

Town Council Meeting
Monday, April 22, 2019
6:00 P.M. Town Hall

Edinburgh Town Council met in a regular session on Monday, April 22, 2019 at 6:00 P.M. at the Town Hall, 107 South Holland Street, Edinburgh, Indiana.

President Jerry Lollar called the meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Members answering roll call: Councilman William Jones, Councilman Jeff Simpson, Vice President Dawn Graham, Councilman Ryan Piercefield, and President Jerry Lollar. Also present were Clerk-Treasurer Scott Finley, Town Attorney Dustin Huddleston, and Town Manager JT Doane.

Minutes - Council meeting minutes of April 8, 2019 and the special meeting minutes of April 11, 2019. Councilman Simpson made a motion to approve the minutes as submitted. Councilwoman Graham seconded. Motion carried.

Claims - The council received two claim dockets in their council packet. The first was the end-of-month docket for March totaling \$184,267.16 and the second was the regular docket for the period totaling \$676,391.13. Mr. Finley said he had signed off on all the claims in those dockets and handed them over to the council for approval.

Councilman Piercefield asked what the backhoe repair was for from RPM.

Electric Superintendent Kevin Rubush said it was the electric department. The backhoe needed a cylinder repaired.

Councilman Piercefield asked about the tile repair for the aquatic center.

Parks Director Daniel Teter said this was part of the repairs done with encumbered funds. This was approved by the council at the end of last year.

Councilman Simpson made a motion to approve the claims as submitted. Councilman Piercefield seconded. Motion carried.

First Reading of Ordinance 2019-6 Amendment to Chapter 93 Garbage and Trash Regulations – Town Manager JT Doane said there were some residents that were concerned about the language stating that the trash cans should not be visible from the street. This ordinance keeps the other parts of the ordinance but removes that it should not be visible from the street. He recommended that the council approve the ordinance at this meeting.

Discussion was held regarding how the ordinance would be enforced. Mr. Watson said door hangers are his recommendation for first offenses.

Councilman Simpson made a motion to waive the first reading of Ordinance 2019-6 and consider it for approval. Councilman Piercefield seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Councilman Simpson made a motion to approve Ordinance 2019-6. Councilman Piercefield seconded. Motion carried.

Chapter 90 Abandoned Vehicles – Mr. Doane said this he just wanted to inform the council and public that the town will be addressing abandoned vehicles. He asked citizens to inform the town if they see these vehicle around.

2018-2019 Community Crossings Matching Grant – Mr. Doane said phase two of the East Main Cross project will be starting in June and will take 55 to 60 work days to complete. Substantial completion is required by September 27, 2019 and final completion by October 25, 2019. He will be scheduling a meeting with the school to discuss traffic as this will impact their bus and car transportation.

Mosquito Control Program – Mr. Doane submitted a proposed mosquito program to the council. The sprayers the town currently has are functional and will be calibrated on April 30th. The town currently has adequate supply to make it through the rest of the year. The report showed a projected cost for future years if more product were to be purchased.

Councilman Piercefield asked if we have started treating yet.

Street Superintendent Clark McCollum said they have not. The water department will be flushing meters which would wash most of the product away. They will begin treating catch basins after flushing has completed.

Discussion was held regarding a community awareness program regarding mosquitos.

Fire Department Discussion – Mr. Doane said he and Clerk-Treasurer Scott Finley have spoken with two consulting groups that would provide a detailed assessment of the fire and ems services in the town. Both indicated that the study would take 4 to 6 months and would cost between \$30,000 and \$40,000. He said he had an opportunity to speak with Fire Chief Allen Smith and Volunteer Firefighter Brandon Routier about the history of the department and where they see it in the future. He recommended a special meeting regarding the fire department.

Mr. Finley said he and Mr. Doane had discussed the possibility of implementing a transition plan to keep the department operating until we could have this type of study done. Both companies said this would not be a quick process but would look at the department's need for the next 30 years.

President Lollar asked Mr. Doane to forward the information that he had obtained to the council members.

Capital Projects Discussion – President Lollar said the council moved levy to the street department for 2019 and would like to see some street repair done this season. We need all the grants we can get but we have specifically set aside funds to do some major street repair.

Mr. Doane said he would have a list of roads at the next meeting.

Councilman Jones said since the water tower cleaning is going to be under a contract he thinks it should be removed from the capital projects list and something else moved onto the list. East Main Cross is also being completed and could be removed. He said he believes the council should look at a new vacuum truck.

President Lollar said the substation project is also in the early stages. He said he would like to see a report on the vacuum truck so the council can make an informed decision on whether to look at a new one or fix the old one.

Water/Wastewater Superintendent Glenn Giles said he is currently working on that report.

Residential Yard Waste Removal – Mr. Doane said street department is having to spend far too much time picking up yard waste. He would like to send out a notice reminding people that yard waste will be picked up only on Mondays.

Mr. McCollum said the department cannot get other projects started because they are low on staff and spending the majority of their time picking up yard waste. He said the rules are already set, he is just trying to abide by those rules.

Discussion was held regarding street department processes.

The council agreed to send out a reminder notice regarding yard waste removal in the next utility bill.

American Legion – Mr. Doane said he had a gentlemen from the Legion come to him and indicated that several officers were retired and are in need of some new uniforms. He recommended that the town make a donation of \$500 to help purchase those new uniforms.

Councilman Simpson made a motion to allow a \$500 donation to the American Legion for new uniforms. Councilman Piercefield seconded. Motion carried.

Control Panel for Trojan UV System – Mr. Doane said this is a device that controls the intensity of the UV treatment bulbs at the wastewater plant. The council received copies of the quotes for this panel.

Mr. Giles gave a brief explanation of how the UV treatment works. He said without the panel the bulbs run and max intensity at all times which wears the bulbs down faster.

Councilman Jones made a motion to approve the purchase of the control panel for \$9,421 from HP Thompson. Councilman Piercefield seconded. Motion carried.

Phosphorous Testing Equipment – Mr. Doane said he presented the council with three quotes for phosphorous metering equipment.

Mr. Giles said currently we monitor for phosphorous once a month. Next year we are going to be required to test daily. Currently we pay \$61 per month to test for phosphorous once per month. The equipment will pay for itself very quickly.

Councilwoman Graham made a motion to approve the quote from USA. Councilman Simpson seconded. Motion carried.

IMPA Energy Efficiency Program – Mr. Doane said he and Mr. Rubush met with Alpha Engineering following an IMPA conference and were provided information on home energy efficiency. Documents were available for the public.

Residential Meter Deposits – Mr. Doane said he spoke with Dale Bramhall regarding meter deposits after his mother passed. He was required to switch utilities to his name which required a new deposit. He wanted to make sure all residents were being held to that policy.

Mr. Huddleston said if the situation happens where the individual who owns a residence passes away and we issue utility bills to a deceased person it will become very difficult to collect those bills if they become delinquent. If we can verify that an account holder is deceased we should issue notice to have the bill changed over to another name.

Mr. Finley said we have had some of these issues in the past and the issue comes with verifying an account holder is deceased. Sometimes we are aware of the death but then have to get someone to come in and switch the account over.

Mr. Huddleston said he could help with the process and draft a letter to be sent when the situation arises. The utilities could also be shut off as the account holder no longer lives at the residence.

The council asked for a list of accounts that we believe to be in this status.

Surplus Auction Items – Mr. Doane submitted to the council a list of items deemed unneeded by the town. The list includes an antique fire truck that would have a reserve.

Discussion was held regarding the auction process.

President Lollar asked if all departments were a part of this list.

Mr. McCollum said all departments were asked and this was what he received.

Councilwoman Graham made a motion to table the surplus auction items list until a full list is compiled. Councilman Piercefield seconded. Motion carried.

Pool Season Discussion – Parks Director Daniel Teter said he was asked to see what it would look like financially to keep the pool open through August. When the school season shifted the pool switched to only be open during the summer break. He presented the council with broad estimates of additional costs. The biggest estimate was labor. They have had a hard time finding and keeping staff and it will be more difficult when high school students go back to school for the year. He gave a list of pros and cons for keeping the facility open an extra month. The last time it was open through August they were not seeing the numbers to justify keeping it open but that could change.

President Lollar said he has been in favor of keeping the pool open. He has had senior citizens contact him about wanting it to be open longer as well as students being able to use it after school.

Discussion was held regarding pool finances.

Councilman Simpson made a motion to keep the pool open through August for the 2019 season and re-evaluate for the 2020 season. Councilman Jones seconded. Motion carried.

JRDCC Part Time Staff – Mr. Teter said the council has asked that he come back to request the part time staff for the center when we had a better idea of what that position would do. He presented a report showing the tasks a part time employee would do and what it would allow Community Center Director SaraBeth Drybread to do as well. He explained that this employee has been budgeted from the parks budget.

Councilwoman Graham asked if we could staff the center with other part time help that gets sent home when the weather was bad.

Mr. Teter said the issue is we cannot rely on those employees to be there when needed because we do not know when they will be sent home. That would make it very difficult to plan a schedule. The funds would be the same either way as the part time help for the building would make a similar wage to the other part time help. The position would also be very different then what the outdoor help currently do.

Discussion was held regarding the employees responsibilities.

Councilman Simpson made a motion to table the JRDCC part time staff discussion for more information. Councilwoman Graham seconded. Motion carried.

Council Comments

Councilman Jones asked about the agreement with Mr. Ridpath about parking at the aquatic center.

Mr. Huddleston said the agreement that was proposed was not signed as they did not want to provide the necessary insurance.

Mr. Watson said the company wanted the lease to be indefinite where the town wanted to be able to re-evaluate the lease each year.

Councilman Jones asked about the lift and the plastic on the sidewalk downtown. The plastic is left down at all times and it is a trip hazard.

Mr. Watson said they had said they were almost finished and would try to move the lift around back. The issue was they were wasting time trying to track down car owners so they could put the lift back every morning.

Councilman Simpson asked if O'Mara was done with the East Main Cross project.

Mr. Doane said the pavement is done but we still have to do a walkthrough.

Councilman Simpson asked about the food pantry moving to the church.

Mr. Watson said an issue has been discovered with that process. The electrical panel is not large enough to support the necessary appliances. They have spoken with an electrician and are awaiting details.

Councilman Piercefield said Kevin Parks of Edinburgh Insurance has contacted him several times asking about the town's insurance renewal.

Mr. Finley said the insurance renewal is coming up in the next couple of months. Mr. Parks has contacted our office numerous times and has been told that he is welcome to quote and will be provided the information when we get ready for the process so we are not gathering information several times.

Councilwoman Graham asked when the 15 day period expires on the property across from Casey's.

Mr. Doan said April 30th.

Councilwoman Graham asked about the sports complex restroom.

Mr. Teter said all that is left is the gas meter and plumbing on the water heater.

Departmental Comments

Parks Director Daniel Teter said he has a part time employee who is having some medical issues and would like permission to fill her hours at the park office.

Councilman Simpson made a motion to allow Mr. Teter to fill the office hours at the park and recreation office. Councilwoman Graham seconded. Motion carried.

Street Superintendent Clark McCollum said staffing is an issue in his department. They are doing their best to get things done but it is difficult with the current staff.

Community Center Director SaraBeth Drybread said early voting will start this Saturday at the community center. In honor of Earth Day, students from the elementary school picked up 5 grocery bags full of cigarette butts from the downtown area. She said she is also working with some downtown tenants on a \$150,000 grant for downtown restoration.

Town Manager JT Doane said the Edinburgh Student Enrichment Committee has been formed and will have monthly meetings in the future. He also had a chance to speak with a couple of the government classes at the high school. He said he is planning a joint School Board and Town Council meeting for May.

Building Commissioner Wade Watson said there have been some complaints regarding the finish work between the sidewalks and the road. These issues will be noted in the final walkthrough.

Mr. Watson submitted a letter from Patrick Black who owns the grain elevator on Center Cross Street. He is willing to sell the property to the town for \$160,000. This would require two appraisals.

Councilman Simpson said he would like to see the property be taken over by the town so we could demolish the structure. He said he thinks it is worth getting an appraisal.

Mr. Watson said there is no official estimate on demolition but based on the demolition of the structure across the street it would probably be between \$500,000 and \$1,000,000 to tear down.

Mr. Huddleston suggested that the council table the discussion for further review.

Councilwoman Graham made a motion to table the grain elevator discussion for further review. Councilman Piercefield seconded. Motion carried 4 to 1 after a roll call vote with Councilman Simpson voting nay.

Fire Chief Allen Smith said there have been several reports of a beagle on the island near the dam. They have tried to rescue it but have not had luck. They have left food and will try again when the water goes down. He said they had an interesting run today. A baby had been delivered but not breathing. Jacob Kelley and Michael George were first responders and by the time they left the hospital the baby was crying and its color had returned.

The council thanked the department for their work on that run.

Public Comments

Gail McQueen of 521 High School Drive said a lot of adults have asked her as well why the pool closes early. She was glad to see it stay open later.

Erin Anderson the Economic Development and Outreach Director at Atterbury-Muscatatuck said there will be a memorial service on May 18th at 10 AM. There will be a speaker at the museum as well and lunch will be provided.

Kathy Hamm of 503 Lincoln Street thanked the Street Department for collecting yard waste but wondered why they chose Mondays for pick-up. People who mow through the week end up with bags in their yard all weekend.

President Lollar asked Mr. Doane and Mr. McCollum to revisit the yard waste removal day.

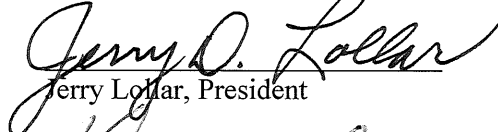
Janice Burton of 504 Fulford Drive said she is glad the council decided to keep the pool open longer.

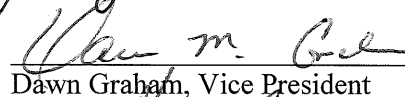
Debbie Vaughan of 1127 Constitution Drive said she is also glad the pool is staying open later and would be willing to pay a little more to help offset the cost. She also asked who owned the empty lots at the golf course. She wanted to know who to address about the state of the lots.

Mr. Watson said they are owned by the Amos Foundation.

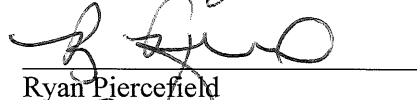
Being no further business or comments, Councilwoman Graham made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Councilman Piercefield seconded. Motion carried.

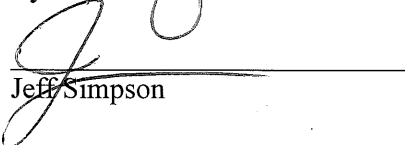
EDINBURGH TOWN COUNCIL


Jerry Lollar, President


Dawn Graham, Vice President


William Jones


Ryan Piercefield


Jeff Simpson

ATTEST:


Scott Finley, Clerk-Treasurer