Town Council Meeting
Monday, March 9, 2026
6:00PM

Edinburgh Town Council met in a regular session on Monday, March 9, 2026, at 6:00PM, at the Town Hall, 107 South Holland Street, Edinburgh, IN.

Council President Ryan Piercefield called the meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call- Council President Ryan Piercefield, Councilwoman Miriam Rooks, Councilwoman Debbie Buck, Councilwoman Sherri Sweet, and Councilman Michael Bryant.

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

Minutes- Council Meeting February 23, 2026

Councilwoman Sweet made a motion to approve the February 23, 2026, Council Meeting minutes. Councilman Bryant seconded. Motion carried 4-0.

Councilwoman Buck abstained.

Claims- Clerk-Treasurer Barrett presented three claim dockets: the end of month November 2025 docket for $137,705.82, end of month December 2025 docket for $430,004.47, and tonight's docket for $905,479.46. All claims have been reviewed and signed.

Councilwoman Sweet asked what the water debt service reserve is on the claim docket. Clerk-Treasurer Barrett stated that it is for the SRF loan at the Bank of New York Mellon. Clerk-Treasurer Barrett stated that the Town has four different accounts and must have a certain balance, so money gets transferred every month.

Councilwoman Rooks asked if the vac truck repair was for the new or older truck. Wastewater Superintendent Robert Jessie stated that the repair was for the old one.

Councilwoman Buck made a motion to approve the three claim dockets as presented in the amounts of $137,705.82, $430,004.47, and $905,479.46. Councilwoman Sweet seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

Contract Employing Attorney- Council President Piercefield stated that Attorney Huddleston does a great job for the Town.

Attorney Huddleston stated that the rate and contract have stayed the same for the last five years.

Councilwoman Buck made a motion to approve Contract Employing Attorney Dustin Huddleston. Councilman Bryant seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

Police Merit Board Bylaws Discussion- Council President Piercefield stated that to join the 77 Fund, a merit board had to be created to act as a ruling board for the police department. President Piercefield stated that the board needed a set of new rules, guidelines, and standard operating procedures for the Police Department to adhere to Town rules and their own. President Piercefield stated that these bylaws were a combination of other agencies but have been tailored to the Town. President Piercefield stated that the Police Merit Board wanted the Council's input on the rules.

Councilwoman Sweet stated that the bylaws state that an applicant must not have received convictions for driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs in the past three years. Councilwoman Sweet stated that three years seems very recent.

Police Chief Doyne Little stated that the state police must approve whether somebody can have access to their database and they cannot be convicted of a felony but anything that is a misdemeanor or under can be accepted on a case-by-case basis.

Councilwoman Sweet stated that she would not approve these bylaws as three years is not very long. Councilwoman Sweet asked if this is what other towns do.

Discussion was held regarding how the Council would like to enlarge it to at least five years.

Town Manager John Myers stated that he believed the Town's insurance says five years before a person can drive a Town vehicle again.

President Piercefield stated that the Merit Board has the oversight to weed individuals out and that Town rules supersede police rules.

Councilwoman Buck stated that she would like more time to review this.

Discussion was held regarding when the next Merit Board will be meeting and how many openings there currently are in the Police Department.

President Piercefield stated that the Council can table the matter now and discuss again in a few weeks.

Interlocal Agreement with Shelbyville Fire Department- Attorney Huddleston stated that this is a mutual aid agreement and Shelbyville has approved the document.

Fire Chief Justin Lollar stated that this is for a small quadrant of the southwest area in Shelby County and the Town will not be fully obligated. Chief Lollar stated that the area will still be Shelbyville's territory and if the Town is busy with other calls we do not have to respond.

Discussion was held regarding whether Shelbyville and Edinburgh can both respond to the same calls and who gets paid for the call.

Chief Lollar stated that whoever transports the patient receives the payment and that we are sole entities.

Councilwoman Buck made a motion to approve the Interlocal Agreement with Shelbyville Fire Department. Councilwoman Rooks seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

Annual Conflict of Interest Forms- Attorney Huddleston stated that Clerk-Treasurer Barrett gave these forms to the Council a couple weeks ago and that these are done annually to be uploaded with the state. Attorney stated once the Council fills these out give them to Clerk-Treasurer Barrett so they can be approved.

Elected Official Contracting Statement- Attorney Huddleston stated that this is similar to the previous item discussed. Attorney Huddleston stated that Councilwoman Buck has a family relative that gives mowing quotes to the Cemetery that must be disclosed, and President Piercefield does work for the Water and Wastewater Departments on an as needed basis.

Utility Locator Position- Electric Manager Kevin Killinger stated this was presented at the previous Council meeting and there is also an amendment to the salary ordinance on the agenda if the Council chooses to move forward with creating this new position.

Discussion was held regarding the position requiring a vehicle if created and the cost of a new vehicle is approximately over $36,000.

Council President Piercefield asked if the yearly maintenance costs would be shared between the three departments. Manager Killinger confirmed.

Discussion was held regarding how many locates per day the person would do and that the departments average approximately 900 locates per month, which is 300 locates per department using 3 employees totaling 900 locates.

Discussion was held regarding a lot of line locates being remarks and how much money the Town has saved in fines by keeping up with them.

Manager Killinger stated that when digging on a property, by law, you must call 811 which triggers a ticket system to the various utilities to go mark their lines so that they do not get damaged. Manager Killinger stated that the 252 project would be a heavy burden this spring and the person in this position would receive a lot of training.

Discussion was held regarding how creating this position would possibly save the Town approximately $200,000 a year and increase efficiency by using one person to locate all three utilities rather than using 3 employees to go to the same location.

Discussion was held regarding how much it would potentially cost to outsource.

Discussion was held regarding the individual departments involved with training this person.

Discussion was held regarding how the person's salary would be paid and who they would report too.

Manager Killinger stated that on-call staff for each utility would still be dispatched for emergencies after hours and that this new position would not be on call 24/7.

Town Manager John Myers stated that they started looking at this last September before the previous Electric Superintendent left, then it was put on hold until Mr. Killinger was hired.

Councilwoman Rooks asked if they should know who will oversee this position before they decide and stated that she thought it would be Mr. Myers.

Discussion was held regarding which utility had the most lines that would need located.

Councilwoman Rooks made a motion to approve the Utility Locator Position as presented. Councilwoman Sweet seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

Mr. Killinger stated that he will come back to the next Council meeting with vehicle quotes.

Ordinance 2026-4 Amending Ordinance 2025-20 Establishing Salaries (1st Reading)- Clerk-Treasurer Barrett stated that this has the Utility Line Locator position with a pay range of $18-$25 an hour. Clerk-Treasurer Barrett stated that this is the first reading, and the range can be adjusted if the Council chooses.

Discussion was held regarding increasing the top end range to $27 to have a little leeway. The ordinance will be amended to reflect the $18-$27 range and brought back to the next meeting.

Discussion was held regarding how soon Mr. Killinger would like this to be done and that there was one internal applicant.

Wessler Invoice #49023 for Water Treatment Plant- Clerk-Treasurer Barrett presented Wessler Invoice #49023 in the amount of $3,192.50. Water Superintendent Bill Jones has reviewed and approved.

Councilwoman Sweet made a motion to approve Wessler Invoice #49023 for Water Treatment Plant in the amount of $3,192.50. Councilwoman Buck seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

Councilwoman Sweet made a motion to authorize Council President Piercefield to sign off on Wessler Invoice #49023 for Water Treatment Plant. Councilwoman Buck seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

Walnut Street and Industrial Drive Stop Sign Discussion- Town Manager John Myers stated that at a previous Council meeting a resident spoke about people going north cutting across in front of them as they're going south bound onto Industrial Drive at the intersection of Walnut Street and Industrial Drive. Mr. Myers stated that he was asked to investigate this and previous Town Manager, Wade Watson had previously asked to remove two of the stop signs at the intersection as they were not needed. Mr. Myers stated that he has been at the intersection multiple times over the last few weeks and it is a double yellow line going north and south. Mr. Myers stated that people going north are supposed to yield to the right of way to the people going

south but they are just not paying attention. Mr. Myers stated that the Town could put another stop sign or two back or he has also discussed with Police Chief Doyne Little about putting up a sign that cross-traffic does not stop first to see if that helps.

Chief Little stated that if the town goes and changes it back then it will cause a problem. Chief Little stated that he could not find any information on past accidents at that intersection, even though there are close calls. Chief Little stated that he agrees with Mr. Myers to start by putting up a cross-traffic does not stop sign first to keep traffic flowing.

Mr. Myers stated that if the Council is okay with it, he will have the Street Department to order some signs to put them up.

Attorney Huddleston stated that a resolution is not needed if it is just a warning sign.

Tiered Insurance Discussion- Parks Director Daniel Teter stated that this was discussed at previous Council meetings and not much has changed since the last time. Director Teter stated that he'd like for Council to approve them to be able use the tiered risk insurance requirements for sports events and vendors. Director Teter stated that the Council received a spreadsheet with the different companies and their tier levels with recommendations on how to address them.

Council President Piercefield stated that Councilwoman Buck missed the last meeting and believes this item should be tabled for one more meeting.

Discussion was held regarding whether this would be okay to table for now.

Ford F350 Dump Truck Quotes- Council President Piercefield stated that the Cemetery has been working out of a truck that has been salvaged, and the Badger Fund is a revolving fund that is specifically only used for Cemetery improvements, which includes this.

Town Manager John Myers stated the Cemetery's current truck is not operable and costs more to fix than it's worth.

Cemetery Superintendent Stan Brown discussed some of the features of the dump truck he'd like to purchase and that it is a universal truck.

Discussion was held regarding whether there would be enough funds in the Badger Fund for any emergencies that come up.

Superintendent Brown presented three quotes and stated that all the quotes are for the same exact model and features.

Discussion was held regarding how long it would be until the vehicle could be picked up and the total price of the vehicle.

Councilwoman Rooks made a motion to approve the Ford F350 Dump Truck Quote from Brad Howell Ford in the amount of $90,847. Councilwoman Buck seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

Superintendent Brown stated that the truck comes with an additional five-year warranty, 100,000 miles powertrain warranty since it is a municipal vehicle.

Other Business

Councilwoman Sweet commended the Fire Department. Councilwoman Sweet stated that Chuck Ridpath did a basic CPR course for the high school's health classes. Councilwoman Sweet thanked them for supporting the school.

Councilwoman Rooks thanked Police Chief Doyne Little for being instrumental in getting the designated turn signal at the stop light on US 31. Councilwoman Rooks stated that her family was personally affected by this and Chief Little started working on this after the accident in June 2025. Councilwoman Rooks stated that it is excellent timing and that she is sorry there were that many accidents there. Councilwoman Rooks stated that the community thanks Chief Little and that was the most well needed signal.

Council President Piercefield stated that all the departments are doing continuing education. President Piercefield stated that Police Chief Doyne Little recently held active shooter training at the school. President Piercefield stated that Fire Chief Justin Lollar had a simulation lab. President Piercefield stated that no one is sitting around and that he appreciated everyone that is out there bettering themselves.

Town Manager John Myers thanked the Street and Wastewater Departments for their work clearing drains from the rain and snow melting.

Council President Piercefield asked if the sink hole on Pleasant Street had been fixed. Wastewater Superintendent Robert Jessie confirmed that they got it backfilled.

Clerk-Treasurer Barrett stated that there will be a public hearing at the next Council meeting for additional appropriations for the new ambulance, playground, and to spend the plaza funds.

Police Chief Doyne Little stated that they have been busy and reminded the public that if they see something to say something. Chief Little stated that the second week after spring break he and Misty Hogan will be teaching health classes on addiction and narcotics. Chief Little stated that they had active shooter training at the elementary school.

Planning Director Julie Young stated that they had administrative training for the new permitting software and there will be user training next week. Director Young thanked the Council for allowing her to purchase the software.

Parks Director Daniel Teter stated that little league is starting soon. Director Teter stated that they will start doing interviews for seasonal positions at the pool and concessions. Director Teter stated that they are pulling old playground equipment at Irwin Park out and the new playground should be installed in April. Director Teter stated that they have been meeting and planning for the Firecracker Festival. Director Teter stated that they already have three bands lined up and a car show.

Water Superintendent Bill Jones stated that Infrastructure Systems, Inc. will start working on the mixers and hydrants soon.

Cemetery Superintendent Stan Brown stated that they are advertising spring cleaning for people to pick up their winter decorations that were placed on/by graves. Superintendent Brown thanked the Council for their support.

Council President Piercefield addressed Economic Development Director Drybread and stated that he had attended the State of the Town address for Trafalgar, Indiana. While there, President Piercefield spoke with Glue-Lam Erectors about the stage and the block that we are going to use, and he suggested to use lime to fill in the opening on the Plaza Property.

Director of Economic Development SaraBeth Drybread stated that they met with another landscape architect, RVI Landscape Architects, to do civil site engineering for the plaza space. Director Drybread stated that the architect lives in Edinburgh, so she is familiar with the space and excited about the project. Director Drybread stated that they are waiting on a proposal from RVI and they will have three different proposals from engineering firms once they receive that. Director Drybread stated that she and Accounts Receivable Emily Cravens have been doing interviews and getting proposals from different website providers. Director Drybread stated that a decision will need to be made at the next Council meeting and that information will be in the Councils packets for the next meeting. Director Drybread stated that most of the website providers will take 20 to 28 weeks to implement and that they'd like the new website to be up and running before the Town loses the current site.

Clerk-Treasurer Barrett asked if one of the add-ons they were looking at were for meeting management software.

Director Drybread confirmed.

Clerk-Treasurer Barrett stated that some of the meeting software has the option to upload documents and that the Council would have iPads where they could get information sooner. Clerk-Treasurer Barrett stated that she wanted to do this a few years ago and that the price could be increased a little depending on which package is chosen.

Adjourn

Being no further business or comments, Councilwoman Rooks made a motion to adjourn. Councilwoman Buck seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

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