

Town Council Meeting
Monday June 14, 2021
6:00 P.M. Town Hall

Edinburgh Town Council met in a regular session on Monday, June 14, 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: Councilwoman Buck, Councilwoman Miriam Rooks, Vice President Dawn Graham, and President Jeff Simpson. Also present were Clerk-Treasurer Scott Finley, Town Manager Dan Cartwright, and Town Attorney Dustin Huddleston. Councilman Ryan Piercefield was absent.

Minutes – Council meeting of May 24, 2021 and executive meeting of May 24, 2021. Councilwoman Graham 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. The total for the docket was \$425,215.26. 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. Councilwoman Graham seconded. Motion carried.

Public Hearing Community Development Block Grant – Donna Anderson of Kenna Consulting said the town is applying for a grant for the water treatment plant. Adam Sitka of Wessler Engineering will give an overview of the project. The grant amount is \$600,000 with a total project cost of \$5.6 million. The town match will come from an SRF Loan. The application is due on June 25th and the award will be announced on August 12th.

Mr. Sitka said Wessler has combed the entire water system including the plant and the 4 wells. The plant and wells are on borrowed time. The current plant lacks capacity and has some water quality issues and will last at most another 5 years. The distribution system is in great condition and the elevated storage tanks have plenty of capacity.

President Simpson opened the public hearing.

Debby Vaughan of 1127 Constitution Dr. asked if the new plant would be in the same location as the old plant.

Mr. Sitka said it would be immediately adjacent.

Merle Milhoan of 233 St. Andrews Avenue asked if the addition of one well will carry the town for long period of time.

Mr. Sitka said the two wells that are marginal will be backed down and ran at half capacity which should extend their life significantly. The new well will last at least 20 years but it is not uncommon for wells to last 70+ years.

Town Manager Dan Cartwright said there is great need for this project. He appreciates the citizens being patient while we work through the current issues.

Building Commissioner Wade Watson said upgrading the capacity, quality, and technology is vital for potential growth. The town sits on a great aquifer and building a new facility will provide clean water for the town for the next 40 to 50 years.

Wastewater Superintendent Rebecca Frakes said when the water department backwashes their filters it sends that water to the wastewater plant kicking the plant into storm mode. The new plant will have a retention system that will prevent that water from going to the wastewater plant. This will in turn increase the wastewater capacity.

Water Superintendent Bill Jones said the town is using some expensive chemicals to treat the manganese in the water. The new plant will not need additional chemicals and will produce a more natural tasting water.

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

Professional Grant Administrative Services – Mr. Watson said because the town is applying for an OCRA grant we were required to submit a request for proposals of grant administrative services. Kenna was the only proposal received. Administrative Resources Associates declined to submit a proposal.

Councilwoman Buck made a motion to approve Kenna Consulting for grant administrative services. Councilwoman Rooks seconded. Motion carried.

Town Worker's Compensation Renewal – Mr. Finley said the council received a copy of the renewal in their packets. The town's experience mod has been increasing over the past few years due to several claims. Because of this, IPEP is the only worker's comp option for the town at this time. The new rate \$90,285.

Councilwoman Graham made a motion to approve the worker's comp renewal through Gregory and Appel with IPEP. Councilwoman Buck seconded. Motion carried.

Town Property and Liability Insurance Renewal – Mr. Finley said our agent of record, Kevin Parks with Edinburgh Insurance, sent out for quotes on our property and liability coverage. Those quotes were submitted to the council in the council packet. The staff recommendation is to proceed with option 1 with Trident and Hanover. The total premium is \$144,221.

Kevin Parks said he actually looked at 5 carriers but 2 declined to submit a quote due to the dam. He said he would ask the council to consider requesting quotes every three years rather than every year due to the limited number of carries available to get quotes from. He said he would also like the council to consider increasing the property coverage limits.

Councilwoman Buck made a motion to approve option 1, Trident and Hanover, for property and liability coverage. Councilwoman Graham seconded. Motion carried.

Ordinance 2021-11 Amendment to Salary Ordinance – (First Reading) – Mr. Finley said the council had discussed the option of a new position within the electric department. That addition was the only change to the ordinance. He said this is not super urgent and there could be some other amendments before the next meeting, so he recommended the council not take action on this ordinance tonight.

No action was taken on Ordinance 2021-11.

Ordinance 2021-12 Establishing a Maintenance and Performance Bond Fund – (First Reading) – Mr. Finley said a few meetings ago two dedications water and wastewater infrastructure were on the agenda. Those were tabled because the entity dedicating the utilities did not want to obtain a maintenance bond and instead wanted to provide a cash bond. To accurately account for these funds a new custodial fund needs to be established. The fund has been set up in a way that it can be used in the future for other bonds as well.

No action was taken on Ordinance 2021-12.

Ordinance 2021-13 Establishing Interconnection Standards – Mr. Huddleston said more and more people are starting to install solar panels to provide electricity to their homes. Our consultants have recommended that we set standards to ensure those connections are safe.

Mike Jenner of Alpha Engineering and the town's IMPA representative was present to explain the need for this ordinance. He said there are three things involved in these situations. The customer would need a new, two-way meter to calculate usage and power produced. There would need to be security measures in place that if the town lost power, the customer would not be back feeding the power grid. There would also need to be a measure in place on how the power sent back on the grid was credited to the customer. Ultimately there would be 10 requirements before a customer could entertain putting solar panels on their home. He briefly explained the sections of the ordinance.

No action was taken on Ordinance 2021-13.

Ordinance 2021-14 Temporary Main Cross Closure – Mr. Huddleston said the town was approached by a production company wanting to use downtown Edinburgh in a movie production. This would require the street to be closed for a period of time. This ordinance allows for those closures.

Councilwoman Graham made a motion to waive the first reading of Ordinance 2021-14 and consider it for approval. Councilwoman Buck seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Councilwoman Graham made a motion to approve Ordinance 2021-14. Councilwoman Buck seconded. Motion carried.

Resolution 2021-19 Adopting the Build, Operate, Transfer (BOT) Statute – Mr. Huddleston said this resolution adopts the procurement process presented to the council at the previous meeting. The town should have the acquisition of the land for this project in the next 30 days. He said he would put this item back on the agenda at that time.

Sub-Surface Construction Agreement – Mr. Huddleston said the agreement for the Prosser Stormwater Project can now be approved as the town has release of funds for that project.

Councilwoman Graham made a motion to approve the Sub-Surface construction agreement. Councilwoman Rooks seconded. Motion carried.

Agreement for Payment of Apprentice Lineman Tuition Costs – Mr. Cartwright said the electric department has had an issue with employees working for the department long enough for the town to pay for their schooling and then moving on to somewhere else. This agreement says if an apprentice were to leave within a certain timeframe, they would be required to reimburse the town for a portion of their schooling.

Councilwoman Graham made a motion to approve the agreement for payment of apprentice lineman tuition costs. Councilwoman Buck seconded. Motion carried.

2021 Paving Project Bid Award – Mr. Cartwright said the town received 5 bids for this paving project. The low bid was from Robertson Paving for \$240,304. The engineers have reviewed the bids and have said they are complete.

Councilwoman Graham made a motion to award the 2021 paving bid award to Robertson Paving subject legal drafting the contract documents. Councilwoman Buck seconded. Motion carried.

Tax Abatement – Copple's Wrecker Service – Mr. Watson said he has reviewed the CF-1 for Copple's and provided a staff report on the abatement. The staff recommendation was approval of the CF-1 for Copple's.

Councilwoman Rooks made a motion to approve the CF-1 for Copple's Wrecker Service. Councilwoman Graham seconded. Motion carried.

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

Ken Kosky – Director of Tourism in Johnson County – Mr. Kosky handed out some documents and gave an update on tourism in the county last year. He said the county is working on the bicentennial and the new visitor center is now open. He thanked the town for the time to speak and for being good partners to the county.

Council Comments

Councilwoman Rooks said she would like to propose moving the recycling center to the wastewater department to be used on days when the compactor is open.

Ms. Frakes said the bins had been at that location before. The only issue is where to put them as the old location has been changed to ADA parking.

Discussion was held regarding the recycling process.

Mr. Huddleston said the council authorized him to file a complaint against Johnny Muncy for his unkept property. He has been served and he will file the necessary documents with the court.

Mr. Huddleston gave an update on the Timbergate homeowner issues. He said Mr. Watson and Mr. Cartwright combed through 20 years of documents in the basement and he is still determining the best way to proceed to help the residents in the Timbergate subdivision. It is a complex legal issue.

Departmental Comments

Mr. Cartwright gave an update on the Prosser project. He explained the outstanding year Timbergate has had financially. They are up significantly over the past few years. The parks department has also had a good year financially. He has had an ad running for the municipal planner position but have not had many resumes worth interviewing. He would like to reorganize the planning department and change Mr. Watson's position to the Planning Director and create a new position of Building and Zoning Official responsible for inspections and code enforcement.

Discussion was held on positions and budgets.

Mr. Watson gave an update on the Walnut Street project schedule. The road is scheduled to be closed 4th of July weekend.

Parks Director Daniel Teter said the 4th of July festivities will be held downtown this year to try to incorporate some of the local businesses. Fireworks will be at nightfall and shot off from school hill. The Edinburgher Contest is going on. People interested in participating can pick up a card from the community center and vote on your favorite burger. He said the pool is now open and the slides will be operational next Monday.

Town Marshall Doyne Little said the department graduated 4 reserve officers from the reserve class this year. He will be starting the process for next year soon and try to get more applicants. The officers work 16 hours per month and the only cost to the town is the uniforms.

Ms. Frakes said the preconstruction meeting for the Prosser project will be held on June 17th. The department has had multiple dramatic failures with the bio solids system. She said her team has been great and worked diligently to get the system back up and running.

Street Superintendent Clark McCollum said Johnson County Recycling showed up at the shop last Friday and pulled their magnets from the recycling depot and said the town had canceled the contract. He said he is not sure what has caused the issue, but he wanted to bring it to the council's attention.

Mr. Huddleston said he had spoken with the district's attorney, and they said if we wanted to end the program mutually, we could, but there was no discussion on unilateral action.

Mr. McCollum said heavy trash drop off will be this weekend. He said the department will have about \$90,000 left over as the bids for paving came in lower than expected. He said he would like to look at either additional ADA ramps or finishing the rest of County Line.

Public Comments

Joshua Crook of 607 Memorial Drive passed out a packet to the council and asked the council to entertain repealing Ordinance 2015-4-2A which prohibits poultry in town limits. There are many localities that do permit poultry including Indianapolis.

Merle Milhoan of 233 St. Andrews Avenue asked if there had been any update on the new development in Timbergate.

Mr. Cartwright said there have been several developers interested but nothing solid yet.

Janice Burton of 504 Fulford Drive asked that the council entertain adding a small indoor pool to the gym and fitness center if that project ever proceeds. She said there has also been an issue with the online system for the utility payments.

Mr. Finley said he is aware of some issues with the telephone payments system posting double payments, but he is unaware of any issues with the online payment system. He said if she wants to contact him, he can try to troubleshoot those errors.

Debby Vaughan of 1127 Constitution Drive asked why the heater was not replaced on the swimming pool.

Mr. Teter said he did not believe it was a responsible use of town funds to fix the heater as it only gets used a few weeks out of the year. It normally only gets used in the first few weeks the pool is open and the pool season is shorter now due to summer break being shorter.

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


EDINBURGH TOWN COUNCIL

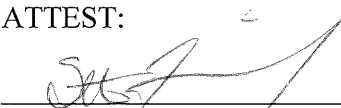
Jeff Simpson, President


Dawn Graham, Vice President


Debbie Buck


Ryan Piercefield


Miriam Rooks

ATTEST:


Scott Finley, Clerk-Treasurer