

Town Council Meeting
Monday, July 24, 2017
6:00 P.M. Town Hall

Edinburgh Town Council met in a regular session on Monday, July 24, 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, Vice President Jeff Simpson, Councilwoman Dawn Graham, Councilman Jerry Lollar, and President Kami Ervin. Also present were Town Attorney Dustin Huddleston and Clerk-Treasurer Scott Finley.

President Ervin said next on the agenda were the minutes of the council meeting of July 10, 2017. Councilman Simpson 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 the council received two claim dockets in their packets. One was an end-of-month docket for June and the other was the regular docket for the period. The total for the end-of-month docket was \$329,554.21 and the total for the regular docket was \$1,036,111.05. He said had signed off on all the claims in those dockets and handed them over to the council for approval. Councilman Simpson made a motion to approve the claims as submitted. Councilwoman Graham seconded. Motion carried.

President Ervin said next on the agenda was Warrant Cancellations. She asked Mr. Finley to explain.

Mr. Finley said when the town changed software systems a few years back it also decided to go to a pooled cash bank account. There were some issues regarding how to cancel warrants written in the old system so that the Electric, Water, and Sewer bank accounts could be closed out. Those warrants are now ready to be voided in the system but need council approval before they can be cancelled. Mr. Finley provided a list to the council containing the warrants to be cancelled. Councilman Simpson made a motion to allow the cancellation of the listed warrants. Councilwoman Graham seconded. Motion carried.

President Ervin said next on the agenda was Janice Burton presenting a cemetery discussion.

Mrs. Burton of 504 Fulford Dr. said the cemetery has been going slowly downhill over the past few years. She used to hear comments about how Edinburgh has the nicest cemetery around. She said she knows years ago there were rules in place about what could be put on headstones and where it could be put. When items aren't put in the correct places they get in the way of the mowers. She said she wants those rules to be reinstated so the cemetery looks more presentable. She said the back gate of the cemetery has also been left open at all times.

Mrs. Burton also asked the council if they could request the state put a license branch back in town. There are older people in town that do not want to drive to Columbus or Franklin to go to the license branch.

President Ervin said, regarding the license branch issue, the council probably cannot do much about getting a license branch in town as that would be a state issue but they will keep that mind.

Cemetery Sexton John Hoskinson said the department is waiting on new locks for some of the gates in the cemetery. He said he has been trying to get some part time help for mowing and trimming but is having a hard time getting people to stay. They have been really short staffed this year and it has been an issue getting both mowing and trimming done.

Further discussion was held regarding flowers in different cemetery sections.

President Ervin asked Town Manager Wade Watson and Mr. Hoskinson to review the rules of the cemetery and see if there was any action the council needs to take.

Councilman Lollar said he knows the department has had issues finding help but the town has a lot of employees and should be able to manage the situation. There is no excuse for the cemetery to look the way it does currently.

Councilman Simpson said he too has heard some comments about the cemetery but dealing with items put on graves can be a touchy situation and should be handled carefully.

President Ervin said next on the agenda was John Roberts with a heavy trash discussion.

Mr. Roberts of 700 North Park Dr. said he is new to town. He worked for a municipality for 18 years and was over heavy trash for 4 of the 7 trash districts. He said during heavy trash pick-up the town looks awful and can create rodent problems. Some of the homes had several truckloads of trash. He said he would be happy to look at the books and find out how much heavy trash is costing the town. He explained how the City of Indianapolis handled heavy trash.

President Ervin said Street Superintendent Curtis Rooks did a cost analysis of heavy trash last year but it is a good time to look at the options for heavy trash because it does make the town look bad.

Town Manager Wade Watson said the staff discussed heavy trash last year but no solid decisions were made. Heavy trash is a huge burden on the community and the big problem is out of town people and rental properties bringing in trash from other places to be picked up. He explained some of the options that have been discussed.

Mr. Rooks gave a brief explanation of the cost of heavy trash and the man power used. He said the process is getting out of hand.

Council Comments

Town Attorney Dustin Huddleston said the closing on the Loy Property at 108 South Holland Street will be on July 31st. The current property owner will be required to pay all back taxes. He said he will report back to council at the next council meeting.

Clerk-Treasurer Finley handed out a copy of the preliminary budget dates for the 2018 budget. He said he was planning on budget workshops with the council on August 28th after the regular council meeting and another on September 11th before the council meeting.

Departmental Comments

Town Manager Wade Watson said as soon as the 108 South Holland Street property belongs to the town we need to issue a demolition permit so that the building can be demolished. It is a hazard as it sits. The food pantry will be relocated to Fire Station 2 off of State Road 252.

Mr. Watson said a few weeks ago the town held a public hearing for wastewater grant the town will be applying for. The town needs letters from the council and the public stating the importance of the project. There are 17 communities applying for the grant so the process will be more competitive than anticipated. The second public hearing will be held at the next council meeting.

Mr. Watson said there is work being done on State Road 252 towards Flat Rock. The work will continue through September and the town will keep any information on that work on the town website.

Parks Director Daniel Teter said the department hosted the Northern Nationals Softball Tournament last week. There were teams present from all different states as well as Canada. Revenues for the July are already up from last July's numbers.

Mr. Teter passed out a request to hire employees for the B.A.S.E. program that will be starting soon. Most of the staff will be returning but he will still need to fill any vacancies. Councilman

Simpson made a motion to approve the hire request for the B.A.S.E program as presented by Mr. Teter. Councilwoman Graham seconded. Motion carried.

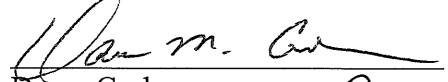
Being no further business or comments, Councilman Simpson made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Councilman Shepherd seconded. Motion carried.

EDINBURGH TOWN COUNCIL

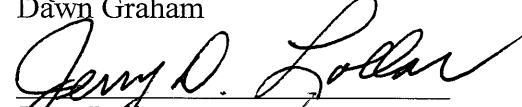


Kami Ervin, President


Jeff Simpson, Vice President



Dawn Graham



Jerry Lollar



Jack Shepherd

ATTEST:



Scott Finley, Clerk-Treasurer