

Town Council Meeting
Monday, October 10, 2016
6:00 P.M. Town Hall

Edinburgh Town Council met in a regular session on Monday, October 10, 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, Councilman Jeff Simpson, Councilwoman Dawn Graham, Councilman Jerry Lollar, and President Kami Ervin. Also present was Clerk Treasurer Scott Finley. Town Attorney Dustin Huddleston was absent.

President Ervin said next on the agenda were the minutes of the special meeting of September 15, 2016, the special meeting of September 26, 2016, and the council meeting of September 26, 2016. Councilman Simpson made a motion to approve all minutes as submitted. Councilman Lollar 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 the regular claim docket for the period as well as an end-of-month docket for August in their council packet. The total for the end-of-month docket was \$513,275.41 and the total for the regular claim docket was \$92,800.19. He said he had signed off on all the claims in those dockets and handed them over to the council for approval.

Councilman Lollar asked if the claims for backhoe repair were for parts or labor.

Water Superintendent Mike Pendleton said one claim is for parts and the other is for labor.

Councilwoman Graham made a motion to approve the claims as submitted. Councilman Lollar seconded. Motion carried.

President Ervin said next on the agenda was Ordinance 2016-8 Amending Ordinance 1998-6 Town's Purchasing Agent. This has been on the agenda several times. She gave a brief background of the ordinance.

Discussion was held regarding possible changes to the ordinance.

After further discussion, Councilman Lollar made a motion to table Ordinance 2016-8 until the next council meeting. Councilman Simpson seconded. Motion carried.

President Ervin said next on the agenda was Ordinance 2016-9 Adoption of 2017 Budget Appropriations and Tax Rate. She asked Mr. Finley if he had anything to add.

Mr. Finley said for comparison sake he pulled 2016's budget ordinance. For 2016 the council adopted a max tax rate of 3.2118. For 2017 that number is 2.9147. He said the budget will look higher this year because more funds were budgeted than the previous year. The total budget for 2017 will be \$5,989,705. Councilman Simpson made a motion to approve Ordinance 2016-9. Councilman Lollar seconded. Motion carried.

President Ervin said next on the agenda was Scott Miller of Umbaugh presenting the water rate study.

Mr. Miller said the council has received a copy of the rate study documents. He said Alex Hilt would be presenting the rate study.

Mr. Hilt said the water utility will be looking to do some significant capital improvements in 2017 in order to maintain the current level of service. Those improvements will most likely be funded by a bond and the utility's current rates cannot support a bond. He directed the council to the rate

study documents and explained the capital improvements and possible rate increases. The proposed rate increase was a two phase increase.

President Ervin asked if Umbaugh found any areas where the utility could cut costs during their study.

Mr. Hilt said there are some normalizations in the rates but nothing really jumped out as excessive spending. The operating costs are only up about 4% over the past few years.

Councilman Lollar asked when the last rate increase was for the water utility.

Mr. Hilt said the last increases was approved in 2006 and the second phase of that increase was implemented in 2008.

Mr. Miller said the phase two numbers are an estimate at this point and Umbaugh tried to estimate high on those numbers. So it is possible phase two could be lower than estimated. The current town rates are extremely low compared to other utilities.

Discussion was held about the deterioration of the wells and the need for rate studies every few years.

Councilman Simpson made a motion to allow Mr. Huddleston and Umbaugh to proceed with the necessary documents for the rate increase. Councilwoman Graham seconded. Motion carried.

Council Comments

Councilman Shepherd thanked Mr. Finley and all the department heads for their work on the budgets.

Councilman Simpson commended Electric Superintendent Kevin Rubush on his work with the downtown lights. He said they look much better than the old ones that were there.

Councilwoman Graham said she was not present at the last meeting but wanted to pass along some good feedback she had received regarding the town's booth at the bicentennial celebration. She thanked everyone for their work on that project.

Councilman Lollar asked how the process of hiring a new Building Commissioner is going.

Mr. Watson said he wanted to be able to present that at this meeting but he ran out of time. He said he has it narrowed down to three people from the seven that he interviewed. He would like to recap those interviews and present them to council at the next meeting.

Departmental Comments

Town Manager Wade Watson said he received some quotes on decals for town vehicles. He said the town would need approximately 50 vehicles decaled. The lowest quote for 50 vehicles is about \$800 installed. To get a definite price we would need to submit options for decals. Councilman Lollar made a motion to allow Mr. Watson to proceed with designing a logo for decals to go on town vehicles. Councilman Simpson seconded. Motion carried.

Mr. Watson gave a brief update on the storm water project. Construction will begin on Monday, October 17th. An excavator will be staged on East Main Cross. There will be some road closures throughout the project.

President Ervin asked if there was anything being done to inform the residents of the closures.

Mr. Watson said the closures will be posted on the website and also sent out through the text program.

Mr. Watson also gave an update on the Blue River Building project. He said the project is not complete yet but is anticipated to be completed by the first week of November. Some structural issues have come up during the project that have slowed the work down.

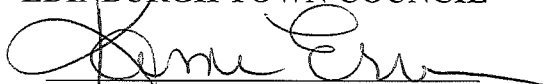
Mr. Watson said he was notified this week of an employee's resignation at the Wastewater Department. It is the second lost employee in about two months and the department has been sharing an employee to avoid hiring someone else. The department will not be able to continue operations as normal without the replacement of this employee. He asked for permission to hire a new employee at for the Wastewater Department.

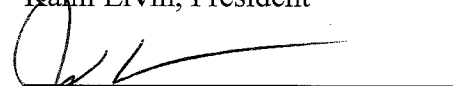
Councilwoman Graham made a motion to allow the Wastewater Department to replace the resigning employee. Councilman Shepherd seconded. Motion carried.

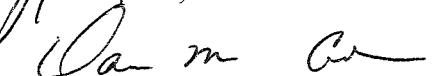
Water Superintendent Mike Pendleton said he would like to ask the council for approval to put in a couple of insertion valves by Casey's and on dump road. He said he had two quotes for the service. One from EJP for \$8,185 and one from Infrastructure Systems for \$9,450. He said he had not worked with EJP before but was comfortable trying them out. Councilman Simpson made a motion to allow Mr. Pendleton to proceed with installation of the two insertion valves by EJP. Councilman Lollar seconded. Motion carried.


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


EDINBURGH TOWN COUNCIL


Kami Ervin, President


Jeff Simpson, Vice President


Dawn Graham


Jerry Lollar


Jack Shepherd

ATTEST:


Scott Finley, Clerk-Treasurer