

Town Council Meeting
January 13, 2025
6:00PM

Edinburgh Town Council met in a regular session on Monday, January 13, 2024, 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 Debbie Buck, and Councilman Michael Bryant.

Councilwoman Sherri Sweet was absent.

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

Election of Officers- Attorney Huddleston stated at the first Council meeting of every year, a Council President and Vice President must be elected.

Councilwoman Buck made a motion to keep Ryan Piercefield as the Council President and Miriam Rooks as the Council Vice President. Councilman Bryant seconded. Motion carried 4-0.

Minutes- Minutes of December 30, 2024, Council Meeting.

Councilwoman Buck made a motion to approve December 30, 2024, Town Council meeting minutes. Councilwoman Rooks seconded. Motion carried 4-0.

Claims- Clerk-Treasurer Barrett presented two end of month claim dockets in the amounts of \$206,962.09 for October 31, 2024, and \$715,752.93 November 30, 2024. There is not a docket for current payments, as historically there is only one docket in January due to year end closeout.

Councilwoman Rooks made a motion to approve the claims as presented in the amounts of \$206,962.09 and \$715,752.93. Councilwoman Buck seconded. Motion carried.

Resolution 2025-1 Transferring Funds from NRO Fire-EMS Account to General Fund-

Clerk-Treasurer Barrett stated annually money is moved from the NRO Fire-EMS account to help offset the General fund budget for the Fire and EMS. These funds are generated through ambulance runs. Clerk-Treasurer Barrett stated in 2025 the transfer was calculated for \$250,000.

Councilwoman Rooks made a motion to approve Resolution 2025-1 Transferring Funds from NRO Fire-EMS Account to General Fund. Councilman Bryant seconded. Motion carried 4-0.

2025 Blue River Township Trustee Contract- Clerk-Treasurer Barrett stated annually the Town receives funds from Blue River Township for mutual aid of fire and EMS runs within Blue River Township. Historically, the Town has received \$6,000 annually from Blue River Township. Clerk-Treasurer Barrett stated for 2025 the Town will receive \$10,000.

Councilwoman Buck made a motion to approve the 2025 Blue River Township Trustee Contract. Councilwoman Rooks seconded. Motion carried 4-0.

Approval of Public Official Bonds - For Clerk-Treasurer, Town Manager, Town Marshall, and Edinburgh Redevelopment Commission- Clerk-Treasurer Barrett stated this is the annual renewal of bonds for the applicable people. Clerk Treasurer Barrett asked if the bonds were to be approved as a whole or individually. Attorney Huddleston stated that each bond would need to be approved individually.

Councilwoman Buck made a motion to approve the Public Official Bond for the Clerk-Treasurer. Councilwoman Rooks seconded. Motion carried 4-0.

Councilwoman Buck made a motion to approve the Public Official Bond for the Town Manager. Councilwoman Rooks seconded. Motion carried 4-0.

Councilwoman Buck made a motion to approve the Public Official Bond for the Town Marshall. Councilwoman Rooks seconded. Motion carried 4-0.

Councilwoman Buck made a motion to approve the Public Official Bond for the Edinburgh Redevelopment Commission. Councilwoman Rooks seconded. Motion carried 4-0.

Wessler Master Agreement for Waterworks Engineering Services 9th Amendment- Town Manager John Myers stated this is the 9th amendment to the Master Agreement to add engineering work on the exposed water main at the river. The work is not to exceed \$9,700.

Discussion was held regarding the use of the remaining SRF funds and the use of those funds for hydrant, and valve replacement. Water Superintendent Bill Jones stated that the exposed water main is a river crossing, with a ball socket that can be moved that has been exposed due to drought, but with recent rainfalls it is currently not exposed and it services approximately 6 services on the other side of the river.

Clerk Treasurer Barrett stated that the contract does not have a signature page. Attorney Huddleston will need to review.

Councilwoman Rooks made a motion to approve Wessler Master Agreement for Waterworks Engineering Services 9th Amendment subject to Attorney Huddleston's review. Councilwoman Buck seconded. Motion carried 4-0.

712 S Eisenhower Drive Lease Renewal- Town Manager John Myers stated this is a 2-year lease that ends February 13, 2025, and the Council needs to decide if they want to renew the lease or increase the amount of the lease.

Councilwoman Rooks asked if there have been any problems at this property. Mr. Myers denied any known problems.

Discussion was held regarding how the Town came to own the property. Clerk Treasurer Barrett stated that the property had been purchased for future expansion of the Cemetery.

Attorney Huddleston asked if the current tenants would like to stay. Mr. Myers stated he has not spoken to them yet. Attorney Huddleston suggested Town Manager Myers reach out to the tenants and bring the lease back to the next council meeting.

Michael Buening Consulting Agreement- Town Manager John Myers stated this is a yearly agreement. Mr. Myers stated Michael Buening is a contract engineer the Town uses as needed, the contract has a December date that needs to be changed.

Attorney Huddleston stated that the previous agreement ended in December 2024, so the agreement would need to be approved as of today's date.

Councilwoman Rooks made a motion to approve the Michael Buening Consulting agreement. Councilman Bryant seconded. Motion carried 4-0.

Town Marshall Employment Agreement- Town Manager John Myers stated this is an annual employment agreement the Town makes with the Police Chief.

Councilwoman Buck made a motion to approve the Town Marshall Employment Agreement. Councilwoman Rooks seconded. Motion carried 4-0.

Fire Chief Employment Agreement- Town Manager John Myers stated this is an annual employment agreement the Town makes with the Fire Chief.

Councilwoman Buck made a motion to approve the Fire Chief Employment Agreement. Councilwoman Rooks seconded. Motion carried 4-0.

Disposition of Surplus Property- Fire Chief Justin Lollar stated this is to dispose of the department's 2006 Ford Expedition. With the purchase of the Chevy Tahoe, the Ford Expedition is no longer needed. Chief Lollar stated he had reached out to Amity Fire Department, and they have a use for the vehicle. Chief Lollar would like to donate the vehicle to the Amity Fire Department for \$0.

Discussion was held concerning previous donations of surplus equipment. Attorney Huddleston stated that he would look to see what was done previously with the donation of the Air Packs.

Holiday Pay for Part-Time Fire Department Personnel- Fire Chief Justin Lollar stated he would like to put a holiday stipend in place for part-time employees. Chief Lollar contacted other local fire departments to see what their holiday stipends are. Bargersville gives \$50 for a 12-hour shift and \$100 for a 24-hour shift. White River gives \$100 for a 12-hour shift and \$200 for a 24-hour shift. Chief Lollar requested to amend the salary ordinance to allow for a \$50 stipend for a 12-hour shift and a \$100 stipend for a 24-hour shift. Chief Lollar stated he did have a line item in his budget to allow for extra wages.

Clerk Treasurer Barrett asked if this would require an update do the salary ordinance. Attorney Huddleston stated that it would.

Councilwoman Rooks made a motion to authorize the Clerk Treasurer Barrett to amend the salary ordinance regarding the request. Councilwoman Buck seconded. Motion carried 4-0.

Electric Service Truck Purchase- Electric Superintendent Stephen Clark requested to replace their 2004 Dodge pickup truck. Superintendent Clark stated it has been smoking for over a year and the front suspension needs done and he has been trying to not put a lot of money into the truck due to the value. Superintendent Clark presented bids for a 2025 3500 Chevy Truck with a utility bed. Superintendent Clark stated they have \$660,000 in their depreciation fund that will cover this and the line truck when it comes in as well.

Discussion was held regarding what is included in the quotes Superintendent Clark put in the Council packets. Superintendent Clark stated that it was cheaper to get an ordered 2025 than to get a 2024 on the lot and delete unnecessary features and the 2025 has a 60–90-day lead time.

Councilwoman Rooks made a motion to approve the purchase of the electric service truck from Country Chevrolet in the amount of \$59,600.00. Councilwoman Buck seconded. Motion carried 4-0.

Police Vehicle Purchase Discussion- Police Chief Doyne Little stated they were given the incorrect quote for the second 2025 Ford Interceptor that the Council approved at the previous meeting, the quote on the first vehicle was for the correct vehicle but with a different motor, so the dealership ate the \$3,000 loss. Chief Little requested the Council to re-approve the purchase of the second 2025 Ford Interceptor for \$49,934.03 from City Auto in Columbia City, IN.

Councilwoman Buck made a motion to approve the purchase of the 2025 Ford Interceptor from City Ford Auto Mall in the amount of \$49,934.03. Councilman Bryant seconded. Motion carried 4-0.

Other Business

Town Manager John Myers stated all the departments pitched in to clear the snow.

Clerk-Treasurer Barrett thanked the Council for appointing her as she has now completed her first full year.

Police Chief Doyne Little thanked all the Town workers for their work clearing the roads. Chief Little stated there were only a handful of car accidents.

Fire Chief Justin Lollar thanked the street department for their work plowing and salting the roads and the fire station. Chief Lollar presented their 2024 statistics in the Council's packets. Chief Lollar stated they do runs from Greenwood, Shelbyville, and Columbus for mutual aid. Chief Lollar thanked the Council for all their support.

Wastewater Superintendent Robert Jessie thanked the Council for the increase in allowance for work boots.

Water Superintendent Bill Jones stated he had a resident requested to hook on to the Towns water. The resident lives on State Road 252 but is not annexed into town. President Piercefield stated we will have Dustin look into it.

Director of Economic Development Sarabeth Drybread stated the holiday season was very successful. Director Drybread stated the \$25,000 grant from Festival Country will be reimbursed in February. Director Drybread thanked all the sponsors for their donations to the Town's holiday activities. There were approximately 800 skaters during the 12 Days of Christmas, 119

participants in the six classes offered at the JRDCC, and 55 skaters on Christmas Eve. Director Drybread stated nine non-profit organizations worked at the cocoa café and raised over \$1,000. All the cocoa sold was donated by Senior Moments. Director Drybread stated the carriage company used for the Holiday of Lights were impressed with the Town and would like to come back next year. Director Drybread thanked Coca-Cola of Columbus for donating the trailer used for the Cocoa café, Central Credit Union for donating s'more supplies, Gilman's for donating half the cost of the fire pit, and Macbeth for donating over \$2,000 in wood for the charcuterie class. Director Drybread thanked all the departments for helping during the 12 Days of Christmas festivities.

Director Drybread announced that she applied to IU Rural Development for the downtown space.

Director Drybread received a report from Festival Country with the attendance and demographics of people that attended the Holiday of Lights. There were over 1200 people for the Holiday of lights with 50 different zip codes and 11 different states represented by people who attended.

Town Manager John Myers asked if the Town should investigate annexation agreements for the future concerning residents wanting to connect to the water. Discussion was held regarding the existing policy concerning annexation.

Public Comments

Mr. Hazelgrove with the Edinburgh Lion's Club asked if the Town would like them to do the fall festival again in 2025. Mr. Hazelgrove stated the dates for the Fall Festival this year are September 10 to September 13, 2025. The Town annually donates \$3,000.

Councilwoman Rooks made a motion to approve the donation to Edinburgh Lion's Club for the 2025 Fall Festival in the amount of \$3,000. Councilman Bryant seconded. Motion carried 4-0.

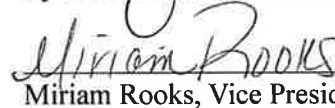
Adjourn

Being no further business or comments, Councilwoman Rooks made a motion to adjourn. Councilwoman Buck 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=PL0pagNU7lg5FkjGffQyWphtcPehL-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