**Town Council Meeting**
**Monday, August 25, 2025**
**6:00PM**

Edinburgh Town Council met in a regular session on Monday, August 25, 2025, at 6:00PM at the Town Hall, 107 South Holland Street, Edinburgh, IN.

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

**Roll Call:** Councilwoman Miriam Rooks, Councilwoman Debbie Buck, Councilwoman Sherri Sweet, and Councilman Michael Bryant.

Council President Ryan Piercefield was absent.

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

**Minutes-** Minutes of Council Meeting August 11, 2025

*Councilwoman Sweet made a motion to approve the August 11, 2025, Council Meeting minutes. Councilwoman Buck seconded. Motion carried 4-0.*

**Claims-** Clerk-Treasurer Barrett presented one claim docket in the amount of $1,163,506.60. Clerk-Treasurer Barrett stated approximately $780,000 of the claims total is from the IMPA bill. All claims have been reviewed and signed.

*Councilwoman Buck made a motion to approve the claim docket as presented in the amount of $1,163,506.60. Councilman Bryant seconded. Motion carried 4-0.*

**Ordinance 2025-12 Vacating A Portion of A Certain Public Street Located on Holland Street (1st Reading)-** Attorney Huddleston stated that a public hearing was held at a previous Council meeting and this is an introduction of the ordinance, and the second reading could be waived.

*Councilwoman Buck made a motion to waive the first reading of Ordinance 2025-12 Vacating A Portion of A Certain Public Street Located on Holland Street. Councilman Bryant seconded. Motion carried 4-0.*

*Councilwoman Buck made a motion to approve Ordinance 2025-12 Vacating A Portion of A Certain Public Street Located on Holland Street. Councilwoman Sweet seconded. Motion carried 4-0.*

**Resolution 2025-7 Authorizing Special Purchase of APX Portable and Mobile Radios-** Attorney Huddleston stated that this was introduced by Fire Chief Justin Lollar at a previous Council meeting to purchase 10 APX portable and mobile radios at a discounted rate, so it is a special purpose purchase.

*Councilwoman Sweet made a motion to approve Resolution 2025-7 Authorizing Special Purchase of APX Portable and Mobile Radios. Councilwoman Buck seconded. Motion carried 4-0.*

*Councilwoman Buck made a motion to authorize Town Manager John Myers to sign off on the APX portable and mobile radios purchase agreement. Councilman Bryant seconded. Motion carried 4-0.*

**Resolution 2025-8 Ditech Tax Abatement-** Attorney Huddleston stated a public hearing was held at a previous Council meeting for this. Attorney Huddleston stated that this is a five-year tax abatement for Ditech's commercial property.

Nathan Dillingham, owner of Ditech, stated that he thought the abatement was for ten years, not five.

Discussion was held regarding legislative changes for personal property tax that will change the future of tax abatements, the normal length of the different types of abatements, and the option to take the abatement under advisement and further discussion with the applicant.

Councilwoman Rooks asked Mr. Dillingham if he was okay with the Council passing the abatement as is or if he would like the item to be tabled. Mr. Dillingham stated that Council could go ahead and pass it.

*Councilwoman Buck made a motion to approve Resolution 2025-8 Ditech Tax Abatement. Councilwoman Sweet seconded. Motion carried 4-0.*

**Ditech Memorandum of Agreement-** Attorney Huddleston stated that this provides terms that Ditech must comply with. If they do not comply with the terms, then the Council has the right to revoke the abatement.

*Councilwoman Buck made a motion to approve Ditech Memorandum of Agreement. Councilman Bryant seconded. Motion carried 4-0.*

**Approval of Public Official Bond-** Clerk-Treasurer Barrett stated that this is the annual public official bond for Town Manager John Myers for the time period of August 12, 2025, through August 12, 2026.

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

**K-9 Fund Donations-** Clerk-Treasurer Barrett presented $700 in donations for the golf outing. The donors were Nancy West, Kelly Wilhite, RK Auto, Bo-Witt Products, and David Myers Construction.

*Councilwoman Buck made a motion to approve the K-9 Fund Donations as presented. Councilwoman Sweet seconded. Motion carried 4-0.*

**Purchasing Policy Updates-** Clerk-Treasurer Barrett stated that the Town's current purchasing policy needs to be updated to meet State Board of Accounts requirements. Clerk-Treasurer Barrett stated that any deposits or down payments of up to 50% must be approved by Council first. The State Board of Accounts recommends adding a statement in the purchasing policy reflecting this. Clerk-Treasurer Barrett stated that there also needs to be verbiage added regarding federal grants and how the money is spent. Clerk-Treasurer Barrett is asking for approval to have Attorney Huddleston review the policy and update to meet State Board of Accounts requirements.

*Councilwoman Sweet made a motion to authorize Attorney Huddleston to review the Purchasing Policy Updates. Councilman Bryant seconded. Motion carried 4-0.*

**Van Ausdall IT Infrastructure Proposal-** Town Manager John Myers stated that in December of 2024 the Town signed a contract with Van Ausdall for IT services. Van Ausdall did an audit on the Town's infrastructure and gave a quote of $72,012.09 for infrastructure upgrades. Mr. Myers stated that most of this is a one-time purchase but there are some items that will have to be renewed every three years. Mr. Myers stated this quote is broken down by departments. Mr. Myers presented a separate quote from Van Ausdall in the amount of $35,624.89 for approximately 34 computers that are outdated and incompatible with Windows 11 that starts October 14, 2025. After October 14, 2025, Windows 10 will no longer have any support. Mr. Myers stated that there are representatives from Van Ausdall in attendance to answer any questions.

Guillermo Fernandez, representative of Van Ausdall, discussed the reason why upgrading the computers incompatible with Windows 11 was necessary.

Discussion was held regarding how often computers should be updated.

Discussion was held regarding when the quotes expired.

Mr. Fernandez stated that they replaced the firewalls at the end of 2024. Mr. Fernandez stated that there is a lot of mismatched and outdated stuff inside the Town's network.

Councilwoman Rooks asked if we could compare what the Town spent on IT last year and compare it to this year and going forward. Clerk-Treasurer Barrett stated that she would have to let Councilwoman know at another time as she could not access that information at the moment.

Discussion was held regarding different funding options for these quotes and CCDF funds could be used to help pay the costs.

Discussion was held regarding the fire department computers.

*Councilwoman Buck made a motion to approve the Van Ausdall network upgrades quote in the amount of $72,012.09. Councilwoman Sweet seconded. Motion carried 4-0.*

*Councilwoman Buck made a motion to approve the Van Ausdall hardware quote in the amount of $35,624.89. Councilman Bryant seconded. Motion carried 4-0.*

*Councilwoman Sweet made a motion to authorize Town Manager John Myers to sign off on the Van Ausdall IT Infrastructure Proposals. Councilman Bryant seconded. Motion carried 4-0.*

**Main Street Group Public Presentation-** Director of Economic Development SaraBeth Drybread and Christina Riley with Edinburgh Main Street gave a presentation over the group and its history from 2018 until now. Ms. Riley stated that Edinburgh Main Street is a community led effort that is made up of

business owners, residents, retirees, new families, town employees, and regional partners. Director Drybread stated that a Main Street organization is a state program that assists towns in revitalizing their downtown areas. Director Drybread stated that in a survey that was open and completed by community members, approximately 70% were unhappy with the retail, restaurants, and entertainment options, 77% wanted more shopping, and over 90% wanted more restaurants and entertainment in the community. Ms. Riley stated that there are 19 Indiana accredited Main Streets. Director Drybread stated that out of 32 buildings downtown, 13 are completely vacant storefronts and 17 are not open on a regular basis. Ms. Riley stated that the Main Street group can be supported by letting them hold meetings at a public place, providing a letter of support from the Town Council, allow quarterly updates at Town Council meetings, and provide a landing page on the Town website. Ms. Riley stated that anyone can join the group.

Director Drybread discussed application due dates. Director Drybread stated that they would like to get a Letter of Intent to apply to OCRA's Downtown Affiliate Network (ODAN) and a Letter of Support signed from the Town for the Edinburgh Main Street.

Discussion was held regarding who the group has reached to about being a member.

*Councilwoman Sweet made a motion to approve the Edinburgh Main Street letter of intent. Councilman Bryant seconded. Motion carried 4-0.*

*Councilwoman Sweet made a motion to approve the Edinburgh Main Street letter of support. Councilman Bryant seconded. Motion carried 4-0.*

*Councilwoman Sweet made a motion to authorize Town Manager John Myers to sign off on the Edinburgh Main Street documents. Councilwoman Buck seconded. Motion carried 4-0.*

**Meter Purchase Quote**-Electric Superintendent Stephen Clark presented a quote from Wesco in the amount of $67,050.00 to purchase 300 electric meters. Superintendent Clark stated that they have been changing old electric meters. Superintendent Clark stated that they must purchase the meters from this company.

*Councilwoman Buck made a motion to approve the Meter Purchase Quote from Wesco for 300 meters in the amount of $67,050.00. Councilwoman Sweet seconded. Motion carried 4-0.*

**Assistant Street Superintendent Position**- Street Superintendent Sean Barnett requested to promote Travis Bell to Assistant Street Superintendent. Superintendent Barnett stated that Mr. Bell has all his qualifications.

Discussion was held regarding whether there would be a change in Mr. Bell's salary.

*Councilwoman Buck made a motion to promote Travis Bell to Assistant Street Superintendent. Councilman Bryant seconded. Motion carried 4-0.*

**Other Business**

Clerk-Treasurer Barrett presented a claim for a deposit of $1,000 for entertainment at the Fall Festival and a claim for a deposit of $5,350.00 for fencing at the Park and Rec.

*Councilwoman Sweet made a motion to approve the claims as presented in the amounts of $1,000 and $5,350. Councilwoman Buck seconded. Motion carried 4-0.*

Councilwoman Sherri Sweet stated that she is thoroughly excited to see what the Main Street Program is going to do for the downtown.

Parks Director Daniel Teter stated that this weekend will be the last weekend that the pool is open for the season. Director Teter stated that the Lion's Club booths for the fall festival sold out within a week.

Director of Economic Development SaraBeth Drybread stated that the Town was awarded $35,000 from the Johnson County Community Foundation and those funds will be going towards the downtown plaza project. Director Drybread stated that there will be a ribbon cutting at Cliff's Bar and Grill re-opening on August 29, 2025, at 11:00AM. Director Drybread stated that she attended the Indiana Economic Development Association conference last week and that was paid for by IMPA.

**Public Comments**

Tim Adkins, co-owner of Cliff's Bar and Grill, stated that he approached the Council at the last Council meeting about taking the fencing down that was put up after the building was torn down at 115 E Main

Cross Street. Mr. Adkins stated that they would like to get the council's approval to move the fence to clean the lot up prior to Cliff's re-opening on August 29, 2025. Town Manager John Myers stated that it is not the Town's property, and he would need to discuss it with Attorney Huddleston.

Denise Kester, 1111 Constitution Drive, stated that she was asked to be apart of Edinburgh Main Street. Ms. Koester stated that she moved to Edinburgh approximately four years ago and is happy to be a part of the organization.

**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=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