

Town Council Meeting
Monday, May 23, 2022
6:00 P.M. Town Hall

Edinburgh Town Council met in a regular session on Monday, May 23, 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.

President Piercefield said he wanted to applaud the town employees for a job well done during the storms over the weekend.

Minutes – Council meeting of May 9, 2022. Councilwoman Graham made a motion to approve the minutes. 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 \$953,881.43. 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 Graham seconded. Motion carried.

BOT Agreement – President Piercefield said this document was not ready for approval yet.

Resolution 2022-12 BOT Fire Department Project – Mr. Huddleston said this resolution provides approval of the Fire Station project and allows President Piercefield and town attorney to negotiate the rest of the terms of the agreement. We are awaiting approval from GM Development and State Bank.

Councilwoman Graham made a motion to approve Resolution 2022-12. Councilwoman Rooks seconded. Motion carried.

Sprague Billboard Contract – Mr. Cartwright said this is the lease agreement with Sprague for the billboard at Timbergate. The proposal was previously approved. The lease is for \$22,500.

Mr. Huddleston said he drafted the document and added a provision excluding certain things from being put on the billboard. He cannot advertise for a different golf course or put anything offensive or vulgar.

Councilman Simpson made a motion to approve the Sprague Billboard Contract. Councilwoman Rooks seconded. Motion carried.

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

Hoosier Edison Work at Water Plant – Mr. Cartwright said the existing power at the water plant location was aerial. That power needed to be moved before the building could be torn down. The boring was previously approved. The work has been done and was designed for future growth.

Tax Abatements – Copple's Wrecker Service, Sacoma Properties, and SAPP – Planning Director Wade Watson said the town received CF-1's for the remaining businesses with tax abatements. Each will need approval and authority for the president to sign.

- Copple's – Year 7 of 10. Staff recommendation – Approval.
 - Councilman Simpson made a motion to approve the CF-1 for Copple's. Councilwoman Rooks seconded. Motion carried.
- SAPP – Year 9 of 10. Staff recommendation – Approval.

- Councilman Simpson made a motion to approve the CF-1 for SAPP. Councilwoman Buck seconded. Motion carried.
- Sacoma – 6 abatements. Business changed hands and abatements were transferred. Staff recommendation – Approval for all 6 abatements.
- Councilman Simpson made a motion to approve the CF-1's for Sacoma. Councilwoman Rooks seconded. Motion carried.

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

Centra Credit Union Utility Easement – Mr. Watson said this is an agreement to create an easement on the North and West part of their property. They would like to separate the parcels and sell the other. The town has utilities in the proposed easement.

President Piercefield asked how many more businesses would result from the selling of that property.

Mr. Watson said there would be room for one more commercial building in that area.

Councilwoman Graham made a motion to approve the Centra Credit Union Utility Easement. Councilwoman Buck seconded. Motion carried.

Councilwoman Graham made a motion to allow President Piercefield to sign the easement documents on behalf of the council. Councilwoman Buck seconded. Motion carried.

Police K9 Project – Town Marshall Doyne Little said the department has a great need for a police K9 unit. The town had a dog back in the 80's and were successful with the project. The town, along with other surrounding areas, has a drug problem. There has been an increase in drug arrests during 2020-2022. The town has borrowed K9 units from surrounding areas in the past but recently the courts have decided that the department only has about 10 minutes to get a dog to the scene for a search. It is unlikely that we can get a dog from a surrounding community in 10 minutes. The dog can also be used for tracking and searching. He has asked around about donations for the project and has found an individual that would be willing to donate \$20,000 for a K9 unit. There have been other people interested in donating smaller amounts and Cummins has discussed putting a line item in their budget to assist with the cost. The cost to the town would be the maintenance of the dog. From his research he believes it will cost between \$5,000 and \$7,000. The last hour of the shift of the officer in charge of the dog would have to be dedicated to maintenance of the dog and the department would lose an officer to training for 5 to 6 weeks.

Discussion was held regarding trainers.

Councilwoman Rooks asked why the program was ended.

Town Marshall Little said you can expect to get 5 to 7 years out of a dog. Once that dog was retired, the department decided not to continue with the program. He said if the town does decide to proceed with the program, he would recommend not imprinting the dog on marijuana. If the state decided to legalize marijuana, it would be difficult to stop the dog from alerting on it in the future.

Discussion was held regarding the donations and funding.

President Piercefield said he would like the council to also think about having two K9 units. This way there would always be a dog available.

The council agreed for Town Marshall Little to move forward with the program and solidify the donations. A resolution will be presented at the next meeting regarding the K9 unit.

Tree Trimming Bids for Talberton and Pleasant View Additions – Electric Superintendent Kevin Rubush said the department is in the process of converting these additions to 4KV. This quote would be to clear trees from the primary lines. The company would contact and inform the residents of the work as well as take on all liability. The town received 2 bids. The low bid was from Williams for \$35,000.

Mr. Cartwright said this tree trimming needs done regardless but this is the first step to eliminating that substation.

Councilwoman Rooks made a motion to approve the tree trimming quote from Williams for \$35,000. Councilwoman Graham seconded. Motion carried.

Water Main Material Purchase for CR900 – Water Superintendent Bill Jones said the new fire station plans showed a 1 ½ inch line from the water main to the new station. He suggested that we run a new 8-inch line to serve future growth in that area. He received two quotes for material. The work will be done internally. Utility Supply is the lower quote by a few hundred dollars.

Councilwoman Graham made a motion to approve the Utility Supply quote for the CR900 water line extension. Councilwoman Rooks seconded. Motion carried.

Bicentennial Celebration Update – Community Center Director SaraBeth Drybread said the committee is just working on the small details now. There is a volunteer form on the social media pages. Training will be on June 7th. She said she needs two people with a bartender's license to serve beer at the beer garden. The weekend will have hot air balloon rides, lumberjack demonstrations, a petting zoo, pony rides, and a proclamation. There will be a ceremony at 2 o'clock on Saturday.

Other Business

Councilwoman Rooks said she wanted to thank the employees that worked on restoring power and cleaning up trees after the storms over the weekend.

Mr. Finley said over the weekend there was a lot of overtime due to the storms. The town's policy for overtime follows federal guidelines meaning time and a half is only paid out for physical hours at work above 40 hours. There were a couple of employees that were on vacation earlier in the week but were then required to work over the weekend to clean up and restore power. He wanted to ask the council if they wanted to make a one-time exception and pay those hours worked out at time and a half for the employees were responding to an emergency situation.

Councilwoman Graham made a motion to consider all hours worked during the weekend of May 21st and May 22nd overtime hours if they pertained to clean up after the storm or restoring power to the community. Councilwoman Buck seconded. Motion carried.

Mr. Cartwright said Mr. Huddleston is working on the contract for the town hall expansion project. The Field Gymmy sold at auction for \$30,000. The water plant demolition started today. The pool should be opened on schedule. He attended the open house for Centra Credit Union on May 17th. The parking lot across from the utility office has been paved and striped. Proposals for the lease of that building are due on June 8th. He thanked the employees for their work during the storms over the weekend. Mutual aid by Hoosier Edison was brought in to assist with power outages. Clean up will continue this week.

Mr. Watson said there have been no formal submittals for new development, but the town has been in serious conversation with three different developers for potential developments.

Mr. Rubush said he was very pleased with the work Hoosier Edison did assisting with the power outages over the weekend. They were very professional, safe, and came in with a plan. He would have no hesitation calling them again for any emergency we had.

Wastewater Superintendent Rebecca Frakes said she was amazed at the speed at which the power was back on after the storms. She said the department has a sewer line in imminent danger of collapsing on Pleasant Street between Campbell and Perry. She hopes to have costs for the council at the next meeting.

Mr. Jones said the water tower on school hill was cleaned so that it will look nice for the Bicentennial Bash. During the storms the generator ran for 14 hours with no issues.

Parks Director Daniel Teter said department was hosting softball games just before the storms came in and were playing the very next day. They had some minor damage at the cemetery but will get that cleaned up before the Memorial Day event. Irwin Park still needs cleaned and they will get to that as soon as possible. There was some minor damage to some umbrellas at the swimming pool.

Building and Zoning Official Robert Overton said the aquatic center ADA project is almost complete. The bathrooms have been opened up and are much more accessible. The floors have been leveled and the check in window has been set back for easier access.

Mr. Watson said Randy and Sherry Miller bought lunch today for all the employees who worked during the storms over the weekend.

The council thanked the Millers for that act of kindness.

Public Comments

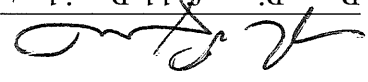
Jackie Smith of 103 West Campbell Street said he was cleaning his house recently and found a painting of Blue River Dam by Marie Pruitt. He said he wanted to give it to the town instead of it hanging in his garage.

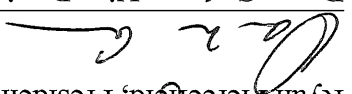
The council thanked Mr. Smith for presenting them the painting.

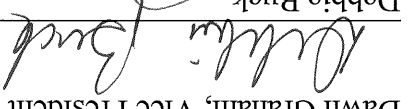
Debby Vaughan of 1127 Constitution Drive said she is honored to live in this town with so many good people who work together in situations like we had this weekend.

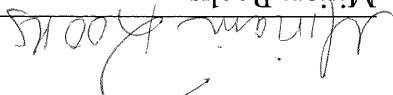
Being no further business or comments, Councilman Simpson made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Councilwoman Buck seconded. Motion carried.

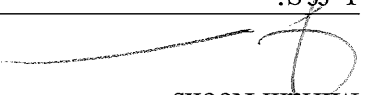
EDINBURGH TOWN COUNCIL



Ryan Piercefield, President


Dawn Graham, Vice President


Debbie Buck


Miriam Rooks


Jeff Simpson

ATTEST:

Scott Finley, Clerk-Treasurer