

**Town Council Meeting**  
**Monday, May 9, 2022**  
**6:00 P.M. Town Hall**

Edinburgh Town Council met in a regular session on Monday, May 9, 2022 at 6:00 P.M. at the Town Hall, 107 South Holland Street, Edinburgh, Indiana.

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

**Members answering roll call:** Councilwoman Debbie Buck, Councilwoman Miriam Rooks, Councilwoman Dawn Graham, Councilman Jeff Simpson, and President Ryan Piercefield. Also present were Clerk-Treasurer Scott Finley, Town Attorney Dustin Huddleston, and Town Manager Dan Cartwright.

**Minutes** – Executive meeting of April 25, 2022 and council meeting of April 25, 2022. Councilwoman Rooks made a motion to approve the minutes. Councilwoman Graham seconded. Motion carried.

**Claims** – The council received a copy of the claim docket in their council packets. The total for the docket was \$215,207.16. Mr. Finley said he had signed off on the claims in that docket and handed them over to the council for approval.

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

**Ball State Grad Students Peer Presentation** – President Piercefield said the representative from Ball State was not able to attend the meeting so this will be pushed to a future meeting.

**American Legion Proclamation** – Mr. Cartwright said this proclamation declares Monday, May 30, 2022 American Legion Memorial Day. He read the proclamation aloud.

Councilwoman Graham made a motion to approve the American Legion Memorial Day Proclamation. Councilwoman Rooks seconded. Motion carried.

**BOT Agreement** – Mr. Cartwright said this project is on hold while we complete some of the administrative items. The council received a rendering of the building. He asked that they look at the dormers on the west elevation. He would like the council's input on the style of dormer.

The council agreed to match gable style that are on the other side of the building.

Town Attorney Dustin Huddleston said he had made some changes to some of the documents. He said GM Development was ok with the changes to the resolution, but they were awaiting review from the bank's legal team. He recommended taking no action until the next meeting. He said the council can table the BOT Agreement and the resolution.

Councilwoman Graham made a motion to table the BOT Agreement until the next meeting. Councilman Simpson seconded. Motion carried.

**2022-12 BOT Fire Department Project** – Councilwoman Graham made a motion to table Resolution 2022-12 until the next meeting. Councilman Simpson seconded. Motion carried.

**Town Hall Addition Bid Award** – Mr. Cartwright said on March 17<sup>th</sup> the town took bids on a Town Hall addition. The budget for the project was \$400,000. He anticipated that the bid amount would far exceed that amount. The staff invited 5 bidders and publicly advertised. Only one bid was received. The bid was for \$316,700. The construction includes the addition of a larger council chambers and public restrooms. There are numerous reasons this project should be awarded. First and foremost, the current building is not ADA compliant. Not being ADA compliant puts the town at risk of receiving federal funds. Public areas need to be brought to ADA compliance. During construction, meetings would be held at the community center. He recommends approval of the bid from Toby Perry. The bid expires next week.

Planning Director Wade Watson said the MacBeath Project was done by the same contractor. They can start as soon as July and expect construction to take 5 to 6 months. There would be 12 to 14 weeks where we could not use the current conference room.

Discussion was held on ADA compliance.

Mr. Finley said the funding would come from the Council budget. The council had budgeted \$500,000 for capital projects anticipating a project like this.

Councilman Simpson made a motion to award the Town Hall Addition project to Toby Perry subject to Mr. Huddleston drafting a construction contract. Councilwoman Rooks seconded. Motion carried.

**77 Fund Discussion** – Mr. Huddleston said he researched the 1977 Fund and drafted a resolution adopting the 1977 fund. The fund has to be implemented for the entire department but you can choose to offer it only to the fire department or the police department. If we offer it to the police, the town must abolish the Town Marshall position, create a Police Chief, and establish a separate merit board. The fire department would only require a local board. That board could be either 7 or 3 members. The town would then have to determine when the 77 fund would start.

President Piercefield said he would rather see it offered to both departments. The 77 fund is great for obtaining and retaining qualified employees.

Councilman Simpson asked if the council could get a spreadsheet of the costs associated with the fund.

Mr. Finley said he has all of the statutory numbers so he could get a spreadsheet together showing those amounts. Hard numbers will be difficult until we knew which employees would switch to the 77 fund from civilian PERF.

Mr. Huddleston said the town can also buy past years of service.

**Fire Chief Contract** – Mr. Huddleston said the employment agreement for the Fire Chief expires tomorrow. This is a new agreement that would start on the May 11<sup>th</sup>. The agreement runs through January 31, 2023 to get the Town Marshal and Fire Chief contracts on the same schedule.

Councilman Simpson made a motion to approve the Fire Chief Contract. Councilwoman Rooks seconded. Motion carried.

**Tax Abatements** – Mr. Watson said there are four CF-1's ready for approval. Each will follow the same process and require approval and authorization for the president to sign. The town still has yet to receive two CF-1's for current tax abatements. Those are due by May 15<sup>th</sup>.

- Amos Hill Associates – Year 8 of 10. Exceeded employee count. Recommend approval
  - Councilman Simpson made a motion to approve the CF-1 for Amos Hill Associates. Councilwoman Graham seconded. Motion carried.
- Edinburgh Investments – Year 9 of 10. Vacant Building. Underperformed as operations have changed. They are using the full building at this point. Recommend approval.
  - Councilman Simpson made a motion to approve the CF-1 for Edinburgh Investments. Councilwoman Buck seconded. Motion carried.
- LB Mold – Year 9 of 10. Exceeded investment and employee increases. Recommend approval.
  - Councilman Simpson made a motion to approve the CF-1 for LB Mold. Councilwoman Graham seconded. Motion carried.
- Ditech – Two abatements. Year 9 of 10 and year 6 of 10. Exceeded investment but under employment numbers. Recommend approval.
  - Councilwoman Graham made a motion to approve the CF-1 for Amos Hill Associates. Councilman Simpson seconded. Motion carried.

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

### Other Business

Councilwoman Rooks thanked Community Center Director SaraBeth Drybread for her work on the Bicentennial Programs. She asked about the trees planted on the hill.

Ms. Drybread said the Catholic Church planted 500 trees on the hill. Deacon Rus apologized and said he did not realize they would take up that much space. She said she believes they will be able to work around the issue. Now she is more worried about the trees getting destroyed during the events.

Mr. Cartwright said on April 26<sup>th</sup> he met with the Department of Corrections about employment help. The warden was happy with the idea. DOC requires the employee responsible for the inmates take mandatory training. The DOC does not have officers to send out to oversee the inmates. The training session would be on May 23<sup>rd</sup> and lasts 5 days. He wanted to have discussion with the council before sending one or two people to those classes. The town's luck has not improved for finding part time employees.

Councilwoman Rooks asked how many would be working at one time.

Mr. Cartwright said 4 or 5.

Councilwoman Graham asked who would be responsible for them on a daily basis.

Mr. Cartwright said whoever takes the class would be the employee responsible for them and would have to work with them at all times. He is suggesting two people take the class in case one person is out, we could still have the inmates work.

President Piercefield said it sounds like we are asking out employees to be prison guards because DOC does not have the staffing to supervise them. He does not have a good feeling about putting our employees in charge of inmates.

Councilman Simpson said he does not believe it is a good idea with the experience they have had in the past.

Discussion was held regarding employment at the cemetery.

President Piercefield asked Mr. Teter to obtain quotes for maintenance at the cemetery and present them to the council.

Mr. Cartwright said he is still working on converting the tennis courts at Irwin Park into Pickleball courts. He said the 252 project will require the town to relocate water mains. The state should pay for that as it exceeds 90% of our annual budget. It will also require electric line relocation.

Mr. Watson said on April 27<sup>th</sup> a public hearing was held and he explained the project would be let in the fall of 2024 with construction in 2025 and 2026. The electric relocation has to be done prior to that project. The plan is to move those lines underground. It will be more costly, but it will also force the utilities using our poles to go underground. If we decide to go above ground, the plans need to be redrawn.

Mr. Cartwright said the initial estimates are \$1.1 million plus engineering and easement acquisition.

Mr. Cartwright said the town will be extending the water main to the fire station. Wessler is set to do the design. The Field Gymmy is ending on Govdeals.com tomorrow. It is currently at \$20,000. The town has been awarded the CCMG grant for High School Drive. It will be put out to bid in June. The small substation serving Talberton and Pleasant View is in the process of being eliminated. Alpha Engineering is assisting with that project.

Mr. Teter said the aquatic center project will be completed soon. Youth club registrations are underway and Little League has begun. Campsites at the park are consistently sold out. The annual flowers will be going out this week.

Fire Chief John Henderson said on the 17<sup>th</sup> the staff will be recognized and we will have an open house.

Fire Chief Doyne Little said he looks forward to the council possibly adopting the 77 fund as it will be great for the current officers as well as future officers. He thanked the council for considering it.

### Public Comments

Debby Vaughan of 1127 Constitution Drive said the council has talked about spending a lot of money tonight. She asked to see drawings of the town hall addition and asked how much of the parking lot it would take up. She asked that the new room be equipped with A/V equipment to make it easier to hear.

Mr. Watson said there are drawings on the council table and it would take up about 6 spots. The new council chamber would be fully equipped the A/V equipment.

Ms. Vaughan asked about the 1977 Fund.

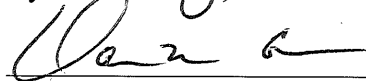
President Piercefield explained that it was a pension fund for police and fire.

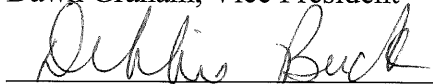
Ms. Vaughan asked why the new fire station was being put so far away from town. She still thinks the department should look at making sleeping quarters next to the current station.

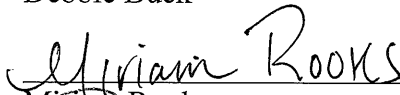
Being no further business or comments, Councilman Simpson made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Councilwoman Buck seconded. Motion carried.


### **EDINBURGH TOWN COUNCIL**

  
Ryan Piercefield, President

  
Dawn Graham, Vice President

  
Debbie Buck

  
Miriam Rooks

  
Jeff Simpson

ATTEST:

  
Scott Finley, Clerk-Treasurer