

**Town Council Meeting**  
**Monday, July 8, 2024**  
**6:00PM**

Edinburgh Town Council met in a regular session on Monday, July 8, 2024, at 6:00 pm at the Town Hall, 107 South Holland Street, Edinburgh, IN.

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

**Members Answering Roll Call:** Councilwoman Debbie Buck, Councilwoman Sherri Sweet, Councilman Michael Bryant, and Council President Ryan Piercefield.

Councilwoman Miriam Rooks was absent.

Also present were Clerk-Treasurer Rhonda Barrett and Town Attorney Dustin Huddleston.

**Minutes-** Minutes of Council meeting June 24, 2024.

*Councilwoman Buck made a motion to approve June 24, 2024, Council Meeting minutes. Councilwoman Sweet seconded. Motion carried.*

**Claims-** Clerk-Treasurer Barrett presented two claims. One for the end of May 2024 in the amount of \$273,280.80 and July 8, 2024, in the amount of \$851,703.95.

*Councilwoman Buck made a motion to approve the claim dockets as presented. Councilwoman Sweet seconded. Motion carried.*

**Public Hearing Richard Elbert Petition for Rezone-** Council President Piercefield opened the public hearing for the Richard Elbert petition for rezone. With no comments from the public, Council President Piercefield closed the public hearing.

**Ordinance 2024-12 Rezoning Certain Property (1<sup>st</sup> Reading)-** Attorney Huddleston stated this is a petition from Richard Elbert to rezone the subject property from R5 medium density residential to RB roadside business. The planning commission gave a favorable recommendation per their Resolution 2024-01 subject to one condition, that the property owner obtain an access permit from the State of IN to have direct access to US 31. Tonight is the first reading which cannot be waived.

**Public Hearing Additional Appropriations-** Council President Piercefield opened the public hearing for the Additional Appropriations. With no comments from the public, Council President Piercefield closed the public hearing.

**Resolution 2024-15 Additional Appropriations-** Clerk-Treasurer Barrett stated there is a need to have additional appropriations for items which include the New Fire Truck, New Street Sweeper, Fire Department Tools, and Holiday of Lights Ice Skating Rink. Funding is available for these items through user fees, reserve funds, and grants that the town has received.

*Councilwoman Buck made a motion to approve Resolution 2024-15 Additional Appropriations. Councilwoman Sweet seconded. Motion carried.*

**Ordinance 2024-13 Amending Chapter 93 Garbage and Trash (1<sup>st</sup> reading)-** Attorney Huddleston presented some updates proposed by Building and Zoning Official Robert Overton and Planning Director Julie Young to the town's existing garbage and trash ordinance.

Planning Director Julie Young stated she will have additional modifications to bring up at the next Town Council meeting for this Ordinance. Tonight is the first reading, and the second reading will be at the next Council meeting.

**Resolution 2024-16 Ditech Tax Abatement-** Planning Director Young stated this is the resolution and agreement that follows the real property tax abatement for Ditech that was approved at the June 24, 2024, Council meeting.

*Councilwoman Sweet made a motion to approve Resolution 2024-16 Ditech Tax Abatement. Councilman Bryant seconded. Motion carried.*

*Councilwoman Sweet made a motion to approve Council President Piercefield to sign Resolution 2024-16 Ditech Tax Abatement. Councilwoman Buck seconded. Motion carried.*

**Dillingham Investments, LLC Memorandum of Agreement-** Planning Director Young stated this is part of the Resolution 2024-16 Ditech Tax Abatement approval.

*Councilwoman Sweet made a motion to approve the Dillingham Investments, LLC Memorandum of Agreement. Councilman Bryant seconded. Motion carried.*

*Councilwoman Sweet made a motion to approve Council President Piercefield to sign the Dillingham Investments, LLC Memorandum of Agreement. Councilman Bryant seconded. Motion carried.*

**St. Rd 252 Sewer Lining Bid Award-** Wastewater Superintendent Robert Jessie had five bids come in that were under the estimated expense for the State Road 252 Sewer Lining. Wastewater Superintendent Jessie recommends the town go with Insight Pipe Contracting LLC with a bid of \$366,714. Discussion was held concerning two of the other bids that were missing items and included incorrect information and awarding the bid subject to Attorney Huddleston drafting a construction agreement.

*Councilwoman Buck made a motion to approve Insight Pipe Contracting LLC for the State Road 252 sewer line bid award subject to Attorney Huddleston drafting a construction agreement. Councilwoman Sweet seconded. Motion carried.*

**Wessler Invoice 44499 for Water Treatment Plant-** Clerk-Treasurer Barrett presented an invoice from Wessler for the Water Treatment Plant improvements in the amount of \$4,836.25.

*Councilwoman Sweet made a motion to approve Wessler invoice 44499. Councilman Bryant seconded. Motion carried.*

*Councilwoman Sweet made a motion to approve Council President Piercefield to sign the Wessler invoice 44499. Councilman Bryant seconded. Motion carried.*

**Columbus EDC Contract Renewal-** Planning Director Young presented the annual renewal of the Columbus EDC contract and introduced representatives from the Columbus EDC to speak.

Jason Hester President of Greater Columbus Economic Development Corporation presented information about Greater Columbus EDC. Greater Columbus EDC is a member supported nonprofit organization formed in 1976 that is supported by a mix of public and private funding. The Town of Edinburgh's agreement is \$7500 and helps Greater Columbus EDC know that they have the town's support as they deliver economic development services for the community.

*Councilwoman Buck made a motion to approve the Greater Columbus EDC \$7500 annual contract fee renewal. Councilman Bryant seconded. Motion carried.*

*Councilwoman Buck made a motion to approve Council President Piercefield to sign the Greater Columbus EDC contract renewal. Councilwoman Sweet seconded. Motion carried.*

**Jacobi, Tooms, & Lanz Professional Services Agreement-** Planning Director Julie Young stated this is an on-call professional services contract for plan review and building inspections. Planning Director Young further stated that we may or may not utilize their services before the end of the year, it is a backup for an emergency contract in the building department and is similar to what she had in place in previous employment locations that she likes to have available. The contract contains a not to exceed clause and is an as needed basis.

*Councilwoman Sweet made a motion to approve the Jacobi, Tooms, & Lanz Professional Services Agreement. Councilwoman Buck seconded. Motion carried.*

Council President Piercefield asked if he would need to sign the agreement. Planning Director Julie Young said yes after Dustin prepares the agreement.

*Councilwoman Buck made a motion to approve Council President Piercefield to sign the Jacobi, Tooms, & Lanz Professional Services Agreement. Councilman Bryant seconded. Motion carried.*

**CrossRoad Engineers Professional Services Agreement-** Planning Director Julie Young presented the CrossRoad Engineers on-call professional agreement for inspection services of utilities and erosion control measures, specifically at Timbergate where infrastructure is being installed. The agreement is for a maximum of 20 hours per week and includes a not to exceed weekly amount. Council President Piercefield recommended approval.

*Councilwoman Buck made a motion to approve CrossRoad Engineers Professional Services Agreement. Councilwoman Sweet seconded.*

*Councilwoman Buck made a motion to approve Council President Piercefield to sign the CrossRoad Engineers Professional Services Agreement. Councilman Bryant seconded. Motion carried.*

**CrossRoad Engineers Fee Proposal for St Rd 252 Water Main Installation-** Water Superintendent Bill Jones stated the State Road 252 Project has been ongoing since 2018. CrossRoad Engineers will help with

providing construction administration services associated with the installation of various water mains involved with the INDOT SR 252 project. These services would equate to a total “Not-to-Exceed” amount of \$30,000 over a three-year period which will be paid by the Town and reimbursed by INDOT after project completion.

*Councilwoman Buck made a motion to approve the CrossRoad Engineers Fee Proposal for St Rd 252 Water Main Installation. Councilwoman Sweet seconded. Motion carried.*

*Councilwoman Buck made a motion to approve Council President Piercefield to sign the CrossRoad Engineers Fee Proposal for St Rd 252 Water Main Installation. Councilwoman Sweet seconded. Motion carried.*

**Wessler Pretreatment Program Assistance Proposal-** Wastewater Superintendent Robert Jessie presented a Pretreatment Program Assistance Proposal for professional services from Wessler. Wessler will assist the Wastewater department in being up to code with new IDEM regulations and having all reporting completed correctly for IDEM audits. The agreement includes a “Not-to-Exceed” amount of \$28,000. Further discussion was held and the assistance from Wessler will allow the Wastewater department to get a system in place for required and updated IDEM reporting.

*Councilwoman Buck made a motion to approve the Wessler Pretreatment Program Assistance Proposal. Councilman Bryant seconded. Motion carried.*

*Councilwoman Buck made a motion to approve Council President Piercefield to sign the Wessler Pretreatment Program Assistance Proposal. Councilman Bryant seconded. Motion carried.*

### **Other Business**

Clerk-Treasurer Barrett stated there have been times when we have come across utility customers that were billed incorrectly for their utilities whether underbilled or overbilled. Clerk Treasurer Barrett would like to do an internal audit of the utility bills and wants to have written guidelines in place on what should be done when errors are found. Clerk-Treasurer Barrett is requesting for Attorney Huddleston draft a policy with written guidelines on how to handle errors on utility bills. Council President Piercefield recommends.

Clerk-Treasurer Barrett discussed a recent meeting she had with Baker Tilly, Attorney Huddleston, and Wastewater Superintendent Robert Jessie about preparing a scope of work for an analysis of the wastewater and stormwater rates and charges. Clerk-Treasurer Barrett is requesting the Council’s approval to allow Baker Tilly to prepare a scope of work for an analysis of the wastewater and stormwater rates and charges.

*Councilwoman Buck made a motion to approve Baker Tilly to investigate the scope of work for the analysis of the wastewater and stormwater rates and charges. Councilman Bryant seconded. Motion carried.*

Councilwoman Buck and Councilwoman Sweet commended the Park and Rec staff for the 4<sup>th</sup> of July Firecracker Festival.

Police Chief Doyme Little stated the police and fire departments completed active shooter training at the high school. Chief Little commented that the training received attention from Rafael Sanchez with FOX-59.

Planning Director Julie Young introduced Daron Dryer from MA Metal who is requesting a tax abatement.

Daron Dryer, Chief Operating Officer with MA Metal, presented information about the company and discussed the need for a tax abatement. Since this was not on the council meeting agenda, Council President Piercefield determined it would need to be on the agenda to be voted on at the next town meeting.

Planning Director Julie Young stated that DR Horton is moving forward and will be on the Planning Commission agenda this month.

Community Development Director Sarabeth Drybread stated she received one appraisal back for the downtown plaza space. The electric and fire departments were thanked for their help with the 4<sup>th</sup> of July Firecracker Festival. Bob-O-Link Liquors and Huddleston & Huddleston were thanked for sponsoring the Firecracker Festival. There will be a Christmas in July fundraiser July 25<sup>th</sup> at Hilton Garden. Fall Festival applications are open and available on the town website or at the JRDCC building.

**Public Comments**

Dale Bramhall, 620 Memorial Drive expressed his concerns about people running through the stop sign on the corner of Memorial Drive and Prosser Drive. Mr. Bramhall suggested that the town invest in mobile cameras to help stop people from running through the stop sign.

Mr. Bramhall also discussed that there was a tree cut down on 512 Memorial Drive and the pile has been sitting there for over two months. Mr. Bramhall stated the pile is an eyesore and is attracting bugs and rodents.

Building and Zoning Official Robert Overton has discussed the issue with the homeowner of 512 Memorial Drive. The homeowner informed Zoning Official Overton that the pile would be picked up within the next week.

Council President Piercefield recommended giving the company who is supposed to remove the pile the rest of the week before having the Town take care of the issue.

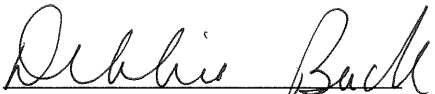
**Adjourn**

*Being no further business or comments, Councilwoman Buck made a motion to adjourn Councilwoman Sweet seconded. Meeting adjourned.*

**EDINBURGH TOWN COUNCIL**

  
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Ryan Piercefield, President

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Miriam Rooks, Vice President

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Debbie Buck

\_\_\_\_\_  
Sherri Sweet

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Michael Bryant

ATTEST:  
  
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Rhonda Barrett, Clerk-Treasurer