Town Council Meeting
Monday, September 8, 2025
6:00PM

Edinburgh Town Council met in a regular session on Monday, September 8, 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 25, 2025.

Councilwoman Buck made a motion to approve the August 25, 2025, Council Meeting minutes. Councilman Bryant seconded. Motion carried 4-0.

Minutes of Special Meeting August 25, 2025

Councilwoman Buck made a motion to approve the August 25, 2025, Special Meeting minutes. Councilwoman Sweet seconded. Motion carried 4-0.

Minutes of Executive Meeting August 26, 2025

Councilwoman Buck made a motion to approve the August 26, 2025, Executive Meeting minutes. Councilman Bryant seconded. Motion carried 4-0.

Claims- Clerk-Treasurer Barrett presented one claim docket in the amount of $177,243.52. Clerk-Treasurer Barrett stated the amount had changed due to the addition of claims for Fall Festival entertainment, hosting of the Town website, engineering services, and the installation of a fence at Park and Rec. All claims have been reviewed and signed.

Councilwoman Sweet made a motion to approve the claim docket as presented in the amount of $177,243.52. Councilwoman Buck seconded. Motion carried 4-0.

GO Bond Discussion- Clerk-Treasurer Barrett stated that there is an opportunity to issue new additional debt for a GO bond to help with financing for capital items without raising the tax rate. The Town did a GO bond in 2024.

Attorney Huddleston stated that the process would be very similar to last year. This is designed to give cash without having to pass any special tax, The Town is not obligated to do the bond but is an option for the budget process to get additional funds for capital projects for 2026 at a reasonable rate.

Town Manager John Myers stated that there are plenty of projects that need completed including equipment replacement and facility updates and repairs. Mr. Myers stated that he thought the GO bond would be a good idea to help the Town keep up pace with facilities and equipment.

Clerk-Treasurer Barrett stated that if the Council would like to do the GO bond, then a line item for it would need to be added in the 2026 budget to keep the tax rate the same amount as last year.

Discussion was held that a motion would be needed to advertise a debt service line item in the 2026 budget.

Discussion was held regarding the amount options for the GO bond.

Discussion was held regarding the need to advertise in the budget to be able to pursue the bond if needed.

Councilwoman Buck made a motion to authorize Clerk-Treasurer Barrett to move forward with the GO bond. Councilman Bryant seconded. Motion carried 4-0.

Wessler Invoice #47670 for Water Treatment Plant- Clerk-Treasurer Barrett presented Wessler invoice #47670 in the amount of $5,849.65.

Water Superintendent Bill Jones stated that they are working on the engineering process of SRF funding and will be sending it out for bids soon.

Councilwoman Sweet made a motion to approve Wessler Invoice #47670 for Water Treatment Plant in the amount of $5,849.65. Councilman Bryant seconded. Motion carried 4-0.

Councilwoman Sweet made a motion to authorize Councilwoman Rooks to sign off on Wessler Invoice #47670 for Water Treatment Plant. Councilman Bryant seconded. Motion carried 4-0.

Holiday of Lights Carriage Vendors Advance Deposit- Clerk-Treasurer Barrett stated that there are two carriage vendors for the Holiday of Lights that are requesting a deposit. Life Vantage Farms is requesting a 50% down deposit of $1,500 and City Ranch is requesting a deposit of $50.

Councilwoman Buck made a motion to approve the Holiday of Lights Carriage Vendors Advance Deposit for Life Vantage Farms and City Ranch. Councilman Bryant seconded. Motion carried 4-0.

Addition of a Part-Time Employee to Utility Office- Clerk Treasurer Barrett requested to advertise an opening for a part-time position in the utility office to assist with answering phones, working the counter, and providing customer service.

Discussion was held regarding how having a part-time employee would allow employees to cross train and request days off easier.

Discussion was held regarding the utility office being closed for lunch.

Councilwoman Buck made a motion to approve the Addition of a Part-Time Employee to Utility Office. Councilwoman Sweet seconded. Motion carried 4-0.

NRO Downtown Plaza Fund Donation- Clerk-Treasurer Barrett stated that the Town was awarded $35,000 from the Johnson County Community Foundation for the downtown plaza project, and the check has been received and needs approval.

Councilwoman Sweet made a motion to approve the NRO Downtown Plaza Fund Donation in the amount of $35,000. Councilwoman Buck seconded. Motion carried 4-0.

K-9 Fund Donation- Clerk-Treasurer Barrett stated that there have been two donations received for the golf outing from Montana Mike's for $150 and MA Metal for $150. Approximately $3,850 in donations have been received for the K-9 golf outing. Clerk-Treasurer Barrett stated another donation was received for the K-9 Fund from Warthogs Motorcycle Club in the amount of $1,500.

Police Chief Doyne Little stated that Warthogs motorcycle club is made up of public safety workers nationwide.

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

Fire Department Donation- Clerk-Treasurer Barrett stated that the fire department received a $500 donation from Exit 76 Antique Mall, need approval to accept the donation.

Councilwoman Sweet made a motion to approve the Fire Department Donation as presented. Councilman Bryant seconded. Motion carried 4-0.

Town Owned Rental Building Discussion- Clerk-Treasurer Barrett discussed five leased properties that the Town owns. Four of these properties are currently being leased and one is vacant. Town properties do not pay property taxes but are required to keep property insurance and any major repairs, however there are rental revenues received to help offset those costs. Those properties include the Medical Clinic on State Road 252, the Fire Station on South Walnut Street, the cemetery rental house on Eisenhower Drive, a fenced area behind the street garage on 252 used by the cable company and the vacant building located at 104 South Holland Street. Clerk-Treasurer Barrett asked the Council if they wanted Attorney Huddleston to look further into disposing of any of the five properties.

Councilwoman Buck stated that the Town should keep the properties and the only thing to possibly consider would be the 104 South Holland Street property.

Economic Development Director Sarabeth Drybread discussed potential interest from several people in the building at 104 South Holland Street and the possibility of using the building as an incubator for an entrepreneur.

Discussion was held regarding the possibility of deeding the building at 104 South Holland Street to the Edinburgh Redevelopment Commission.

Clerk-Treasurer Barrett verified that the annual insurance and utilities for that building come out of the Council budget.

Discussion was held regarding whether anyone was currently interested in using that building for commercial purposes.

Attorney Huddleston stated that anytime the Town leases or sells a property, it has to be appraised and advertised so everyone has a fair chance, and the highest bid would be accepted. If you were to say no to bids to purchase or lease, there could be a lease to own arrangement with someone who would want rental payments go towards the purchase.

Councilwoman Rooks thanked Clerk-Treasurer Barrett for the discussion.

CCMG Paving Project Proposals- Town Manager John Myers stated that only one other engineering company submitted a proposal. Mr. Myers presented quotes from HWC Engineering in the amount of $59,500 and Crossroads Engineering in the amount of $60,000. Mr. Myers stated that they are similar agreements, but HWC is going to do more paperwork on the ADA for the Town. Mr. Myers stated that he has worked with both companies, and they have both been great to work with.

Discussion was held regarding how many years the Town has used Crossroads Engineering, which was approximately 5 years.

Willie Hall with Crossroads Engineering discussed what ADA items they do and do not do.

Discussion was held regarding how Crossroads Engineering set the dollar amount.

Councilwoman Buck made a motion to approve the CCMG Paving Project Proposal from Crossroads Engineering in the amount of $60,000. Councilman Bryant seconded. Motion carried 4-0.

Finish Mower Purchase Quote- Timbergate Manager Wayne Gibbs requested to purchase a new finish mower from Miller Equipment in the amount of $21,184. Mr. Gibbs stated that their current mower is from when the golf course was built and it would cost more to fix it than it is worth.

Discussion was held regarding equipment warranty.

Councilwoman Sweet made a motion to approve the Finish Mower Purchase Quote from Miller Equipment in the amount of $21,184. Councilman Bryant seconded. Motion carried 4-0.

Other Business

Town Manager John Myers stated that the contractor that was picked to tear down the building at 201 West Main Cross Street is unable to do the job now. Mr. Myers requested to go with the next lowest bid with Gosman Construction which is only $200 more. Mr. Myers stated that we would need Dustin to do a modified contract.

Councilwoman Buck made a motion to amend the contract for the demolition of 201 West Main Cross Street for Gosman Construction to complete the demolition. Councilwoman Sweet seconded. Motion carried 4-0.

Police Chief Doyne Little stated that the department has been doing a lot of training. Chief Little stated that everyone will be set up for safety and security tomorrow for the Fall Festival this week. Chief Little thanked Assistant Chief Kelsay and the other officers for all their hard work on getting the K-9 golf outing put together.

Parks Director Daniel Teter thanked all the departments for their assistance with preparing for the Fall Festival. Director Teter stated that there are still ride bracelets for sale at the JRDCC and the library. Director Teter stated that there will be entertainment every night of the Fall Festival.

Director of Economic Development SaraBeth Drybread stated that Town did receive $5,000 in donations for the downtown plaza project from Mibor Community Impact Initiative.

Discussion was held regarding safety measures for 201 West Main Cross Street when the building is demolished.

Director Drybread stated that Beta Sigma Sorority, who organizes the parade every year, received complaints and has concerns about children being too close to the parade vehicles downtown at the intersections where there are bump outs. The Lion's Club voted to make downtown a no throwing candy zone; however, candy can be passed out by walking parade participants.

Water Superintendent Bill Jones stated that they will be doing water main flushing next week. Superintendent Jones stated that they will be getting new hydrants and valves using the remaining SRF Funds. It will be sent out for bids before the end of the month.

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=PL0pagNU7lg5FkjGffOyWphtcPehlL-R5g for as long as this media is supported.

EDINBURGH TOWN COUNCIL

Absent
Ryan Piercefield, President

Miriam Rooks
Miriam Rooks, Vice President

Debbie Buck
Debbie Buck

Sherri Sweet
Sherri Sweet

Michael Bryant

ATTEST:
Rhonda Barrett
Rhonda Barrett, Clerk-Treasurer