

Town Council Meeting
Monday July 12, 2021
6:00 P.M. Town Hall

Edinburgh Town Council met in a regular session on Monday, July 12, 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 ((e) represents virtual attendance): Councilwoman Buck, Councilwoman Miriam Rooks, Vice President Dawn Graham, Councilman Ryan Piercefield, and President Jeff Simpson. Also present were Clerk-Treasurer Scott Finley, Town Manager Dan Cartwright, and Town Attorney Dustin Huddleston.

Minutes – Council meeting of June 28, 2021. Councilwoman Buck made a motion to approve the minutes as submitted. Councilman Piercefield seconded. Motion carried.

Executive meeting of July 9, 2021. Councilwoman Buck made a motion to approve the minutes as submitted. Councilman Piercefield seconded. Motion carried.

Claims – The council received a copy of the claim docket in their council packet. The total for the docket was \$813,490.76. Mr. Finley said he had signed off on 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. Councilwoman Rooks seconded. Motion carried.

Resolution 2021-20 Designating Recipient of Tax Abatement Fees – Mr. Huddleston said when the town gives a tax abatement to a business, that business can volunteer some of its savings back to the town. Those funds need to be dedicated to an entity within the town. This resolution dedicates those funds to the Economic Redevelopment Commission. He is currently working with the county auditors to make sure those funds make it back to the town.

Councilwoman Graham made a motion to approve Resolution 2021-20. Councilwoman Rooks seconded. Motion carried.

Resolution 2021-21 Establishing Procedures for Electronic Meeting Participation – Mr. Huddleston said because of the COVID-19 pandemic, the state modified how councils can attend meetings virtually via telephone or online. The statute says that the town must adopt a policy adopting the process and noting the limitations.

Councilwoman Buck made a motion to approve Resolution 2021-21. Councilwoman Rooks seconded. Motion carried.

Draft Letter to Amos Investment Corp. – Mr. Huddleston said the council had authorized him to draft a letter expressing the council's concerns about the communication with the homeowner and the architectural review committee. That letter as been drafted and is before the council for review.

Councilman Piercefield made a motion to approve the letter to Amos Investment Corp. as presented. Councilwoman Graham seconded. Motion carried.

Amendment to Lease with Edinburgh Chiropractic, LLC – Mr. Huddleston said the tenant at the building owned by the town would like to expand into the remaining portion of that building. Notice was published that the building would be for rent and the current tenant was the only respondent. This amendment modifies the existing lease and increases the rent.

Councilman Piercefield made a motion to approve the lease amendment with Edinburgh Chiropractic, LLC. Councilwoman Buck seconded. Motion carried.

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

Approval of Roosevelt Transformer Contract – Mr. Huddleston said at the last meeting the town issued a bid award subject to legal review to Niagara to construct and install a replacement transformer. There was a slight adjustment to the price in the contract.

Town Manager Dan Cartwright said the amount approved at the last meeting did not include the performance bond.

Mr. Huddleston said the total amendment amount with the performance bond is \$700,535. That contract has been sent out, but he is missing one piece of information from Niagara.

Councilwoman Graham made a motion to approve the amended Roosevelt Transformer Contract with Niagara subject to an agreement being approved by legal and Mr. Cartwright signing. Councilwoman Rooks seconded. Motion carried.

Approval of B.O.T. Request for Proposals – Mr. Cartwright said the council has adopted the B.O.T. statute and he is requesting to send out requests for qualifications (RFQ) for the new fire station. A committee would need to be formed and his recommendation would be himself, Building Commissioner Wade Watson, Fire Chief John Henderson, and two council members.

Councilwoman Graham made a motion to send out an RFQ for the new fire station. Councilwoman Buck seconded. Motion carried.

Councilwoman Graham made a motion to appoint Town Manager Dan Cartwright, Building Commissioner Wade Watson, Fire Chief John Henderson, President Jeff Simpson, and Councilman Ryan Piercefield to the B.O.T. committee for the fire department. Councilwoman Buck seconded. Motion carried.

Approval of Columbus Economic Development Contract – Mr. Cartwright gave an overview of an economic development corporation. He said it is important that the town stays involved in the Columbus Economic Development Corporation. This gives the town a seat on the board. The fee for 2021 would be half as the year is halfway over. That fee is \$3,500 for 2021.

Mr. Watson said he is in full support of joining this board and approving this contract. A large portion of our developable property is in Bartholomew County, and they would market that to developers.

Mr. Finley said the corporation would also market other areas of Edinburgh if we were on this board, not just the portion that is in Bartholomew County.

Councilwoman Buck made a motion to approve the Columbus Economic Development Contract subject to legal review. Councilwoman Rooks seconded. Motion carried.

Departmental Comments

Mr. Cartwright said the town will be proceeding with heavy trash pickup with Ray's on October 13th. The application deadline for CCMG is July 31st. We will be submitting for the High School Drive project in 2022. The town has been presented with an opportunity to be part of the READI grant. A region has been formed that includes Columbus, Jennings County, Jackson County, Edinburgh, and more. He said his will have more information on that grant as it proceeds. The town is also working on a grant from SRF to upgrade stormwater and sanitary sewers on 800 N.

Mr. Cartwright said he has offered a position to a Scott Tanner for the Building and Zoning Official position in error as the council has not yet formally approved the hiring of the position. He asked that the council approve the hire of Scott Tanner subject to background check.

Councilwoman Buck made a motion to approve the hiring of Scott Tanner for the Building and Zoning Official position pending results of a background check. Councilwoman Rooks seconded. Motion carried.

Council Comments

Councilwoman Rooks thanked all the departments that helped with the 4th of July events. She said the event went great and she heard a lot of good things.

Councilwoman Graham said she agreed. She thought it was one of the best 4th of July events we have had and would be in favor of keeping it downtown going forward.

Councilman Piercefield thanked the police department for the recent busts. He asked about the run volume for the fire department.

Fire Chief John Henderson said they will probably reach about 1,000 runs this year.

Mr. Huddleston said he filed a complaint on behalf of the council on John Muncy. He has been served and the time for him to respond has expired. He will be preparing a motion default judgement against him.

Town Marshall Doayne Little said the departments run volume has been up. He responded with the fire department to a fire at the antique mall. He commended the fire department for their quick response to that fire.

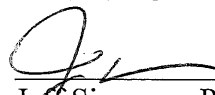
Mr. Henderson said the department did a great job on the fire and the antique mall is already back up and operating.

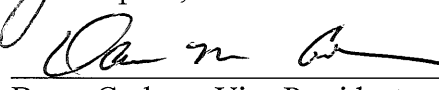
Mr. Watson said there is a property that has become a nuisance at 100 N. Blue River Drive. He issued a stop work order in September of 2020 and that nuisance has still not been abated. This year there have been two more nuisances they have received notice for that have not been abated. He would like to turn this issue over to Mr. Huddleston to pursue legal remedies.


Councilwoman Rooks made a motion to proceed with legal action on 100 N. Blue River Drive. Councilwoman Buck seconded. Motion carried.

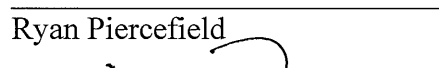
Being no further business or comments, Councilwoman Rooks made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Councilwoman Buck seconded. Motion carried.

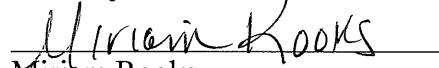
EDINBURGH TOWN COUNCIL


Jeff Simpson, President


Dawn Graham, Vice President


Debbie Buck


Ryan Piercefield


Miriam Rooks

ATTEST:


Scott Finley, Clerk-Treasurer