

Town Council Meeting
Monday, January 27, 2025
6:00PM

Edinburgh Town Council met in a regular session on Monday, January 27, 2025, at 6:00PM. At the Town Hall, 107 South Holland Street, Edinburgh, IN.

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

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

Councilwoman Debbie Buck was absent.

Also present were Town Manager John Myers and Clerk-Treasurer Rhonda Barrett. Attorney Huddleston was present via phone call.

Minutes- Minutes of January 13, 2025, Council meeting.

Councilwoman Rooks made a motion to approve January 13, 2025, Town Council meeting minutes. Councilwoman Sweet seconded. Motion carried 4-0.

Claims- Clerk-Treasurer Barrett presented one claim docket in the amount of \$1,136,000.99.

Councilwoman Rooks made a motion to approve the claim docket as presented in the amount of \$1,136,000.99. Councilwoman Sweet seconded. Motion carried 4-0.

Ordinance 2025-1 Amending Salary Ordinance 2024-26 (1st Reading)- Clerk-Treasurer Barrett stated this includes the stipend for holiday pay for part-time fire department personnel that was approved at the previous meeting. Clerk-Treasurer Barrett stated upon further examination, more changes need to be made to the salary ordinance. Clerk-Treasurer Barrett requested to table Ordinance 2025-1 Amending Salary Ordinance 2024-26 (1st Reading) until the February 10, 2025, Council meeting.

Resolution 2025-2 Determining Certain Property Worthless Surplus Property- Attorney Huddleston stated Fire Chief Justin Lollar requested to donate the department's 2006 Ford Expedition to Amity Fire Department.

Councilwoman Rooks made a motion to approve Resolution 2025-2 Determining Certain Property Worthless Surplus Property. Councilman Bryant seconded. Motion carried 4-0.

2006 Ford Expedition Bill of Sale- Attorney Huddleston stated this is to donate the 2006 Ford Expedition as is with no warranties to the Amity Fire Department.

Councilwoman Sweet made a motion to approve the 2006 Ford Expedition Bill of Sale. Councilwoman Rooks seconded. Motion carried 4-0.

Councilwoman Sweet made a motion to authorize Council President Piercefield to sign off on the 2006 Ford Expedition Bill of Sale. Councilman Bryant seconded. Motion carried 4-0.

Approval of Public Official Bond for Deputy Police Chief- Clerk-Treasurer Barrett stated this is the annual renewal bond for the Deputy Police Chief Shawn Kelsay.

Councilwoman Rooks made a motion to approve the Public Official Bond for Deputy Police Chief Shawn Kelsay. Councilwoman Sweet seconded. Motion carried 4-0.

Conflict of Interest Approval- Clerk-Treasurer Barrett stated this is for the annual conflict of interest forms that must be signed by the Council and Clerk-Treasurer.

Councilwoman Sweet made a motion to approve the Conflict-of-Interest forms for the Council and Clerk-Treasurer. Councilwoman Rooks seconded. Motion carried 4-0.

Conflict of Nepotism- Clerk-Treasurer Barrett stated this is for the annual conflict of nepotism forms that must be signed by the Council and Clerk-Treasurer.

Councilwoman Sweet made a motion to approve the Conflict of Nepotism forms for the Council and Clerk-Treasurer. Councilman Bryant seconded. Motion carried 4-0.

712 S Eisenhower Lease Renewal- Town Manager John Myers stated the current tenants are interested in extending their lease so he forwarded the lease to Attorney Huddleston for review. The current lease has an end date and does not provide an extension of the term. Mr. Myers stated the Council needs to decide if they would like to continue to lease the property as they will have to obtain appraisals of the property and readvertise the lease for the property.

Attorney Huddleston stated if the Council would like to continue to lease this property, he recommends evaluating the lease value and submitting out for any bids to lease it as the current lease does not have an extension of the term. The last value assessment was approximately two and a half years ago for this property. Attorney Huddleston stated the Council would have to determine a unique circumstance to not have the property appraised again.

Discussion was held concerning whether the current tenants pay fair market value rent.

Attorney Huddleston stated the current lease ends in March and it does state that if it is a holdover lease, the tenants would pay month-to-month.

Council President Piercefield stated the Council would like to investigate this further before deciding.

Wessler Master Agreement for Waterworks Engineering Services 9th Amendment- Town Manager John Myers stated this was approved at the previous meeting subject to Attorney Huddleston's review. It is now ready for a signature.

Councilwoman Sweet made a motion to approve the Wessler Master Agreement for Waterworks Engineering Services 9th Amendment. Councilwoman Rooks seconded. Motion carried 4-0.

Councilwoman Sweet made a motion to authorize Council President Piercefield to sign the Wessler Master Agreement for Waterworks Engineering Services 9th Amendment. Councilwoman Rooks seconded. Motion carried 4-0.

CrossRoad Engineers Professional Services Agreement- Town Manager John Myers stated this is a professional services agreement for the 2024-02 CCMG Paving Project. Mr. Myers stated the total cost is \$63,000 and would come out of the CCMG grant.

Councilwoman Rooks made a motion to approve the CrossRoad Engineers Professional Services Agreement. Councilwoman Sweet seconded. Motion carried 4-0.

Councilwoman Rooks made a motion to authorize Council President Piercefield to sign off on the CrossRoad Engineers Professional Services Agreement. Councilman Bryant seconded. Motion carried 4-0.

Utility Poles Purchase- Electric Superintendent Stephen Clark stated this is to replenish stock. Superintendent Clark stated the last poles purchased in November 2024 were paid for by Comcast. This new purchase would come out of the Town's budget.

Councilwoman Sweet asked how many poles are changed per year. Electric Superintendent Clark stated approximately they change 80 poles out every year as part of their regular maintenance.

Councilwoman Rooks made a motion to approve the utility pole purchase from Koppers in the amount of \$19,206.00. Councilman Bryant seconded. Motion carried 4-0.

Daupler Call Out Service Presentation- Electric Superintendent Stephen Clark stated the electric department is the only department with a third-party service that handles callouts. Superintendent Clark stated he is not happy with our current third-party company who handles the callouts. This service could be used by all three utilities and the annual cost would be shared by Electric, Water and Wastewater.

Elena, a representative from Daupler, was in attendance via Zoom and gave a presentation, describing how Daupler call out service works compared to other call out services and how their system keeps residents updated about power outages or other utility events.

Discussion was held regarding whether any other local municipalities are using this service and the annual cost of Daupler compared to the cost from the current provider that is minute, and phone call based.

Water Superintendent Bill Jones gave an example of a situation where Daupler would have been beneficial to have when the current call out service sent a water standby to a residence to shut off water, and they should have sent out the electric to shut off electricity to the residence.

Discussion was held regarding the turnaround time to go live with Daupler and the capability of the department's budgets to handle the cost.

Councilwoman Rooks made a motion to approve the Daupler Call Out Service subject to Attorney Huddleston's review. Councilwoman Sweet seconded. Motion carried 4-0.

Timbergate Section 4 Plat- Planning Director Julie Young stated the Council approved the Timbergate bonds at the December 30, 2024, Council meeting subject to legal counsel review. Director Young stated that to keep the project moving she is requesting approval of the plat subject to the easements and the approved bonds being approved by Staff and Legal Counsel and being recorded. A signer for the easements would also need to be approved.

Councilwoman Rooks made a motion to approve the Timbergate Section 4 Plat subject to staff and Attorney Huddleston's review. Councilwoman Sweet seconded. Motion carried 4-0.

Councilwoman Rooks made a motion to authorize Council President Piercefield to sign the easements for the Timbergate Section 4 Plat. Councilman Bryant seconded. Motion carried 4-0.

Other Business

Councilwoman Sweet thanked Director of Economic Development Sarabeth Drybread for her help with her daughter as her daughter tries to open a business downtown.

Council President Piercefield stated a new barber shop will be opening downtown next week.

Council President Piercefield stated he has been working with Town Manager John Myers and Stan Brown with the cemetery to replace the current Caterpillar excavator. Mr. Brown does not feel the excavator is safe to operate and it is out of warranty. President Piercefield presented a quote in the amount of \$28,800.00 for a new excavator from Bobcat in Columbus, IN with the trade in of the Caterpillar excavator.

Discussion was held regarding recent repairs of the Caterpillar Excavator.

Councilwoman Rooks made a motion to approve the purchase of the E60 R2-Series Bobcat compact excavator from Bobcat in Columbus, IN in the amount of \$28,800.00. Councilman Bryant seconded. Motion carried 4-0.

Councilwoman Rooks made a motion to authorize Town Manager John Myers to sign off on the purchase of the E60 R2-Series Bobcat compact excavator. Councilman Bryant seconded. Motion carried 4-0.

Electric Superintendent Stephen Clark stated he has openings for a Journeyman and an Assistant and that the Journeyman position will be posted. Superintendent Clark stated he is currently looking for a worker with experience.

Water Superintendent Bill Jones stated he received permission from DNR and IDEM to start getting the repair done on the exposed water main in the river while waiting on the permitting process. Superintendent Jones stated a contractor will be giving him a cost estimate for the work this week.

Water Superintendent Bill Jones stated they had two callouts for frozen water meters. One of the callouts was for 117 E Main Cross Street next to where the building was torn down in 2024 as the water lines are inside the wall that is now exposed with the other building being gone.

Parks Director Daniel Teter stated the Father Daughter Dance is on February 7th. Basketball leagues are played every Saturday from 9AM to 4PM. Baseball, softball, and t-ball league registration are currently going on. Director Teter stated they have started advertising for

seasonal staff positions. Dates have been set for Farmer’s Market this year and preparation for the Firecracker Festival has begun.

Councilwoman Rooks asked Director of Economic Development Sarabeth Drybread for an update on the meeting Director Drybread had with the property representative from Workman’s Trailer Court. Director Drybread stated they provided the representative with resources. Director Drybread stated that she and Planning Director Julie Young discussed the next steps to figuring out the best way forward for the property and the residents who live there.

Adjourn


Being no further business or comments, Councilwoman Rooks 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=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