Firefighter Pension Local Board
Monday, June 2, 2025
6:00PM

Edinburgh Firefighter Pension Local Board met in a regular session on Monday, June 2, 2025, at 6:00PM at the Town Hall, 107 South Holland Street, Edinburgh, IN.

Justin Lollar called the meeting to order and lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call- John Henderson, Ryan Piercefield, and Justin Lollar were present.

Also present were Clerk-Treasurer Rhonda Barrett and Town Attorney Dustin Huddleston.

Minutes of Firefighter Pension Local Board Meeting March 3, 2025 – Justin Lollar presented the minutes of the March 3, 2025, meeting. Ryan Piercefield stated that he would need to abstain as he was not in attendance at that meeting.

John Henderson made a motion to approve the March 3, 2025, meeting minutes. Justin Lollar seconded. Motion carried 2-0.

Bylaws- Dustin Huddleston - Attorney Huddleston presented the Bylaws for the Firefighter Local Pension Board stating that these are a good guide that can be modified if needed in the future. Attorney Huddleston stated that in Section 3.1 where it talks about hearing procedures, the Statutes are ambiguous as to what the hearing officer does. One way to interpret is that the hearing officer, which is the fire chief, hears all the evidence and makes the decision by itself and conducts the meeting by itself without the board present. The other way to interpret is that the hearing officer presides over the meeting and leads the meeting, is charged with witnesses and rulings on a motion kind of like a hearing. Attorney Huddleston stated that he would suggest the latter option to have the board present.

Attorney Huddleston stated that depending on which direction the board would want to go, he would want to enhance the paragraph to make that detail for any future hearings that might happen. Huddleston discussed that if the board wants to approve with that amendment, he could add that amendment and the bylaws would be good to go.

Justin Lollar stated that he agreed with Attorney Huddleston, to add the amendment to have the full board as part of any hearings.

Ryan Piercefield stated that he agreed that it would not be good to only have one person conducting investigations and making decisions.

John Henderson made a motion to approve the bylaws subject to Attorney Huddleston enhancing Section 3.1 as discussed. Ryan Piercefield seconded. Motion carried 3-0

Other Business

Justin Lollar stated that the next meeting is scheduled for September 15, 2025, at 6:00 p.m.

Ryan Piercefield commented that the Town Council is working on getting Merit Board Members for the Fire and Police, in place by August 1, 2025. Piercefield asked Attorney Huddleston what the next step is to get those board members in place, once candidates have been selected.

Attorney Huddleston stated that once candidates have been selected, the Town Council would need to appoint them at a public council meeting. Attorney Huddleston suggested that once those board members are in place to have a meeting with them to see if they would want to adopt bylaws and procedures.

John Henderson asked if there was anything further needed from the board members before the next meeting in September concerning the merit system.

Attorney Huddleston stated that there is just the process for the 77 Fund, concerning physicals.

Justin Lollar stated that the board needs to start working on making sure we solidify the hiring process.

Discussion was held on filling the current vacancy open in the fire department.

Being no further business or comments, Ryan Piercefield made a motion to adjourn. Justin Lollar seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

These minutes are a summary of actions taken at the Town of Edinburgh Firefighter Pension Local Board meetings. The full video archive of the meeting is available for viewing at https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL0pagNU7lg5FkjGffOyWphtcPehlL-R5g for as long as this media is supported.

EDINBURGH FIREFIGHTER PENSION LOCAL BOARD

John Henderson, Secretary