

Town Council Meeting
Monday, February 27, 2017
6:00 P.M. Town Hall

Edinburgh Town Council met in a regular session on Monday, February 27, 2017 at 6:00 P.M. at the Town Hall, 107 South Holland Street, Edinburgh, Indiana.

President Kami Ervin called the meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Members answering roll call were: Councilman Jack Shepherd, Councilwoman Dawn Graham, Councilman Jerry Lollar, and President Kami Ervin. Also present were Town Attorney Dustin Huddleston and Clerk Treasurer Scott Finley. Vice President Jeff Simpson was absent.

President Ervin said next on the agenda were the minutes of the special council meeting of February 7, 2017, the executive meeting of February 13, 2017, and the council meeting of February 13, 2017. Councilwoman Graham made a motion to approve the minutes as submitted. Councilman Shepherd seconded. Motion carried.

President Ervin said next on the agenda were claims and handed it over to Clerk Treasurer Scott Finley.

Mr. Finley said everyone should have received a copy of the regular claim docket as well of an end-of-month docket for January. The total for the regular claim docket was \$585,066.91 and the total for the end-of-month docket was \$1,187,638.04. He said he had signed off on all the claims in those dockets and handed them over to the council for approval. Councilman Lollar made a motion to approve the claims as submitted. Councilwoman Graham seconded. Motion carried.

President Ervin said next on the agenda was Ordinance 2017-2 Local Road & Bridge Grant Matching Fund. She asked Mr. Finley to explain the ordinance.

Mr. Finley said this ordinance establishes a fund to deposit the grant distributions from the Community Crossings Grant. The town's match will also be deposited into this fund before any payments are made to vendors. Councilwoman Graham made a motion to wave the first reading of Ordinance 2017-2 and consider it for approval. Councilman Lollar seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Councilman Lollar made a motion to approve Ordinance 2017-2. Councilman Shepherd seconded. Motion carried.

President Ervin said next on the agenda was the Rumpke Contract Extension. She asked Mr. Finley to explain the contract.

Mr. Finley said this is the fourth year of a five year contract with Rumpke for solid waste removal. When the bid tabs were filled out it allowed for increases each year. Each year a contract extension is signed to continue the agreement. Mr. Finley said he and Mary Patterson had reviewed the original bid tab and the new contract extension and found that all the increases were in line with the original bid tab.

Councilman Lollar asked when we would be obtaining new bids for solid waste removal.

Mr. Finley said around this time next year would be when the town would usually start the process. That leaves a year left in the contract to go through the process.

Councilman Lollar made a motion to approve the Rumpke Contract Extension. Councilman Shepherd seconded. Motion carried.

Councilman Shepherd made a motion to allow President Ervin to sign the Rumpke Contract Extension. Councilman Lollar seconded. Motion carried.

President Ervin said next on the agenda was the L & I Railroad presentation. She asked Mr. Watson to introduce the presenter.

Mr. Watson said Bill Barrenger was present to give an update on what L & I Railroad is doing to the railroad that runs through the community.

Mr. Barrenger gave a brief background on his experience with the railroad system. He explained that the railroad is upgrading the rail system from Louisville to Indianapolis. Those upgrades will start north of Seymour this year. He explained the growth in the rail industry. His expertise is rail safety. He will be looking at all the crossings and how the safety can be improved. The new rail is being built to hold speeds of 49 miles per hour. The crossing at Naomi Street in Edinburgh has been identified as a potential closure.

Councilman Shepherd asked what the current speed is of the trains.

Mr. Barrenger said about 25 miles per hour.

President Ervin asked about the crossing closure process and what say the council has.

Mr. Barrenger said the council always has choices. The railroad cannot come in and force a closure. The council must pass an ordinance to close a crossing.

President Ervin asked if Mr. Watson had spoken with the local business owners in that area.

Mr. Watson said yes and there has been no objections to the closure and one representative said he would like to see the crossing closed.

Councilman Shepherd asked why the railroad wants to close the crossing.

Mr. Barrenger said the main reason is to reduce the number of crossings. If the pool of crossings is less then there is more funding to upgrade those crossings. Small crossings like that also become "short-cut" crossings people use to get home quicker and when trains come through they ignore the lights and bells. This becomes even more dangerous as rail speeds increase.

Further discussion was held regarding rail safety.

Mr. Watson said Mr. Barrenger would be sending him a sample ordinance for the closure of the Naomi Street crossing. He will forward that to Mr. Huddleston for review and then it will be presented to council for consideration.

Councilman Lollar made a motion to allow Mr. Watson to start the process of drafting an ordinance for the closure of the Naomi Street crossing. Councilwoman Graham seconded. Motion carried.

Council Comments

President Ervin said Councilman Simpson could not attend the meeting because of the passing of his mother-in-law. She asked that everyone keep him and his family in their thoughts.

Departmental Comments

Mr. Watson presented the council with budget reports for December and January. He pointed out that most of the departments came in under budget.

Mr. Watson said the town has been negotiating with a local business to establish a utility easement for a new well. Those negotiations have broken down. He asked that the council allow him to pursue a new site selection process on a town owned property in Irwin Park. Councilwoman Graham made a motion to allow Mr. Watson to pursue the site selection process for the property in Irwin Park. Councilman Lollar seconded. Motion carried.

Mr. Watson said the Blue River Building project is mostly done and the town will begin working on the inside of the building. The first step is removing the old bank vault. He presented an estimate for the removal of that vault. Three estimates were obtained with the lowest being AMC

Cutting at around \$7,230. Councilman Lollar made a motion to approve the quote from AMC Cutting for the removal of the bank vault in the Blue River Building. Councilman Shepherd seconded. Motion carried.

Mr. Watson said he wanted to inform the council that he had a resident compliment the town on the upkeep of Rest Haven Cemetery.


Public Comments

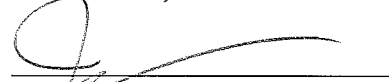
Bill Jones of 7795 East State Road 252 said he had asked the previous council to look into the issue of trucks using their Jake brakes on 252 in town. He wanted to ask the current council if they would look into that issue.

President Ervin said the council would look into that issue.


Being no further business or comments, Councilman Lollar made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Councilman Shepherd seconded. Motion carried.


EDINBURGH TOWN COUNCIL


Kami Ervin, President

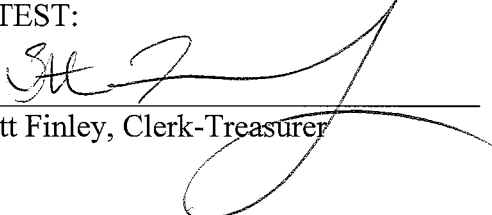

Jeff Simpson, Vice President


Dawn Graham


Jerry Lollar


Jack Shepherd

ATTEST:


Scott Finley, Clerk-Treasurer