

Town Council Meeting
Monday, September 12, 2016
6:00 P.M. Town Hall

Edinburgh Town Council met in a regular session on Monday, September 12, 2016 at 6:00 P.M. at the Town Hall, 107 South Holland Street, Edinburgh, Indiana.

President Kami Ervin called the meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Members answering roll call were: Councilman Jack Shepherd, Vice President Jeff Simpson, Councilman Jerry Lollar, and President Kami Ervin. Also present were Town Attorney Dustin Huddleston and Clerk Treasurer Scott Finley. Councilwoman Dawn Graham was absent.

President Ervin said next on the agenda were the minutes of the council meeting of August 22, 2016. Councilman Simpson made a motion to approve the minutes as submitted. Councilman Shepherd seconded. Motion carried.

President Ervin said next on the agenda were claims and handed it over to Clerk Treasurer Scott Finley.

Mr. Finley said everyone should have received two claim dockets in their council packet, an end-of-the month docket for July and the regular claim docket for the period. The total for the regular docket was \$173,355.86 and total for the end-of-month docket for July was \$481,813.85. He said he had signed off on all the claims in those dockets and handed them over to the council for approval. Councilman Lollar made a motion to approve the two dockets as submitted. Councilman Simpson seconded. Motion carried.

President Ervin said next on the agenda was the public hearing on the Amos Hill waiver of noncompliance. She asked Town Manager Wade Watson to lead the discussion.

Mr. Watson said this issue has been discussed in previous meetings. Amos Hill failed to submit necessary paperwork to receive the approved tax abatement. The resolution following this public hearing would allow Amos Hill to continue to receive the tax abatement.

President Ervin opened the public hearing. Being no comments from the public she closed the public hearing.

President Ervin said next on the agenda was Resolution 2016-11 Waiving Noncompliance of Amos Hill Tax Abatement. Councilman Lollar made a motion to approve Resolution 2016-11. Councilman Simpson seconded. Motion carried.

President Ervin said next on the agenda was the first reading of Ordinance 2016-8 Amending Ordinance 1998-6 Town's Purchasing Agency. She asked Mr. Huddleston to explain the Ordinance.

Mr. Huddleston said at the previous meeting the town's purchasing policy had been discussed and the council authorized him to draft an ordinance amending the policy. The ordinance reflects the discussion from the previous council meeting.

Councilman Lollar said he agrees with the drafted ordinance.

Councilman Simpson said he would like to hear Councilwoman Graham's thoughts on the ordinance at the next meeting.

Because it was the first reading no action was taken on Ordinance 2016-8.

President Ervin said next on the agenda was the agreement for purchase of real estate. She asked Mr. Huddleston to explain the agreement.

Mr. Huddleston said this has been an ongoing process and he gave a brief background on the topic. The estate that wished to gift the property to the town wanted to give the property "as-is." This agreement reflects that change. He said if the document is approved he would need the council to approve a council member to attend the closing with him and sign on behalf of the council. Councilman Simpson made a motion to approve the agreement for the purchase of real estate. Councilman Shepherd seconded. Motion carried.

Councilman Simpson made a motion to allow President Ervin to attend the closing and sign any and all closing documents related to this transaction. Councilman Shepherd seconded. Motion carried.

President Ervin said next on the agenda was the redevelopment plan. She asked Mr. Watson to explain.

Mr. Watson said he was approached by The Woda Group (Woda) about the possibility of acquiring Country Place Apartments on Center Cross Street for a redevelopment project. Woda needs the town's support by passing an amendment to the comprehensive plan to include this property so they can qualify for tax incentives. Nick Surak was present to answer any questions from the council.

Mr. Surak gave a brief description of what Woda does. He said the company would be looking to invest \$50,000 per unit. That money would go toward life safety and upgrading the efficiency of the buildings.

President Ervin asked about the displacement of current residents.

Mr. Surak said it varies by building but usually they put the residents in a hotel for a short period of time at Woda's expense.

President Ervin asked if they meet any opposition with tenants.

Mr. Surak said there is always some that are opposed but are usually happy afterward.

Councilman Shepherd asked who currently owns the apartments and do they want to sell.

Mr. Surak said it is an out of state owner and they have already made an offer that was accepted.

Councilman Lollar said he did some research on Woda. He said he was concerned that he found an OSHA finding where a gentleman was killed on a job site in West Virginia due to unsafe workplace practices. He asked if Mr. Surak was familiar with the incident.

Mr. Surak said he was not but he would like to look into it and get him some answers.

Councilman Lollar said he wanted to know what kind of policies were put in place to make the worksites safer.

Mr. Surak said he would like to find that information about that issue and forward it to the council.

Further discussion was held regarding Woda's business practices.

Councilman Simpson made a motion to allow Mr. Huddleston to research the process of amending the town's comprehensive plan. Councilman Lollar seconded. Motion carried.

President Ervin said next on the agenda was Bill White with an ordinance discussion. Because Mr. White was not present at the meeting the item was skipped.

Council Comments

Councilman Lollar asked Mr. Watson if he had had a chance to look into decals for town vehicles.

Mr. Watson said he is in the process of gathering quotes for both vinyl and magnetic decals.

President Ervin reminded everyone that the Fall Festival would begin this week. She thanked the departments in advance for their work on the festival.

Mr. Huddleston said the resolution that was passed provided that the Clerk-Treasurer send a certified letter and a copy to Amos Hill Associated, the Johnson County Auditor, and the Indiana Department of Local Government Finance. He said he could assist Mr. Finley in drafting that letter.

Departmental Comments

Street Superintendent Curtis Rooks presented the council a proposal for a new dump truck.

Councilman Lollar asked if he had obtained a quote to repair the current trucks.

Mr. Rooks said from his experience it will cost too much to repair the trucks. He said if he repaired one of the current trucks he would also need to purchase a spreader and a snow blade.

Councilman Lollar said he would like to see a quote for repairing one of the trucks.

Town Manager Wade Watson gave an update on the grant projects. He said Brackney would be mobilizing for the storm water project some time the week after the Fall Festival. They will be starting on Kyle Street and East Main Cross Street. They hope to keep one lane open during construction. The majority of East Main Cross Street should be finished before winter weather comes.

Mr. Watson said the Blue River Building project was scheduled to be finished by the end of September but he is not sure that will be the case. There have been some delays with the store front and windows.

Mr. Watson said he and Mr. Rooks met with INDOT regarding the Community Crossing Grant. The town has been given notification to proceed with the project. The town will be eligible to reapply for the grant in 2017.

Mr. Watson said he also wanted to inform the council that IDEM has accepted the Wastewater Department's Long Term Control Plan.

Mr. Watson said he and Mary Patterson would be meeting with some insurance carriers and looking for options to lower the town's health insurance cost.

Mr. Watson said Dan Hedden of Umbaugh would be down on September 15th at 2:00 P.M. to discuss the budget process including levies, tax rates, and circuit breakers. He encouraged the council to attend.

Wastewater Superintendent Glenn Giles said he has a pump that has gone bad at a lift station that will cost \$5,054 to repair. Councilman Simpson made a motion to allow Mr. Giles to rebuild the lift station pump. Councilman Lollar seconded. Motion carried.

Parks Director Daniel Teter gave the council a copy of the schedule for the Parks Department. The department received over \$1,600 in prizes donated to be given away during the Fall Festival. He said he needs to ask the council for some additional part time help for weekend tournaments to cover about 30 hours. The wages would be paid from the Parks and Recreation NRO funds.

Discussion was held regarding park employees.

Councilman Lollar made a motion to allow Mr. Teter to fill the hours necessary to cover the ball tournaments as presented. Councilman Simpson seconded. Motion carried.

Cemetery Sexton John Hoskinson said he needed to ask the council to fill a vacancy in a full time position. The department had hired a full time person a few months ago but the employee took another job. The position is within the 2016 budget.

Discussion was held regarding the skills required for the position.


Councilman Lollar made a motion to allow Mr. Hoskinson to fill the vacant full time position. Councilman Shepherd seconded. Motion carried 3 to 1 with Councilman Simpson voting nay.

Public Comments

Don McQueen of 521 High School Drive said at one point the town had an older gentleman that picked up brush on Mondays and Fridays. Recently they have been missing the brush and when they do pick it up they use two men and a backhoe. He thinks it is overkill for the job.

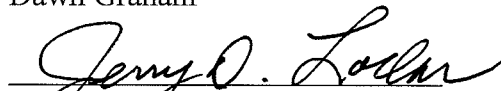
Being no further business or comments, Councilman Lollar made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Councilman Simpson seconded. Motion carried.

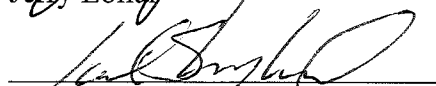
EDINBURGH TOWN COUNCIL


Kami Ervin, President

Jeff Simpson, Vice President

Dawn Graham


Jerry Lollar


Jack Shepherd

ATTEST:


Scott Finley, Clerk-Treasurer