

Town Council Meeting
Monday, February 13, 2023
6:00 P.M.

Edinburgh Town Council met in a regular session on Monday, February 13, 2023, at 6:00 P.M. at 104 South Holland Street, Edinburgh, Indiana.

Vice President Dawn Graham called the meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

Swearing in Ceremony for MyKenzie Ault – Mr. Finley performed the Oath of Office for MyKenzie Ault and congratulated her on her position.

Town Marshall Doyne Little introduced Ms. Ault to the council as the newest officer.

Minutes – Council meeting of January 23, 2023. Councilwoman Rooks 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 that docket was \$292,494.71. Mr. Finley said he had signed off on all the claims in that docket and presented them to council for approval.

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

Public Hearing on Community Development Block Grant – Interim Town Manager Wade Watson said this is the public hearing for the planning grant for which the town is applying. The staff has reviewed and vetted the engineering firms that submitted a proposal and selected HWC.

Donna Anderson of Kenna Consulting said the comprehensive plan is the town's guide for the future. The grant will require a lot of public participation. There will be a steering committee and public workshops. There will be an open house and a public presentation of the plan. The timeline is about 12 months. The budget for the project is \$55,600 with \$50,000 from OCRA. The application is due Wednesday, and it will be awarded March 16th.

Vice President Graham opened the public hearing.

Interim Town Manager Wade Watson said this is a very important project for the town. It sets the goal for the future. The current plan is over 12 years old. Input will be gathered from the public, not just the internal staff. He is in full support of this project.

Building and Zoning Official Robert Overton said he is in full support of this project. There have been a lot of changes since the last plan was adopted. We are not going to be where the previous plan had hoped by 2026 so it is time to update the plan to the needs of the community.

With no further comments Vice President Graham closed the public hearing.

Resolution 2023-3 Local Match Commitment – Councilman Simpson made a motion to approve Resolution 2023-3. Councilwoman Buck seconded. Motion carried.

Councilman Simpson made a motion to allow Vice President Graham to sign the CDBG grant documents on behalf of the council. Councilwoman Buck seconded. Motion carried.

Resolution 2023-4 Sacoma Specialty Products Tax Abatement – Mr. Watson said this was presented at the last meeting. The memorandum of agreement has been signed by Sacoma and this will memorialize the abatement. Councilwoman Rooks made a motion to approve Resolution 2023-4. Councilman Simpson seconded. Motion carried.

Memorandum of Agreement for Sacoma Specialty Products Tax Abatement – Mr. Watson said this is part of the abatement process and holds the company to certain performance standards.

Councilwoman Rooks made a motion to approve the memorandum of agreement for Sacoma Specialty Products. Councilwoman Buck seconded. Motion carried.

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

Resolution 2023-5 Engaging Auctioneer – Town Attorney Dustin Huddleston said this resolution memorializes the verbal approval to dispose of the water department's backhoe.

Councilwoman Rooks made a motion to approve Resolution 2023-5. Councilwoman Buck seconded. Motion carried.

Ordinance 2023-1 Approving Plan Commission Resolution 2022-2 (Second Reading) – Mr. Huddleston said at the last meeting the council approved the planning commission recommendation to amend the zoning map for Heckman Village. This is the final step to that process.

Councilwoman Rooks made a motion to approve Ordinance 2023-1. Councilman Simpson seconded. Motion carried.

Zoning Officer Position – Mr. Watson said the town has had little luck trying to hire a planning director. He is proposing restructuring and creating a Building Official and a Zoning Official. He provided a full job description in his manager's report. The salary ordinance would also need to be amended to reflect the addition of this position.

Ordinance 2023-2 Salary Ordinance Amendment – Mr. Watson said this amendment does two things. It adds the position discussed in the previous agenda item and it increases the maximum pay for paramedics. This would allow us to pay the interim chief a higher salary until we find a full time chief.

Councilman Simpson made a motion to waive the first reading of Ordinance 2023-2 and consider it for approval. Councilwoman Rooks seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Councilman Simpson made a motion to approve Ordinance 2023-2. Councilwoman Buck seconded. Motion carried.

Ordinance 2023-3 Solicitors (First Reading) – Mr. Finley said this is something he had wanted to work on for a while but had not taken the time to do. The current ordinance is from the 80's. This pertains to solicitors selling products or services door to door. The current ordinance does not have verbiage requiring certain things like background checks and certificates from the health department for people selling food stuffs. This ordinance also increases the fees for solicitors permits as well as increases the limit for the surety bond. This partly came up because we recently had a company in town that was trying to skirt the rules of the ordinance and there was not a lot we could do except ask those without permits to leave.

Councilwoman Buck made a motion to waive the first reading of Ordinance 2023-3 and consider it for approval. Councilwoman Rooks seconded. Motion carried.

Councilwoman Buck made a motion to approve Ordinance 2023-3. Councilwoman Rooks seconded. Motion carried.

Water Treatment Plant Pay Application #9 – Mr. Finley said this is the 9th pay application for the water treatment plant project. The total of the application is \$133,071.32. Upon approval it will be submitted to SRF for review and payment.

Councilman Simpson made a motion to approve water treatment plant pay application #9. Councilwoman Rooks seconded. Motion carried.

Appointment of Interim Fire Chief – Mr. Huddleston said the council gave authority to President Piercefield to appoint an interim fire chief. He has appointed Chuck Ridpath. He asked that the council make a formal motion memorializing that appointment.

Councilwoman Rooks made a motion to appoint Chuck Ridpath as Interim Fire Chief. Councilman Simpson seconded. Motion carried.

Lease Agreement for 712 E. Eisenhower Drive – Mr. Watson said we just received the signed lease agreement today. It was drafted by Mr. Huddleston and approved by the tenant.

Mr. Huddleston said he adjusted the insurance amount and removed the clause stating no firearms would be housed on the property.

Councilman Simpson made a motion to approve the Lease Agreement for 712 E. Eisenhower Drive. Councilwoman Buck seconded. Motion carried.

Councilman Simpson made a motion to authorize Wade Watson to sign the lease agreement on behalf of the council. Councilwoman Buck seconded. Motion carried.

Petition for Annexation – Mr. Watson said last week the town received a petition for annexation for a property on State Road 252. He laid out the procedure in the manager's report and just wanted to introduce the topic at this meeting. There will be a public hearing in the near future for that process.

Personnel Policy Amendment – Mr. Watson said he would like to get authorization for Mr. Huddleston to review the personnel policy and add a policy for the prevention of abuse and molestation. This clause was recommended by our insurance carrier.

Councilman Simpson made a motion to allow Mr. Huddleston to review and amend the personnel policy. Councilwoman Buck seconded. Motion carried.

Quotes Replacing the Wastewater Small Lift Station on South Walnut – Mr. Watson said there is a small lift station near the Paws and Claws that had a pump die and the second one is ailing. We have received three bids. The options are to repair the pumps at \$14,000 or complete replace for \$23,898. The staff recommendation is to proceed with a complete replacement by BBC for \$23,898.

Councilwoman Rooks made a motion to approve the replacement of the lift station by BBC for \$23,898. Councilman Simpson seconded. Motion carried.

Equipment Purchase for 252 Electric Project – Mr. Watson said he provided the council with a list of items generated by Alpha Engineering. These have extended lead times, so we need to proceed with getting the items on order. Purchases for this project can be reimbursed through bond proceeds.

Edinburgh Town Hall Extension Request – This is the last meeting we will have at this location. The new council chambers is 99% complete. The contract was to be completed by January 31, 2023. The building was virtually completed but Tovey Perry rejected the brick work on the front of the building. Because of that, it had to be torn off and redone. The only work left is the metal work on the outside of the building.

Mr. Huddleston said there is a damages clause in the contract but there will not be any expense to the town and the work should only benefit the town.

Councilwoman Buck made a motion to approve the extension request for the town hall project. Councilwoman Rooks seconded. Motion carried.

Quotes for Squad 41 Light Package – Interim Fire Chief Chuck Ridpath said he has obtained quotes for the lights and decals on Squad 41. The low quote was from Move Over Outfitters, and they are a one stop shop for the project.

Councilwoman Rooks made a motion to approve the Squad 41 light package from Move Over Outfitters for \$19,818.60. Councilwoman Buck seconded. Motion carried.

Snowplow Quote – Street Superintendent Clark McCollum said on January 25th the scrapping edge of the plow broke off and the operator was unaware that it had happened. It is not repairable. He thinks it may be covered by insurance so he has an adjuster coming to look at the plow. The deductible is \$2,500 and the quote for a new plow is \$14,545. He will let the council know if it will not be covered by insurance.

Other Business

Mr. Huddleston said he will send the Sacoma memo to the county and he will record the Heckman Village re-zoning ordinance.

Mr. Finley said he received from Johnson County a letter stating they are eliminating the cumulative bridge fund. Any bridges and culverts would have to be covered by the city or town where they are located. The town is not greatly impacted by this as we only have 4 large culverts but he wanted to bring it to the council's attention.

Mr. Watson said there will be interview for full time firefighters on Thursday. He asked if the council wanted to be involved.

The council consensus was to proceed with the interviews as planned.

Mr. Watson said Georg Utz is expanding and adding a lot of transformers. This will require an increase in the primary lines supplying those transformers. We have requested quotes from 4 contractors but only received 2 responses. He recommended proceeding with the low quote of \$28,480.

Electric Superintendent Kevin Rubush said also included in that would be the increase in capacity and redundancy load.

Councilman Simpson made a motion to approve the low quote for \$28,480. Councilwoman Buck seconded. Motion carried.

Mr. Watson said Town Marshall Doyne Little wanted him to mention that the American Legion would like to donate funds for new AED's.

Councilwoman Graham said there will be letter to present to the board, but she does not believe the legion will be able to cover the whole project.

Departmental Comments

Mr. Ridpath said the Hurst tools should be in by the end of the month. The department responded to a fire recently and because of the quick response they were able to knock the fire down before much damage happened. The response time was approximately 3 minutes.

Parks Director Daniel Teter said little league signups are underway. Tournaments will begin soon. The Father/Daughter dance had 347 attendees.

Water Superintendent Bill Jones said the block layers were on site today so the plant should start going up soon. The new valves should be in this week.

Officer Darren Koors of the police department said Big Woods contacted him about doing a Dine for K-9 event on a Saturday this year. They will make a donation for the K-9 after the event. He said his dog is currently off for 2 weeks from an injury it sustained while playing. The dog has already had 45 uses with 3 different agencies with 27 arrests. In March, he will be doing a demo for the cub scouts.

Public Comments

Ron Hazelgrove of the Edinburgh Lions Club said he was present to ask for assistance for the Fall Festival that will be held September 13, 2023 to September 17, 2023.

Councilman Simpson made a motion to approve \$3,000 in assistance to the Edinburgh Lions Club for the Fall Festival. Councilwoman Rooks seconded. Motion carried.


Councilwoman Buck made a motion to approve the Fall Festival dates of September 13, 2023, to September 17, 2023. Councilwoman Rooks seconded. Motion carried.

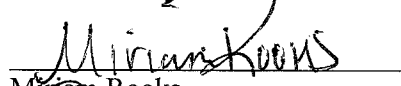
Being no further business or comments, Councilwoman Buck made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Councilwoman Rooks seconded. Motion carried.

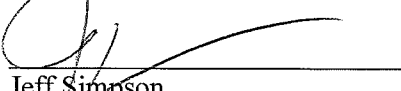
EDINBURGH TOWN COUNCIL


Ryan Piercefield, President


Dawn Graham, Vice President


Debbie Buck


Miriam Rooks


Jeff Simpson

ATTEST:


Scott Finley, Clerk-Treasurer