

Town Council Meeting
Monday, April 24, 2023
6:00 P.M.

Edinburgh Town Council met in a regular session on Monday, April 24, 2023, 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 Miriam Rooks, Councilwoman Debbie Buck, Councilman Jeff Simpson, Vice President Dawn Graham, and President Ryan Piercefield. Also present were Clerk-Treasurer Scott Finley, Interim Town Manager Wade Watson, and Town Attorney Dustin Huddleston.

Minutes – Council meeting of April 10, 2023, and executive meeting of April 15, 2023. *Councilman Simpson made a motion to approve the minutes as submitted. Councilwoman Graham seconded. Motion carried.*

Claims – The council received two claim dockets in their council packet. The docket totals were as follows:

- Regular docket - \$933,225.24
- January end-of-month - \$214,833.07

Mr. Finley said he had signed off on all the claims in those dockets and presented them to the council for approval.

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

Ordinance 2023-9 Abnormal Water Usage Abatement (First Reading) – Mr. Watson said the council asked Mr. Huddleston to draft this ordinance for relief for someone who has an abnormal amount of water usage due to a mechanical issue with their equipment. There are provisions for the town to evaluate and ensure the resident meets all criteria. This includes the points laid out in his manager's report based on Nellie Wilson's issue.

No action was taken on Ordinance 2023-9.

Contract Employing Attorney – President Piercefield said this is the annual renewal of our contract with Town Attorney Dustin Huddleston.

Councilwoman Graham made a motion to approve the attorney contract with Mr. Huddleston. Councilwoman Rooks seconded. Motion carried.

Contract Employing Electric Superintendent – Mr. Huddleston drafted an employment contract for an Electric Superintendent. Steve Clark signed that agreement without changes.

Councilman Simpson made a motion to approve the employment contract with Steve Clark. Councilwoman Buck seconded. Motion carried.

Planning Commission Findings of Fact and Certification for Petition of Rezoning – Mr. Watson said the Planning Commission met on Tuesday, April 18th to consider rezoning the property on State Road 252 from residential to roadside business, site development, and for a waiver of requirements of certain exterior finishes. The commission tabled the site plan and the waiver of requirements for exterior finishes. They have issued an unfavorable recommendation to the town council on the rezoning request. The council needs to establish a public hearing date to consider the findings.

Councilwoman Graham made a motion to establish a public hearing on May 8, 2023, to consider the findings of fact from the planning commission. Councilman Simpson seconded. Motion carried.

Columbus Economic Development Services Contract – Mr. Watson said this is an agreement for continuation of the Columbus Economic Development contract. The only change is the annual fee increased by \$500. Mr. Huddleston has suggested a few changes. Those changes were added and approved.

Councilwoman Rooks made a motion to approve the Economic Development Services Contract. Councilwoman Graham seconded. Motion carried.

Hisada Tax Abatement – Mr. Watson said the town is starting to receive CF-1's for current tax abatements. They are due by May 15th. The staff has reviewed the CF-1 for Hisada and recommends approval.

Councilman Simpson made a motion to approve the Hisada CF-1. Councilwoman Graham seconded. Motion carried.

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

INDOT Bridge Project – Mr. Watson said INDOT is doing a structural rebuild of the State Road 252 bridge. They will need right-of-way and easement access to get down to the river basin to prepare foundation piers. They will pay the town \$2,650 for the right to access the river from the town's property. The project is scheduled to let this year. It would have very little impact on traffic.

Councilwoman Graham made a motion to approve the INDOT proposal subject to legal review. Councilwoman Buck seconded. Motion carried.

Councilwoman Graham made a motion to allow the Town Manager to sign the proposal on behalf of the council. Councilwoman Buck seconded. Motion carried.

BOT Pay Application #4 – Mr. Watson said this application is the 4th pay application for the fire station. It has been reviewed and approved by the staff.

Councilwoman Rooks made a motion to approve BOT pay application #4. Councilman Simpson seconded. Motion carried.

Councilwoman Rooks made a motion to allow President Piercefield to sign the pay application on behalf of the council. Councilwoman Buck seconded. Motion carried.

New BOT Project Committee Appointments – Mr. Watson said with the advertisement of the new BOT project for the property adjacent to the sports complex, the council needs to appoint a committee for the project. Per our ordinance, the committee will consist of someone from the planning department, the town manager, the department head, and 2 members of the council. The council needs to select the two members of the council to be on that committee.

Councilwoman Graham made a motion to appoint Councilwoman Rooks and President Piercefield to the BOT committee. Councilman Simpson seconded. Motion carried.

Water Treatment Pay Application #11 – Mr. Finley said this pay application was submitted to the council at the last meeting but when completing the disbursement request form, he noticed an issue with the retainage amount. The application was sent back to Wessler for review and correction. Due to a couple of change orders the amount was increased from \$303,830.56 to \$305,725.48.

Councilwoman Rooks made a motion to approve revised pay application #11 for the water treatment plant for \$305,725.48. Councilman Simpson seconded. Motion carried.

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

Christopher Pierce – Request to Amend Rumpke Contract – Mr. Pierce with Rumpke said he was present to ask the council to amend the current contract. The current contract says Rumpke will service the town Monday – Friday. Rumpke believes they can better serve the town with a four-day week. Rumpke would handle all notifications for households whose scheduled trash day would change.

Councilman Simpson asked if they were going to drop Monday or Friday.

Mr. Pierce said they haven't made that decision yet. They wanted to make sure the council was open to the idea first.

President Piercefield said as long as there is no interruption in service and no change in cost, he does not see an issue.

Departmental Comments

Building and Zoning Official Robert Overton said he has met with engineers on the 115 East Main Cross building and has received one proposal. The process is moving forward.

Community Center Director SaraBeth Drybread said the circus is coming to town this weekend and there will be two shows. One at 2:00 and the other at 4:30. There will be a sidewalk sale downtown on Friday and Saturday. The department has been working on planning for the eclipse on April 8, 2024. The path of totality will pass right through Johnson County. There will be people from all over the country in the county for the event. Hotels in Franklin are already sold out at \$1,000 per night for the event. Schools are looking at closing to give students a chance to view the eclipse.

Street Superintendent Clark McCollum said Seal Master of Indy will be in town tomorrow testing a robotic crack sealer. They will start at 8 am.

Parks Director Daniel Teter said they were able to get enough lifeguards to keep the pool hours the same as last year. Umbrellas are going up at the pool to get ready for the season. Little League games are starting tonight, and youth club registration is currently underway. He wanted to thank Tri Kappa for sponsoring the youth club trips. The cemetery has been using bagger mowers and they require less trimming, and the grass looks much better. Overtime they may move away from the Dixie Choppers.

Water Superintendent Bill Jones said the department will be flushing next week. This could cause some temporary discolored water.

Wastewater Superintendent Robert Jessie said they have a new employee starting this week. He seems like he will be a good fit for the department.

Interim Fire Chief Chuck Ridpath said the new squad should be done soon. The fire last week highlighted a problem the department has. The trucks only have 3-inch supply hose. They could not get many other trucks into the area. They laid out hundreds of feet of 3-inch hose. They ran into exposure problems with adjacent houses. The 3-inch hose was not adequate to supply the number of hoses fighting the fire and the hose began to run dry. The department needs to put 5-inch supply hose on the trucks. The cost per truck is about \$17,000.

President Piercefield said the town recently received a settlement check from Monsanto. If that can be used for that, it would be a good asset for which to use those funds.

Mr. Finley said he believes that money is to be used for MS4.

Discussion was held regarding hydrants and funding.

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

EDINBURGH TOWN COUNCIL

Absent
Ryan Piercefield, President

Dawn M Graham
Dawn Graham, Vice President

Debbie Buck
Debbie Buck

Miriam Rooks
Miriam Rooks

Jeff Simpson
Jeff Simpson

ATTEST:

Scott Finley
Scott Finley, Clerk-Treasurer