

Town Council Meeting
Monday, June 8, 2020
6:00 P.M. Town Hall

Edinburgh Town Council met in a regular session on Monday June 8, 2020 at 6:00 P.M. at the Town Hall, 107 South Holland Street, Edinburgh, Indiana.

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

Members answering roll call: *Due to the COVID-19 public emergency and per Executive Order 20-09, members may have attended electronically (e).* Councilwoman Debbie Buck, Councilwoman Miriam Rooks, Vice President Dawn Graham, Councilman Ryan Piercefield, and President Jeff Simpson. Also present were Town Attorney Dustin Huddleston, Clerk-Treasurer Scott Finley, and Town Manager JT Doane.

Minutes – Council meeting of May 26, 2020 and executive meeting of May 30, 2020. Councilman Piercefield made a motion to approve the minutes as submitted. Councilwoman Buck seconded. Motion carried.

Claims – The council received a copy of the claim docket in their council packets. The total for the docket was \$316,646.89. Mr. Finley said he had signed off on the claims in those dockets and handed them over to the council for approval. Councilwoman Buck made a motion to approve the claims as submitted. Councilman Piercefield seconded. Motion carried.

Copple's CF-1 – Building Commissioner Wade Watson said Copple's appears to be in compliance with the original statement of benefits. The staff recommendation was for approval of the CF-1.

Councilwoman Buck made a motion to approve the Copple's CF-1 as submitted. Councilwoman Graham seconded. Motion carried.

Councilman Piercefield made a motion to allow President Simpson to sign the CF-1 on behalf of the council. Councilwoman Buck seconded. Motion carried.

Mr. Watson said there are still two companies that have not submitted their CF-1's for the year. Those are SAPP and Sacoma. He said he has reached out to remind them they need to be submitted.

Resolution 2020-17 Expressing Interest in Real Estate Appt. of Appraisers – Mr. Doane said this resolution appoints appraisers for the property owned by Greg Simpson for future Parks and Recreation expansion.

Councilwoman Rooks said she is not in favor of this process at this time. She said we should exhaust all current options before proceeding with purchasing property.

Councilwoman Graham said she is in favor of obtaining the value so the council can decide if it is feasible for the town.

Councilwoman Buck said she thinks the property is in a great location for the parks and the department will need more land in the future.

President Simpson said he would be abstaining from this vote as the property is owned by a relative.

Councilwoman Graham made a motion to approve Resolution 2020-17. Councilwoman Buck seconded. Motion carried 3 to 1 with Councilwoman Rooks voting nay and President Simpson abstaining.

Workers Comp Insurance Renewal – Mr. Doane said both the town's property and casualty and workers compensation insurances are up for renewal this month. Andy Brown of Gregory and Appel was present by teleconference to discuss the workers compensation renewal.

Mr. Brown (e) said the town really needs to work for the future. The experience mod is based on a three-year average. You have to live with one bad year for three years. Charlie Vaught has had several safety training sessions with the different departments on ways to reduce on the job accidents. The town's experience mod is currently 1.4 with average mod being 1.0. He explained how the experience mod is calculated and how it effects rates.

Councilwoman Graham made a motion to approve the workers compensation quote from Gregory and Appel for \$69,467. Councilman Piercefield seconded. Motion carried.

Town P&C Insurance Renewal – Kevin Parks of Edinburgh Insurance said this year he attempted to get five quotes for the town's coverage. He said two refused to quote as they would not cover the dam and one said they could not beat the current premium. Travelers said they would honor the quote they submitted last year. Trident/Travelers, the current carriers, was still the low quote. The rates went up slightly but most of the increase was due to increased assets. Last year he and his staff evaluated all town property to ensure everything was insured adequately.

Councilman Piercefield made a motion to approve the Trident/Travelers quote for \$124,725. Councilwoman Buck seconded. Motion carried.

Mr. Doane said next year we will begin this process in April.

Ordinance 2020-10 EE Leave Policy Revision, Second Reading – Mr. Finley said this policy is intended to balance the leave hours between fire, police, and standard employees. He explained the differences in shifts and hours worked per year for each category.

Councilman Piercefield made a motion to approve Ordinance 2020-10. Councilwoman Buck seconded. Motion carried.

Water Towers – Mr. Doane said the council was provided with some photos taken of the water towers showing the condition of the paint. The towers have not been painted since 2008. The plan is to paint the north tower this year and paint the south tower in 2021. The low quote was from Leery Construction who was highly recommended.

Water Superintendent Bill Jones said the towers do not look bad from afar but up close the paint is getting bad. The longer we wait the more it will cost to refinish them.

Discussion was held regarding a maintenance plan on the water towers and the life expectancy.

Mr. Doane said approving this quote locks in the price quoted for 2021.

Councilman Piercefield made a motion to approve the quote from Leery Construction for the painting the north tower in 2020, \$58,880, and the south tower in 2021, \$61,450. Councilwoman Buck seconded. Motion carried.

Town Burn – Mr. Doane said the council approved a burn a few weeks ago at the yard waste site. It provided valuable training for the fire department. There is still more brush and the department would like to have another controlled burn.

Councilman Piercefield asked if there were any complaints.

Mr. Doane said no. There were a few calls reporting smoke but no complaints regarding the burn.

Councilman Piercefield a motion to approve a one-time burn at the yard waste site. Councilwoman Graham seconded. Motion carried.

Town of Edinburgh Personnel Policy – Mr. Doane said the council was given a preliminary draft of the personnel policy for review. He said he, Mr. Finley, and Director of Administrative Services Mary Patterson have been sitting down periodically and updating sections of the policy. He explained the council did not need to take any action but asked that the council review the policy and submit any questions or suggestions to the staff.

State Road 252 – Mr. Doane said meetings are still moving forward on the project. They anticipate a spring public forum to discuss the project with the community.

Railroad Crossing – Mr. Doane said he had reached out to INDOT regarding possible funding for crossing signage. The next funding mechanism is not until 2025. In the interim he is proposing installing some signage to make the crossings more visible.

Street Superintendent Clark McCollum (e) said the council received 4 options for signs. LED's are expensive but they will get motorists attention when approaching a railroad. He views these as essential for the safety of our citizens.

Discussion was held regarding the funding. Mr. Finley said he would recommend using the council capital outlays line item.

Councilwoman Graham made a motion to approve the purchase of 4 LED signs to be placed at the East Main Cross and County Line crossings for \$9,209. Councilwoman Buck seconded. Motion carried.

Other Business

Mr. Doane said Councilwoman Buck had reached out regarding eliminating lunch hours at the town hall and utility office so citizens can have access on their lunch.

Councilwoman Buck said after discussing the options we should continue with the offices being closed from 12 to 1 for lunch.

Mr. Doane said we had tentatively scheduled the employee appreciation lunch for July 24. He asked the council if we should proceed.

The council agreed to hold the employee appreciation lunch on July 24th.

Council Comments

Councilwoman Buck asked if there is an ordinance for golf carts in town. She has had complaints about golf carts not yielding to faster traffic.

Town Marshall Doyne Little said there is an ordinance, but it does not require golf carts to yield to faster traffic. Most drivers do yield as a courtesy. He said he can add that language to the handout that is given out with all golf cart registrations.

Councilwoman Rooks thanked Mr. Doane for his quick response to her landscape questions. She asked if they are still working on the pool.

Mr. Doane said they are removing the old splash pad to increase deck space. The work is scheduled to be done before the pool opens.

Councilwoman Graham asked if there was a list of alleys and their rating.

Mr. Doane said the staff has recently addressed some alleys. He will see about getting a list of those alleys.

Councilwoman Graham asked about the schedule for the mill and overlay project. She thought they were supposed to be done by July 15th but she has not seen any work yet.

Mr. Doane said he has spoken with Mr. Robertson and they are still scheduled to be done on time. They will start on sidewalk replacement soon.

Councilman Piercefield thanked Mr. Doane for the equipment list. He said he has heard from the fire staff that the station has been very hot. He asked Mr. Herron if they were working on that issue.

Fire Chief Mike Herron (e) said during the day they are running fans. It has been tolerable but the station was not intended for 24 hour use. There is another A/C unit they have been turning on when it gets too hot. This may cause an increase in utilities.

Councilman Piercefield said the staff is currently living in the station bays with the heat and diesel smoke. We need to be proactive about finding another option to house those fire fighters.

Departmental Comments

Mr. Little said he was able to do a walkthrough of Peer Foods. It is a huge building and it is good to get a tour in case they every have to respond to a call. The department will have its PT test on June 20th. The department is addressing some issues with speeders per some conversations with citizens.

Mr. Jones said Bastin and Logan is recommending changing the filter media on cells 1 and 2. Wessler wants to try a few alternatives first but he will be obtaining quotes for that process.

Public Comments

Janice Burton of 504 Fulford Drive said people in her neighborhood are already setting off fireworks all the way up until 11:00 PM. She said she has reviewed some ordinances from other municipalities, and they restrict the dates that fireworks can be set off. She would like the council to look into a similar ordinance.

Ms. Burton said she would also like the council to look into the open burn ordinance. She has had several large fires near her house, and they are burning restricted items.


Mr. Little said those fires can be difficult to see form the street. He said she can call those in anonymously and the department will investigate.

Ms. Burton said there has also been excessive speeding on Fulford Drive and there is a playground at the end of the street.

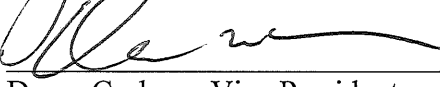
The council thanked Ms. Burton for bringing those concerns to their attention and said they will look into those issues.

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


EDINBURGH TOWN COUNCIL




Jeff Simpson, President



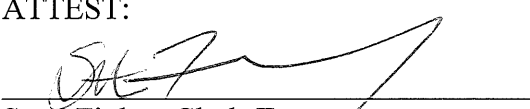
Dawn Graham, Vice President



Debbie Buck

Ryan Piercefield


Miriam Rooks

ATTEST:


Scott Finley, Clerk-Treasurer