

**Town Council Meeting**  
**Monday, April 28, 2025**  
**6:00PM**

Edinburgh Town Council met in a regular session on Monday, April 28, 2025, at 6:00PM at the Town Hall, 107 South Holland Street, Edinburgh, IN.

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

**Members Answering Roll Call:** Council President Ryan Piercefield, Councilwoman Miriam Rooks, Councilwoman Debbie Buck, Councilwoman Sherri Sweet, and Councilman Michael Bryant.

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

**Minutes-** Minutes of Council Meeting April 14, 2025, and Executive Meeting April 17, 2025.

*Councilwoman Rooks made a motion to approve the Minutes of Council Meeting April 14, 2025, and Executive Meeting April 17, 2025. Councilwoman Buck seconded. Motion carried 5-0.*

**Claims-** Clerk-Treasurer Barrett presented two claim dockets in the amount of \$156,510.06 for end of month February 2025 and \$868,714.05 for April 28, 2025. All claims have been reviewed and signed.

*Councilwoman Buck made a motion to approve the two claim dockets as presented in the amounts of \$156,510.06 and \$868,714.05. Councilwoman Sweet seconded. Motion carried 5-0.*

**American Legion Memorial Day Proclamation-** Council President Piercefield presented the American Legion Memorial Day Proclamation. Councilwoman Sweet volunteered to participate in reading the American Legion Memorial Day Proclamation on Monday, May 26, 2025.

*Councilwoman Rooks made a motion to approve the American Legion Memorial Day Proclamation set for Monday, May 26, 2025. Councilman Bryant seconded. Motion carried 5-0.*

**Ordinance 2025-4 Amending Ordinance 2024-19, Ordinance 2024-28, and Ordinance 2025-2 Abolishing the Office of Town Marshal and Amending the Town Code on the Police Department (1<sup>st</sup> Reading)-** Attorney Huddleston stated the current deadline for the Town Marshal position to be abolished is May 1, 2025. Attorney Huddleston recommended moving this deadline to August 1, 2025, as the Town does not have the Police Commissioner Board appointments done yet. Attorney Huddleston suggested that the first reading be waived.

*Council President Piercefield made a motion to waive the first reading of Ordinance 2025-4 Amending Ordinance 2024-19, Ordinance 2024-28, and Ordinance 2025-2 Abolishing the Office of Town Marshal and Amending the Town Code on the Police Department. Councilwoman Rooks seconded. Motion carried 5-0.*

*Councilwoman Rooks made a motion to approve Ordinance 2025-4 Amending Ordinance 2024-19, Ordinance 2024-28, and Ordinance 2025-2 Abolishing the Office of Town Marshal and Amending the Town Code on the Police Department. Councilwoman Buck seconded. Motion carried 5-0.*

**77 Fund Board of Metropolitan Police Commissioners Appointments-** Attorney Huddleston stated this relates to Ordinance 2025-4 just passed. To set up the new structure of the police department requires 3 members to be appointed to the Metropolitan Police Commissioner Board. These appointments can be made tonight or at the next Council meeting.

**Town of Edinburgh Certification Concerning Election Districts-** Attorney Huddleston stated Town Manager John Myers received a note from the Johnson County Clerk that Indiana law requires each municipality to go through a redistricting process which is required periodically with a set deadline to avoid penalties. Several years ago, the Town abolished districts and all

council members are at large. Attorney Huddleston produced a Certification reflecting the district abolishment that needs to be approved by the council and requires approval for Council President Piercefield and Clerk-Treasurer Barrett to sign the document. Attorney Huddleston will file the certification with the Johnson County Clerk.

*Councilwoman Rooks made a motion to approve the Town of Edinburgh Certification Concerning Election Districts. Councilman Bryant seconded. Motion carried 5-0.*

*Councilwoman Rooks made a motion to authorize Council President Piercefield and Clerk-Treasurer Barrett to sign off on the Town of Edinburgh Certification Concerning Election Districts. Councilman Bryant seconded. Motion carried 5-0.*

**Wessler Invoice 46787 for Water Treatment Plant-** Clerk-Treasurer Barrett received an Invoice from Wessler in the amount of \$1,867.50. Water Superintendent Bill Jones has reviewed and approved. The invoice requires council approval for payment and approval for Ryan to sign.

*Councilwoman Sweet made a motion to approve Wessler Invoice 46787 for Water Treatment Plant in the amount of \$1,867.50. Councilwoman Buck seconded. Motion carried 5-0.*

*Councilwoman Sweet made a motion to authorize Council President Piercefield to sign off on Wessler Invoice 46787 for Water Treatment Plant. Councilwoman Buck seconded. Motion carried 5-0.*

**Annual CF-1 Review for Ditech and LB Mold-** Planning Director Julie Young presented tax abatement compliance forms for Ditech and LB Mold. Ditech has two abatements.

*Councilwoman Buck made a motion to approve the Annual CF-1 Review for Ditech as presented. Councilman Bryant seconded. Motion carried 5-0.*

*Councilwoman Rooks made a motion to approve the Annual CF-1 Review for LB Mold as presented. Councilwoman Buck seconded. Motion carried 5-0.*

**Belt Press Refurbishment Quote-** Wastewater Superintendent Robert Jessie stated after Dustin's review of the quotes from the previous Town Council meeting, he was informed that he needed to have a minimum of three quotes. Superintendent Jessie stated that nothing has changed, the numbers are the same as what was presented previously. All of the quotes were higher, and the only other quote he was able to get for the belt press was for a complete replacement. Superintendent Jessie stated a replacement would cost approximately \$600,000, not counting installation fees or any structural modifications that would have to be made to the building. The total cost for the Belt Press Refurbishment project is \$393,636.44.

Discussion was held regarding the life expectancy of the belt press machine after refurbishment, who will do the installation of the machine and warranties on the belt press refurbishment.

*Councilwoman Rooks made a motion to approve the Belt Press Refurbishment Project in the amount of \$393,636.44 to be financed through the GO bond funds. Councilman Bryant seconded. Motion carried 5-0.*

### **Other Business**

Clerk-Treasurer Barrett stated the Town received \$7,500.00 in training grants through Workforce Development for CDL training to reimburse training of 3 employees.

Clerk-Treasurer Barrett stated that she and Town Manager John Myers attended a webinar on Wednesday regarding SB1. Clerk-Treasurer Barrett stated that she will notify the Council when she has more concrete numbers but so far it looks like the Town will lose approximately \$200,000.00 in revenue next year 2026.

Town Manager John Myers stated that financial experts are having trouble figuring out SB1 and that they're predicting changes to be made.

Mr. Myers thanked the Council on behalf of all Town employees for the employee appreciation lunch.

Police Chief Doyne Little stated five or six out of eleven officers have their physicals set up for the 77 Fund.

Chief Little stated the Carthage Police Department gave them Batu, one of their K9s, a little over a year ago due to the closing of their police department. The Town of Carthage has hired a new police chief, and they have asked for help with re-creating their police department and are looking for police cars. Chief Little stated he has two vehicles that he would like to submit as surplus and donate them to the Carthage Police Department. Chief Little stated one is a 2017 Dodge Charger with 126,000 miles and the other is a 2018 Dodge Charger with 103,000 miles. Chief Little is requesting the council consider donating those two cars to Carthage to help with their department.

Discussion was held concerning helping other communities as the Town has received help in the past from larger communities related to public safety equipment.

Discussion was held concerning donation of the two vehicles mentioned by Chief Little and having Attorney Huddleston draft an interlocal agreement with the Town of Carthage.

*Councilwoman Buck made a motion to have Attorney Huddleston draft an interlocal agreement with the Town of Carthage to donate both cars. Councilwoman Sweet seconded. Motion carried 5-0.*

Parks Director Daniel Teter stated the group going on the Savannah, GA trip left this morning. Director Teter stated Little League would start having games tonight. Pool staff orientations were on Sunday, and they have started preparing the pool for the upcoming season.

Director Teter thanked Police Chief Doyne Little for administering pre-employment drug screens. Director Teter stated they have a lot of vendors for the Firecracker Festival and will approach the Council again later to request road closures to hold the festival downtown. Director Teter stated vendors for the Farmer's Market have started signing up for that.

Water Superintendent Bill Jones stated he had a meeting with Wessler today to plan how to spend the rest of the SRF money for the hydrants and mixers for the water towers. Superintendent Jones stated it'll likely be June before it goes to bid and that he would like it to be done by the end of October.

Director of Economic Development Sarabeth Drybread stated Aspire Johnson County and Franklin College students from a business development class toured Edinburgh. Director Drybread stated after the tour they had a panel discussion with LK Machinery and Manar.

Director Drybread stated she will be meeting with Aspire Johnson County this week to discuss the available US 31 commercial space.

## **Adjourn**

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

*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=PL0pagNU7lg5FkjGffQvWphtcPehlL-R5g> for as long as this media is supported.*

EDINBURGH TOWN COUNCIL

Absent

Ryan Piercefield, President

Absent

Miriam Rooks, Vice President

Debbie Buck

Debbie Buck

Sherri Sweet

Sherri Sweet

Michael Bryant

Michael Bryant

ATTEST:

Rhonda Barrett

Rhonda Barrett, Clerk-Treasurer