st Reading)- Attorney Huddleston stated at the previous Town Council meeting a citizen requested the 15-minute loading zone signs on Walnut Street be removed to open more parking spots for downtown.

Councilwoman Buck made a motion to waive the first reading of Ordinance 2024-24 Amending Chapter 75. Councilwoman Rooks seconded. Motion carried 4-0.

Councilwoman Buck made a motion to approve Ordinance 2024-24 Amending Chapter 75. Councilwoman Sweet seconded. Motion carried 4-0.

Resolution 2024-31 Meeting Schedule- Clerk-Treasurer Barrett stated this is for the 2025 Town Council meeting schedule. Meeting dates will continue to be the second and fourth Monday of every month, with the exception of May 27th being a Tuesday due to Memorial Day Holiday, and December 29th being the 5th Monday to allow for all year end items.

Councilwoman Buck made a motion to approve Resolution 2024-31 Meeting Schedule. Councilwoman Sweet seconded. Motion carried 4-0.

Resolution 2024-32 Use of Auctioneer- Attorney Huddleston stated at the previous Town Council meeting there was a request to put three pieces of equipment on GovDeals.com for auction, this resolution provides that and limits the amounts.

Councilwoman Sweet made a motion to approve Resolution 2024-32 Use of Auctioneer. Councilwoman Buck seconded. Motion carried 4-0.

Holiday Schedule Discussion- Clerk-Treasurer Barrett presented a draft of the holiday schedule to the Council with some additional holidays added to it.

Discussion was held concerning the Employee Spring Appreciation Day meal and adding New Years Eve to the holiday schedule.

Wessler Invoice 45797 for Water Treatment Plant- Clerk-Treasurer Barrett stated the Wessler invoice is for construction administration on the water treatment plant and has been reviewed and approved by Bill Jones, Water Superintendent.

Discussion was held concerning how many Wessler invoices were left.

Councilwoman Buck made a motion to approve Wessler Invoice 45797 for \$1565.00. Councilwoman Sweet seconded. Motion carried 4-0.

Councilwoman Buck made a motion to authorize Councilwoman Rooks to sign off on Wessler Invoice 45797. Councilwoman Sweet seconded. Motion carried 4-0.

IT Proposals- Town Manager John Myers presented two proposals from IT companies Wright Tech and VF Secure. Mr. Myers stated the town's current IT person is semi-retired, only works three days a week, and only plans to work another year or so. There is a \$300 difference per month between the two proposals.

Discussion was held concerning the impressions given by the two different companies.

Mr. Myers stated the quote for VF Secure is \$5,799.50 per month and the quote for Wright Tech is \$5,500 per month.

Discussion was held concerning fees and the budget and what equipment the IT company would like to replace.

Councilwoman Buck made a motion to authorize Town Manager John Myers to proceed with the IT quote from Van Ausdall. Councilwoman Sweet seconded. Motion carried 4-0.

Councilwoman Buck made a motion to authorize Town Manager John Myers to proceed with the firewall section of the quote from Van Ausdall. Councilman Bryant seconded. Motion carried 4-0.

Baker Tilly Scope of Work- Mitchell Eschweiler with Baker Tilly provided a scope of work to calculate availability fees for the water and sewer utility. Mr. Eschweiler stated these fees are for when the Town has new development, it would be a fee charged to the developer that would then be passed on to the price of the home. The water and sewer utility would collect these fees and then segregate them into an availability or capacity fee fund that could be used for future capacity related projects. The purpose of the fees is so that current residents are not subsidizing future growth. Mr. Eschweiler stated they will give a comparison of surrounding communities fees so that we can compare. The scope of work is based on time and expense and has a not to exceed of \$6000 for each utility.

Planning Director Julie Young stated it is very common to see these fees on a permit. Director Young stated currently the Town's permit fees do not have several fees that are common in the development world.

Councilwoman Buck made a motion to approve the Baker Tilly Scope of Work. Councilwoman Sweet seconded. Motion carried 4-0.

Councilwoman Buck made a motion to authorize Councilwoman Rooks to sign off on the Baker Tilly Scope of Work. Councilman Bryant. Motion carried 4-0.

Request to Purchase Police Vehicles- Police Chief Doyne Little requested to purchase two new police vehicles. Chief Little stated Dodge is having engine problems with their vehicles, but still has not issued a recall. The State Police have lost 17% of their products to this engine problem.

Chief Little presented two quotes each for a 2025 Ford Interceptor and a 2025 Chevrolet Tahoe and stated he would like to purchase one of each. It is approximately \$5,000 more for a Chevrolet Tahoe.

Chief Little stated if any of their Dodge's start having the engine issue outside of their warranties, it is \$5,000 out of pocket for each vehicle to be repaired.

Discussion was held concerning the price difference between the two vehicles and where these new vehicles could be serviced when needed as the lowest quotes are from vendors in Columbia City and Fort Wayne. Chief Little stated that service could be done at any local dealership.

Discussion was held concerning SBOA requirements for accepting a higher quote on the Tahoe compared to the Interceptor and how long the Council had to look over the purchase request for the Chevrolet Tahoe. Clerk Treasurer Barrett stated that she would reach out to SBOA to confirm the purchase of two different brands of vehicle.

Discussion was held concerning the equipment needed for the new vehicles. Chief Little stated he is still waiting for a quote for the lights but would not need those until January.

Councilwoman Sweet made a motion to approve the purchase of one 2025 Ford Interceptor from City Ford Auto Mall in the amount of \$46,841. Councilman Bryant seconded. Motion carried 4-0.

IU Rural Placemaking Grant Application- Director of Economic Development Sarabeth Drybread attended a webinar last week about the IU Center for Rural Engagement and the

Eskenazi School of Art and Architecture and Design. Director Drybread stated they have a rural placemaking grant that opened on November 17, 2024, and closes January 17, 2025. This grant is not a monetary grant but is for technical support and design and she would like to apply for it for the downtown plaza. Director Drybread wants to apply for the rural placemaking grant before the end of the year.

Other Business

Councilwoman Rooks asked Sarabeth Drybread if we have JMH's permission in writing to use their property at 201 West Main Cross St. for the Holiday of Lights Ice Skating Rink. Director of Economic Development Sarabeth Drybread stated we have verbal permission, but she can get it in writing from JMH.

Councilwoman Rooks asked Sarabeth about the insurance for the Holiday of Lights activities and vendors. Sarabeth stated she had reached out to Charlie Vaught with our insurance provider to add this, and that the ice-skating company, Bouncers R Us has insurance as well, and all food vendors will provide their own insurance as well.

Town Manager John Myers stated the Vac truck sold on GovDeals.com for \$60,000.

Town Manager John Myers stated Insight is planning to start the sewer lining on December 3rd. Mr. Myers stated Insight is requesting a 60-day extension again.

Discussion was held on whether an extension should be granted, how far along the project is currently and how long of an extension should be given.

Councilwoman Buck made a motion to approve a 10-day extension to Insight from the original completion date with a \$1,400 fee for every day they must work past the extension date.

Councilman Bryant seconded. Motion carried 4-0.

Police Chief Doyne Little stated they would like to extend the Holiday of Lights road closures from 5pm to 7pm for the carriage rides. Chief Little requested to allow golf carts on the roads as they won't spook the horses like a car would.

Discussion was held regarding extending the road closure from 5pm until 9pm when the carriage rides end.

Councilwoman Sweet made a motion to extend the hours of the E Main Cross St Road closure for the Holiday of Lights to be from 5pm to 9pm and to allow golf carts to be on the road.

Councilwoman Buck seconded. Motion carried 4-0.

Police Chief Doyne Little stated former Edinburgh police officer Nick Green passed away.

Planning Director Julie Young informed the Council that the Timbergate developer withdrew their petition on changing the home sizes.

Water Superintendent Bill Jones stated there are some items in the old electric garage that did not sell on Govdeals that they would like to get rid of to make space which includes an old printer, toolbox and misc. items. Attorney Huddleston stated that he would get with Superintendent Jones on the collective value of the items.

Water Superintendent Bill Jones stated there is a new callout company that has given him a contract and they would like to give the Town a quote for their services. Superintendent Jones stated that currently the electric department is the only one who uses it, but the water and wastewater departments could use it as well.

Electric Superintendent Stephen Clark stated the current callout company the Town has is just an answering service. Superintendent Clark stated he has had multiple complaints about the quality. The company that Bill mentioned that would like to give a quote has a software version and it will help with tracking things.

Parks Director Daniel Teter stated the winter basketball league has started and decorations are being put up for the holidays. Director Teter stated next month the Santa shop will be setup at the elementary school.

Director of Economic Director Sarabeth Drybread stated there is window art being put downtown by three local artists. Director Drybread stated this weekend is Black Friday and Small Business Saturday. Director Drybread stated local artist Rick Wilson will have a pop-up art gallery from 10am-6pm on Friday and Saturday at the Community Center. Not Just Popcorn

will do old fashion popcorn garland and cranberry sauce making from 3pm-6pm on Saturday. Director Drybread stated Rollin Mini Barns are lending the Town a mini barn for three to four weeks for us to use as a skating shed and storage barn. Coca-Cola out of Columbus, IN will be lending their red trailer for the Cocoa Café. Director Drybread reminded everyone that cheer fund signups start next Monday-Thursday.

Adjourn

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

These minutes are a summary of actions taken at the Town of Edinburgh Council meetings. The full video archive of the meeting is available for viewing at <https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL0pagNU7lg5FkjGffQyWphicPehLL-R5g> for as long as this media is supported.

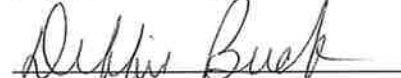
EDINBURGH TOWN COUNCIL

 - Abstain

Ryan Piercefield, President



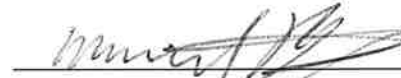
Miriam Rooks, Vice President



Debbie Buck

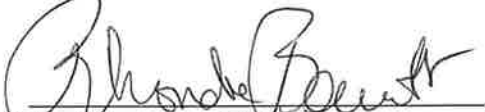


Sherri Sweet



Michael Bryant

ATTEST:



Rhonda Barrett, Clerk-Treasurer