

**Town Council Meeting
Monday March 8, 2021
6:00 P.M. Town Hall**

Edinburgh Town Council met in a regular session on Monday, March 8, 2021 at 6:00 P.M. at the Town Hall, 107 South Holland Street, Edinburgh, Indiana.

President Jeff 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 Miriam Rooks, Councilwoman Debbie Buck, Councilman Ryan Piercefield, and President Jeff Simpson. Also present were Clerk-Treasurer Scott Finley, Town Manager Dan Cartwright, and Town Attorney Dustin Huddleston. Vice President Dawn Graham was absent.

Minutes – Executive meeting minutes of February 22, 2021 and council meeting of February 22, 2021. 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 packet. Mr. Finley said he added a claim for King's Trucking in the amount of \$32,737.98. This is the retainage from the previous years CCMG. With the addition, the total of the claim docket was \$142,135.24. He said he had signed off on the claims in that docket and handed them over to the council for approval.

Councilwoman Buck asked about a \$2,300 charge to Ray's Trash.

Mr. Finley reviewed the claim and said he believes this was part of the account adjustment brought up by Calvin at a previous meeting. Ray's had been servicing two dumpsters at the golf course but only charging for one.

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

Public Hearing DWSRF Loan Program – President Simpson said this is related to Water Treatment Plant SRF Loan. He opened the public hearing.

Adam Sitka of Wessler Engineering gave a brief overview of the project.

Whitney Weidenbenner of Wessler Engineering showed a poster board with pictures of a similar style water plant. She explained that the current wells cannot meet future capacity. To correct this, the town will need a new well and will also be adding variable frequency drives to wells 3 and 4. This will increase the longevity and help throttle the wells. Also, the town has had many dirty water complaints. The new plant will be a dual media water treatment plant. The plant will be immediately adjacent to the current plant and the current plant will be salvaged and used for offices. The overall project cost is approximately \$5.6 million.

Mr. Sitka gave an outline of the schedule for this project. Design will begin in April, permits will be applied for in August, the project will be bid in October, and we will submit for SRF in December.

Donna Anderson of Kenna Consulting asked about specific citizen complaints.

Mr. Sitka said the majority of the complaints were brown water due to high levels of manganese.

Water Superintendent Bill Jones said the department has a temporary solution for the dirty water, but it is expensive and adds additional chemicals, sodium permanganate, to the water.

Building Commissioner Wade Watson said he is in strong support of this project. The town will need this extra capacity for the development on the south side of town.

Discussion was held regarding similar plants and their operations.

With no further questions or comments, President Simpson closed the public hearing.

Ms. Anderson said the town will need to have another public hearing for the OCRA grant next month.

Resolution 2021-4 PER Acceptance – Mr. Huddleston said the next two resolutions are starting points for funding for the water plant. He has reviewed both and both are acceptable. Resolution 2021-4 accepts the reports submitted by Wessler and allows submission to SRF.

Councilwoman Rooks made a motion to approve Resolution 2021-4. Councilwoman Buck seconded. Motion carried.

Resolution 2021-5 Signatory Authorization – Mr. Huddleston said this resolution appoints Clerk-Treasurer Finley as the signatory for the SRF process and allows him to sign on behalf of the council. Councilman Piercefield made a motion to approve Resolution 2021-5. Councilwoman Rooks seconded. Motion carried.

Resolution 2021-6 Hiring Powers of Town Manager – Mr. Huddleston said this was discussed at the previous meeting and drafted per council discussion. In August of 2016 the council voted that all hiring must go before council. This resolution would override that motion and allow the hiring of existing positions by the town manager. New positions would still need to come before council for approval.

Councilman Piercefield said he would prefer that the council be involved in the hiring of department heads.

The resolution was tabled for amendments until the next meeting.

Ordinance 2021-7 Purchasing Agency (First Reading) – Mr. Huddleston said at the previous meeting the town manager had requested that the spending authority be modified. This ordinance would increase the town manager's spending authority to \$15,000. Still requires at least two quotes.

Being a first reading, no action was taken.

Water Plant Design Contract – Wessler Engineering – Mr. Huddleston said the town approved a master agreement with Wessler for the water plant process. The master agreement requires amendments for specific projects. This is the 2nd amendment and will be for the design of the water treatment plant. The scope of work is shown in exhibits A and B.

Councilman Piercefield made a motion to approve the 2nd amendment to the Wessler Master Agreement. Councilwoman Buck seconded. Motion carried.

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

Bid Award Walnut Street 12.5kV Line Relocation Materials – Town Manager Dan Cartwright said the town received 3 bids for the materials on this project. The low bid was from Brownstown Electric for \$137,760.

Councilman Piercefield asked about the funding for this project.

Mr. Finley said the department has an adequate cash balance at this time but there are several large projects that need done soon. The issue we have is if we do not do this relocation, we cannot complete the Walnut Street paving project that we have received CCMG funding to complete.

Councilwoman Buck made a motion to award the material bid for the Walnut Street line relocation to Brownstown Electric. Councilwoman Rooks seconded. Motion carried.

Bid Award Walnut Street 12.5kV Line Relocation Labor – Mr. Cartwright said we also received 3 bids for the labor on this project and the bids have been reviewed by Alpha Engineering. Their recommendation is to award the bid to the low bidder, AMPP Construction at \$218,104.

Councilwoman Rooks made a motion to award the Walnut Street line relocation labor to AMPP Construction for \$218,104. Councilwoman Buck seconded. Motion carried.

Peerless Midwest Agreement – Mr. Cartwright said this agreement is for test wells for the new well to be built near Irwin Park. He said he had questioned the necessity for this project but Wessler said this is required before a new well can be drilled.

Mr. Jones said the council approved a test well to be drilled last year but the work was not done at that time.

Councilman Piercefield asked if the work needed to be done now or if it could wait until we have the funding for the project.

Mr. Sitka said he would like to have it included in the design process.

Mr. Jones said the amount was included in the PER so it would be reimbursed to the town when the loan was obtained.

Mr. Watson said whether we do a new plant or not, we have to have a new well. We cannot survive on the current wells.

Councilman Piercefield made a motion to approve the Peerless Agreement for a test well. Councilwoman Buck seconded. Motion carried.

Wellhead Protection Contract – Mr. Cartwright said this agreement is with Wessler to complete the 5-year wellhead protection plan. The cost is \$13,585.

Mr. Jones said the reason this amount is high is because they need to do 5 years' worth of work before August.

Linda Sanders of Wessler said normally this would be spread out over a 5-year period.

Councilwoman Buck made a motion to approve the Wellhead Protection contract with Wessler. Councilwoman Rooks seconded. Motion carried.

2021 Asset Management Plan – Mr. Cartwright said this was discussed at the last meeting and the plan was adjusted to state that it was not to exceed \$7,500. A second quote was obtained from VS Engineering and it was significantly higher.

Councilman Piercefield made a motion to approve the Crossroads Engineering Asset Management Plan. Councilwoman Buck seconded. Motion carried.

Kenna Consulting Grant Agreement – Mr. Watson said at the previous meeting the council approved an agreement with Kenna but struck exhibit A as the council did not receive the exhibit. That exhibit the Federal 3rd Party and is required to be attached. That exhibit has been submitted and included in the council packet.

Councilwoman Buck made a motion to approve the Kenna Consulting Grant Agreement as submitted. Councilwoman Rooks seconded. Motion carried.

Councilman Piercefield made a motion to allow President Simpson to sign the agreement on behalf of the council. Councilwoman Rooks seconded. Motion carried.

Council Comments

Councilman Piercefield said Project Baby Safe Haven Box has secured funding and he would like Mr. Huddleston to review their proposal. Councilwoman Rooks made a motion to allow Mr. Huddleston to review the documents related to the Baby Safe Haven Box. Councilwoman Buck seconded. Motion carried.

Departmental Comments

Mr. Cartwright gave an update on several projects. He said heavy trash pickup is and has been an issue in the town. He is recommending we allow citizens to use the compactor for free on the third Friday and Saturday. They would prove citizenship by providing an ID and a utility bill.

Councilwoman Buck said she does not agree. Not all citizens can get their trash to the compactor.

Mr. Cartwright said the town will provide a dump truck to any resident at a fee.

Councilwoman Buck said she thinks we need to do at least two big trash pickups.

Councilwoman Rooks said she likes the idea. The cost of this process is getting too expensive, and it makes the town look terrible during the process. Some of the responsibility needs to fall back on the citizens.

Mr. Cartwright said this will be a trial basis in March and April to see how it goes.

Councilman Piercefield made a motion to allow citizens to drop off heavy trash at the compactor at no cost on the third Friday and Saturday on a trial basis for two months. Councilwoman Rooks seconded. Motion carried 3 to 1 with Councilwoman Buck voting nay.

Mr. Cartwright said the town will need some additional staff in the near future. An architect has looked at the building to see where we can add additional office space. He has received a proposal from Lands Hope Studio for architectural drawings. The design will include an elevator for access to the upstairs area and a new restroom for ADA compliance. The cost is \$4,520.

Discussion was held regarding funding and staffing for the building department.

Mr. Finley said he would recommend using Riverboat monies for this project which are the same funds that were used to remodel the town hall building in 2008.

Further discussion was held regarding ADA compliance and staffing for the building department.

Councilwoman Rooks made a motion to approve the Lands Hope Studio proposal subject to legal review. President Simpson seconded. The vote was a tie with Councilman Piercefield and Councilwoman Buck voting nay. The discussion was tabled until the next meeting.

Mr. Cartwright said the lot on East Main Cross owned by Paul Burton is up for sale. The lot has a lift station on it. The only access to this lift station is through his lot. Negotiations have stalled on the easement because the owner wants far too much in return for the easement. The lot is listed for \$28,000. This would require appraisals if the town was interested.

Councilman Piercefield said he has spoken with the owner and the listing agent. He said he agrees we need the lot for access to that lift station.

Councilman Piercefield made a motion to allow Mr. Huddleston to draft a resolution expressing interest in that piece of real estate. Councilwoman Buck seconded. Motion carried.

Mr. Cartwright said there is a meeting scheduled on March 11th to discuss the issue with the transformer. He said he will have more information at the next meeting.

Mr. Cartwright said he has been looking at access near the dam. He said he would like to clear out the area behind the bus station which would give access for people looking to fish to the river. He would like to close off the stairs and eliminate access near the dam.

Councilman Piercefield asked if we have spoke with DNR about restricting access to the waterway.

Mr. Cartwright said he wants to restrict access to the dam, not the waterway.

Councilman Simpson said with the tragedies that occurred at the dam, they accessed the dam upstream, not the stairs below the dam. We will be named on a lawsuit regardless of how they dam is accessed.

Mr. Cartwright said he fears it looks like we are inviting people to the dam with access to those stairs. He wants to move access to the area behind the bus station.

Discussion was held regarding the dangers of the grade of that slope and access for emergency personnel.

Mr. Watson said signs have been placed near the dam referencing a town ordinance restricting access to the dam. The ordinance was in place before the tragedies that occurred in 2014. There are also signs warning of the danger of low head dams.

Mr. Huddleston said he would like to review current ordinances and draft a resolution to be approved by council before any changes are made to that area.

Mr. Cartwright said the police department has a quote for 11 new laptops for the police cruisers. The amount is \$11,272.

Councilman Piercefield made a motion to approve the purchase of 11 laptops for the police cruisers. Councilwoman Buck seconded. Motion carried.

Mr. Cartwright said the town has received a request from New Hope Services for a housing project on Shelby Street behind the pool. They would like a waiver of all tap fees and have the land donated to them. He said he is against this request as the town would not receive tax dollars as they are a not for profit. The town needs rooftops but we need rooftops that are paying taxes.

Councilman Piercefield made a motion to allow Mr. Cartwright to deny the request from New Hope Services. Councilwoman Buck seconded. Motion carried.

Mr. Cartwright said to complete the Walnut Street paving project we need to relocate a few fire hydrants. The cost will be about \$17,000.

Mr. Jones said the majority of the work will be done in house, but we will need someone to do the hot taps.

Councilman Piercefield made a motion to approve the costs related to the hydrant relocation on South Walnut Street. Councilwoman Buck seconded. Motion carried.

Mr. Cartwright said he had a request from a filming crew that wanted to film in the downtown area on Sunday, June 20th. They will be closing a block of the street, they will have an entertainment bond, and will not be filming any type of violence.

Street Superintendent Clark McCollum said he has received information for the state bid for salt. He would like approval for 250 tons of salt at \$20,000.

Councilwoman Buck made a motion to allow the purchase of salt with the state bid. Councilman Piercefield seconded. Motion carried.

Community Center Director SaraBeth Drybread said a loan officer will be at the center with information on the Payroll Protection Program.

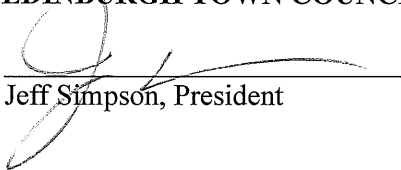
Wastewater Superintendent Rebecca Frakes said the backhoe repair is going to be approximately \$8,000. Councilwoman Rooks made a motion to approve the wastewater backhoe repair. Councilwoman Buck seconded. Motion carried.

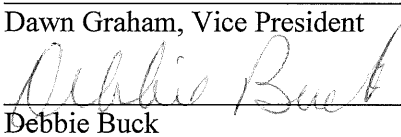
Jackie Oltman of 500 East Main Cross said she moved her doggie daycare and grooming salon and found that there were two meters at the address. She paid the original meter deposit but would like the council to consider waiving her deposit on the second meter.

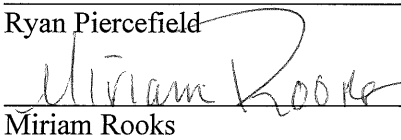
Electric Superintendent Kevin Rubush said the second meter at that address has been pulled and there is now only one meter there so no additional deposit is required.

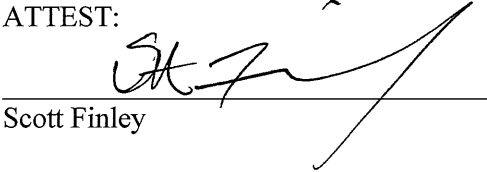
Being no further business or comments, Councilman Piercefield made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Councilwoman Buck seconded. Motion carried.

EDINBURGH TOWN COUNCIL


Jeff Simpson, President

Dawn Graham, Vice President

Debbie Buck

Ryan Piercefield

Miriam Rooks

ATTEST:

Scott Finley