Special Council Meeting
Monday, August 17, 2026
6:05PM

Edinburgh Town Council met in a special session on Monday, August 17, 2026, at 6:05PM, 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, and Councilman Michael Bryant.

Councilwoman Sherri Sweet arrived at approximately 6:19PM.

Also present were Town Manager John Myers, Clerk-Treasurer Rhonda Barrett, and multiple department heads to present their proposed 2027 budgets.

CFP Draft Presentation- Scott Finley with Baker Tilly presented a draft fiscal sustainability report. Mr. Finley stated that with the changes in the legislature they want to make sure the approved Town budgets are sustainable long-term. Mr. Finley discussed that they want to evaluate the Town's current and long-term financial position, and to identify any future funding gaps before they become critical. Mr. Finley stated that the biggest funding gap for the Town will be the LIT change that they believe will occur in 2030. Mr. Finley stated that the Town will adopt the LIT change in 2028 with the first distributions in 2030 based on that adoption. Mr. Finley stated that this report will look at historical financial performance in 2024 and 2025 as well as looking out to 2031. Mr. Finley discussed that the Town's circuit breaker amount increased but the levy percentage decreased. Mr. Finley discussed the maximum property tax levy. Mr. Finley discussed what could happen if the Town adopts its own LIT rate or if the Town opts into the countywide municipal rate. Mr. Finley stated that Edinburgh's NAV decreased approximately 2%. Mr. Finley discussed what could lead to the NAV rate declining. Mr. Finley discussed the minimum cash reserve and preferred reserved amounts. Mr. Finley stated that the expected 2027 general fund revenue is approximately $6.032 million. Mr. Finley stated that currently the Town is at a 62% operating balance, which is good. Mr. Finley went over the 2027 budgets and their estimated revenues. Mr. Finley stated that all of these assume the entire budget will be spent, which the Town historically has not done. Mr. Finley discussed the Timbergate budget and said that a lot of capital had been built into it. Mr. Finley discussed that Shelby County Edit revenues have typically been set aside for capital at Timbergate. Mr. Finley stated that the Edit funds will go away in 2030. Mr. Finley discussed the CCDF funds recently being reestablished and increased to $0.05. Mr. Finley gave a quick overview of the budgets that will be presented tonight.

Budget Workshop- Department heads presented their budget as follows.

Police

Police Chief Doyne Little presented the proposed 2027 Police budget.

Chief Little stated that they were going to try to apply for the JAG grant in 2026, but it never opened for stateside, only federal funds. If the JAG grant does open, Chief Little plans to apply.

Chief Little discussed each line-item change.

Chief Little stated that he and the Board of Metropolitan Police Commissioners discussed putting more money in his budget to have more than one officer in each ranking so that they are promotable if an officer in a ranking resigns.

Discussion was held regarding being able to purchase the police vehicles using public safety funds.

Discussion was held regarding the county being able to adopt a Fire and EMS LIT when the public safety LIT expires and how it would work.

Discussion was held regarding what vehicles Chief Little would be replacing by purchasing two new vehicles this year.

Discussion was held regarding the equipment repair line item.

Discussion was held regarding if the Council does not want to budget for what if's capital or repairs, they can be done through additional appropriations as needed.

The proposed 2027 Police budget was $2,209,412.00.

Street

Street Superintendent Sean Barnett presented the proposed 2027 Street budget.

Superintendent Barnett discussed each line-item change.

Superintendent Barnett discussed replacing the roof and garage doors at the street department as they need fixed.

The proposed 2027 Street budget was $1,040,332.00.

MVH Restricted

Street Superintendent Sean Barnett presented the proposed 2027 MVH Restricted budget.

Superintendent Barnett discussed each line-item change.

The proposed 2027 MVH Restricted budget was $346,550.00.

Local Road and Street

Street Superintendent Sean Barnett presented the proposed 2027 Local Road and Street budget.

Superintendent Barnett discussed each line-item change.

The proposed 2027 Local Road and Street budget was $115,000.00.

Sanitation

Wastewater Superintendent Robert Jessie presented the proposed 2027 Sanitation budget.

Superintendent Jessie discussed each line-item change.

Superintendent Jessie discussed that they do not know what the number for garbage pickup and hauling will look like since it will go out for bid at the end of the year.

Superintendent Jessie discussed potentially moving the entire compactor from the wastewater plant in the future to the parcel the Town owns by the street garage. Superintendent Jessie stated that the wastewater plant should not be open to the public as it is a safety hazard. Superintendent Jessie discussed that since they do not know how much it would cost to move the compactor; he added a $50,000 engineering cost to this budget so they can consult with a firm about moving it.

Discussion was held regarding where the compactor would be moved too.

Discussion was held regarding when the Town used to do trash pickup instead of outsourcing it.

The proposed 2027 Sanitation budget was $583,380.00.

Cemetery

Cemetery Superintendent Stan Brown presented the proposed 2027 Cemetery budget.

Superintendent Brown discussed each line-item change.

Discussion was held regarding IT and Comcast costs.

Discussion was held regarding the amount of revenue the cemetery has brought in this year.

Superintendent Brown discussed that Robertson's Paving will have to reseal their blacktop within the next four to five years.

Discussion was held regarding what percentage the Town pays for an employee's insurance.

Discussion was held regarding using the Badger Fund for capital.

The proposed 2027 Cemetery budget was $448,668.25.

Fire and EMS

Fire Chief Justin Lollar presented the proposed 2027 Fire and EMS budget.

Chief Lollar discussed each line-item change.

Chief Lollar discussed that part-time employees at the outlet mall can make more than his part-time employees, so he proposed a $1/hour raise across the board for part-time EMT and paramedic employees. Chief Lollar stated that 80% of his workforce is part-time and get no benefits.

Chief Lollar discussed hose testing they are supposed to have done annually.

Discussion was held regarding the staff vehicle Chief Lollar would like to purchase.

Discussion was held regarding tires Chief Lollar recently had to replace that were over 20 years old.

Discussion was held regarding the purpose of the NRO Fire EMS fund.

The proposed 2027 Fire EMS budget was $1,966,539.00.

Town Council

Town Manager John Myers presented the proposed 2027 Town Council budget.

Discussion was held regarding whether the Town Council would receive a wage increase for 2027 to avoid having to give a larger increase at once to catch up if they do not get an increase for a few years.

Mr. Myers discussed each line-item change.

Discussion was held regarding what employees are paid out of the Town Council budget.

Discussion was held regarding whether fees for the Metropolitan Board of Police Commissioners should be paid out of the Town Council or Police budget.

The proposed 2027 Town Council budget was $752,705.00.

Johnson County Edit

Town Manager John Myers presented the proposed 2027 Johnson County Edit budget.

Mr. Myers discussed each line-item change.

Discussion was held regarding what employees are paid out of this fund.

Mr. Myers discussed the capital projects they want to do using this fund.

The proposed 2027 Johnson County Edit budget was $644,953.00.

Bartholomew County Edit

Town Manager John Myers presented the proposed 2027 Bartholomew County Edit budget.

Mr. Myers discussed each line-item change.

Discussion was held regarding how much funding the downtown plaza project needs.

Discussion was held regarding the unfinished top floor of the JRDCC building.

The proposed 2027 Bartholomew County Edit budget was $39,980.00.

Shelby County Edit Fund

Town Manager John Myers presented the proposed 2027 Shelby County Edit Fund.

Mr. Myers discussed each line-item change.

Discussion was held regarding this typically being used for Timbergate and letting the fund accumulate.

The proposed 2027 Shelby County Edit budget was $0.

Clerk-Treasurer

Clerk-Treasurer Rhonda Barrett presented the proposed 2027 Clerk-Treasurer budget.

Clerk-Treasurer discussed each line-item change.

The proposed 2027 Clerk-Treasurer budget was $162,570.00.

CCDF

Clerk-Treasurer Barrett presented the proposed 2027 CCDF budget.

Clerk-Treasurer Barrett discussed each line-item change.

Discussion was held regarding possibly using funding to resurface the pool.

The proposed 2027 CCDF budget was $125,000.00.

CCIF

Clerk-Treasurer Barrett presented the proposed CCIF budget for 2027.

Clerk-Treasurer Barrett discussed each line-item change.

Discussion was held regarding where these funds come from.

The proposed 2027 CCIF budget was $6,500.00.

Riverboat

Clerk-Treasurer Barrett presented the proposed 2027 Riverboat budget.

Clerk-Treasurer Barrett discussed each line-item change.

Discussion was held regarding using the funds for fire gear and renovations at the pool.

Discussion was held regarding the pool's age and repair needs.

The proposed 2027 Riverboat budget was $90,000.00.

General Bond

Clerk-Treasurer Barrett presented the proposed 2027 General bond budget.

Clerk-Treasurer Barrett discussed each line-item change.

Clerk-Treasurer Barrett discussed that this is just to make bond payments.

The proposed 2027 General Bond budget was $344,314.00.

Public Safety Fund

Clerk-Treasurer Barrett presented the proposed 2027 Public Safety Fund budget.

Clerk-Treasurer Barrett discussed each line-item change.

Discussion was held regarding whether the Council wanted to use the public safety fund to purchase the police and fire vehicles.

The proposed 2027 Public Safety Fund budget was $298,000.00.

Joseph Fund Donation- Clerk-Treasurer Barrett stated that at the previous Council meeting the Joseph Fund donation was approved. Clerk-Treasurer Barrett discussed paying for the donations out of the Council promotions and what needs to be done.

Adjourn

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

These minutes are a summary of actions taken at the Edinburgh Town Council meeting. The full video archive of meetings is available for viewing at https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL0pagNU7lg5FkjGffQyWphtcPehlL-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
Michael Bryant

ATTEST:
Rhonda Barrett
Rhonda Barrett, Clerk-Treasurer