

Town Council Meeting
 Monday, September 24, 2018
 6:00 P.M. Town Hall

Edinburgh Town Council met in a regular session on Monday, September 24, 2018 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, Councilwoman Dawn Graham, Vice President Jerry Lollar, and President Kami Ervin. Also present were Town Attorney Dustin Huddleston and Clerk-Treasurer Scott Finley. Councilman Jeff Simpson was absent.

President Ervin said next on the agenda were the minutes of the executive meeting of September 10, 2018 and the council meeting of September 10, 2018. Councilman Lollar made a motion to approve the minutes as submitted. Councilman Shepherd seconded. Motion carried.

President Ervin said next on the agenda were claims. The council received a copy of the claim docket in their packet. The total of the docket was \$797,300.43. Mr. Finley said he had signed off on all the claims in that docket and handed them over to the council for approval. Councilwoman Graham made a motion to approve the claims as submitted. Councilman Lollar seconded. Motion carried.

President Ervin said next on the agenda was the second reading of Ordinance 2018-8 Final Adoption of 2019 Appropriations and Tax Rate. She asked Mr. Finley if he had anything to add.

Mr. Finley said there have been no changes since the previous meeting. He said the numbers have been advertised online and the public hearing was held at the last council meeting. After adoption the town should receive its 1782 notice sometime in December. Councilman Lollar made a motion to approve Ordinance 2018-8. Councilwoman Graham seconded. Motion carried.

President Ervin said next on the agenda was the AMI Metering presentation by Assistant Electric Superintendent Stephen Clark.

Mr. Clark gave a brief history of the current metering system. Meters are starting to fail and a decision needs to be made on whether to keep replacing them or go with another system. He said the department is trying to get more voltage reduction and a new system with more features would allow a higher voltage reduction percentage. Currently we get about a 2% voltage reduction which saves about \$60,000 dollars per year on the IMPA bill. With the new Tantalus AMI system that percentage could go as high as 3.5%. He explained that of all the companies that have AMI, Tantalus is the only one that can read the town's current water meters. The department has allocated \$400,000 in improvements and has not touched any of that. The department is also in a strong cash position to move to a new system. He said the total cost would be around \$800,000 but he would like to do this in phases.

Discussion was held regarding the features of the new system and the meter reading process.

Councilman Lollar asked how many electric and water meters the town has.

Mr. Clark said about 3,500 electric meters and about 1,900 water meters.

Mr. Lollar asked about the life span of the new meters.

Mr. Clark said they are solid state meters so they should last around 20 years.

Discussion was held about voltage reduction at the substation and other communities with this system.

Councilwoman Graham made a motion to proceed with phase one of the new metering system from Tantalus for \$386,474. Councilman Shepherd seconded. Motion carried.

Council Comments

President Ervin said a local business owner, Duane Terry of Cliff's Bar and Grill, passed away today and she wanted pass along condolences from the council.

President Ervin said the council has been going back and forth trying to fill the Building Commissioner position. The town has spent between \$5,300 and \$6,200 with advertisements, executive meetings, and attorney fees on this process. She thinks the process has become counterproductive. President Ervin made a motion to allow the Town Manager to proceed with the hiring process for the Building Commissioner position without further council involvement. Councilwoman Graham seconded. Motion carried 3 to 1 with Councilman Lollar voting nay.

Town Attorney Dustin Huddleston said he researched the statute for appraisals for purchasing a piece of property under a certain threshold. As long as the total cost of purchase including closing costs is less than \$25,000 the town does not have to get two appraisals of the property.

Discussion was held regarding this property.

Councilman Shepherd made a motion to allow Town Manager Wade Watson to offer \$15,000 for the property adjacent to the cemetery on the west side. Councilman Lollar seconded. Motion carried.

Mr. Huddleston gave an update on the Woesner property. The property was not in compliance with the zoning ordinances and legal action was taken. A judgement has been issued for the full amount of attorney fees incurred totaling about \$3,000 plus fines and fees of around \$9,600. The judgement also allows the town to go in and clean the property up if no action is taken in 10 days and charge the owner for that cleanup. He explained that the owner had done some cleanup but not enough to get the property in compliance with the zoning ordinances.

Mr. Huddleston said action has also been filed on the Burton property. The owner is deceased but the town did receive a phone call from his brother pledging to clean the property up.

Departmental Comments

Community Center Director SaraBeth Drybread said she wanted to thank the Johnson County Tourism Commission for the grants for street performers and artists for the Fall Festival as well as the department heads for their work on the festival. She said the social media marketing for the festival went really well. 75,800 people saw the advertisements and 3,700 people interacted with the posts.

Ms. Drybread said October 8th through the 12th is Downtown Development Week. She has sent letters to downtown merchants asking to donate a gift card or service for a drawing that will be held. Anyone who purchases something downtown can bring in a receipt and have it entered into a drawing for gift basket of local goods.

Ms. Drybread gave an update on the Stellar Communities program. She said she would also like to put together a committee to work on an event for the town's bicentennial.

Town Manager Wade Watson said the property the swimming pool sits on does not actually belong to the town, it belongs to the school. School Superintendent Dr. Doug Arnold contacted the town wanting to donate the land to the town to remove the liability it places on the school.

Mr. Huddleston said he spoke with the school board attorney about the same topic. If the process is just a donation it will be an easy deed transfer.

Mr. Watson said he has spoken with 3 firms about the ADA Transition Plan. He has pricing from one firm and is awaiting pricing from the other two. Strand Engineering has agreed to assist the town in drafting an extension letter to the compliance officer.

Mr. Watson said he received an inquiry from a potential property buyer about the cost to get utility infrastructure across I-65. His initial estimate is between \$800,000 and \$1,000,000. He said he just wanted to get the council thinking about this issue.

Mr. Watson gave a project update. He said the East Main Cross Project between Kyle and Clay is underway but not moving as quickly as he had hoped. The deadline for them to complete the project is November 1, 2018. The East Main Cross project from Kyle Street to the railroad track should be done in a week or so. He said the Long Term Control Plan Project at the lagoon area is a little behind schedule but still should be completed well before the mandated completion date.

Mr. Watson said our Community Crossing Grant application has been accepted and the award announcements should be in November or December.

Electric Superintendent Kevin Rubush said he has obtained two generator quotes for the water and wastewater plants as well as a portable generator. He said he is having a hard time finding a third quote. The low quote so far is \$313,151. Councilman Lollar made a motion to allow the purchase of the generators not to exceed the low quote of \$313,151. Councilman Shepherd seconded. Motion carried.

Public Comments

Debby Vaughn said they had recently purchased a house on Timbergate Golf Course and had heard rumors that the council was considering selling the course.

President Ervin said the council has no plans at the time to sell the golf course and she is welcome to discuss her concerns with Mr. Watson as well.

Ms. Vaughn said she thinks the golf course will be a valuable asset when the bond pays off.

Councilman Lollar said his constituents had issues with the town paying the golf course bond payment instead of repairing streets in the town. There has been some discussion with the options of the golf course but it has not come to council.

Janice Burton of 504 Fulford Drive said the schools in town do not have a lot of programs for kids to participate in and she thinks the town should work with the school to get more programs implemented to attract more families to town.

Gail McQueen of 521 High School Drive said she would like to see some lighting put up from the police station to the library during next year's fall festival. It was very dark in that area at night.

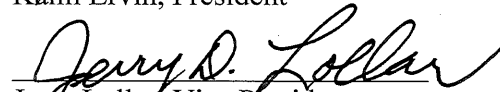
Ms. McQueen said there are several junk cars always sitting on Sunset, High School, and Memorial on the west side of town. She would like to see that area cleaned up.

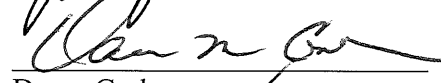
Erin Anderson, the Economic Development & Community Outreach Director from Atterbury-Muscatatuck Center for Complex Operations was present and said the community day at Atterbury was on the 8th and they had a good turnout despite the awful weather. They had around 900 cars come through the gates. She thanked the council for promoting the event.

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


EDINBURGH TOWN COUNCIL


Kami Ervin, President


Jerry Lollar, Vice President


Dawn Graham


Jack Shepherd


Jeff Simpson

ATTEST:


Scott Finley, Clerk-Treasurer