

Town Council Meeting
Monday, August 12, 2013
6:00 P.M. Town Hall

Edinburgh Town Council met in a regular session on Monday, August 12, 2013 at 6:00 P.M. at the Town Hall, 107 South Holland Street, Edinburgh, Indiana.

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

President Hoffman thanked everyone for coming.

Members answering roll call were: Councilman John Drybread, Councilman Jeff Simpson, Vice President Curtis Rooks, Councilwoman Kami Ervin, and President Ron Hoffman. Also present were Town Attorney Dustin Huddleston and Clerk Treasurer Scott Finley.

President Hoffman said next on the agenda were the minutes of the Budget Workshop of July 17, 2013 and the Council Meeting of July 22, 2013. Councilman Rooks made a motion to approve the minutes as submitted. Councilman Simpson seconded. Unanimous.

President Hoffman said claims were next on the agenda and handed it over to Clerk Treasurer Finley.

Clerk Treasurer Finley said everyone should have received two claim dockets. The first was the regular claim docket for the past period and the other was the pre-write claim docket. He also had three claims added to the docket since the packets went out over the weekend. One was work done by Milestone, one was for the canopy over the playground at the park and rec., and the other was for the snack bar at Timbergate. He said he had signed all of the claims in the docket and handed them over to the council for approval. Councilman Simpson made a motion to approve the claims as submitted. Councilman Rooks seconded. Unanimous.

President Hoffman said the agenda posted was missing an item that the council would like to insert. That addition being the Resolution 2013-2 A Resolution Creating an Economic Revitalization Area (ERA) for the purpose of abatements. Mr. Hoffman said there was a gentleman present, Mr. Chad Sweeney, to speak in regards to the issue. Mr. Hoffman asked Mr. Sweeney to present what he had about the Lear building.

Mr. Sweeney said he is with a site selection firm called Genovas headquartered in Indianapolis. They advise companies that are looking to expand on where to locate. They are currently advising a company called SAPP Inc. which is a joint venture between LK Machinery and SAPP. LK Machinery specializes in heavy manufacturing equipment and SAPP specializes in large die cast molds used in the automobile industry. The joint venture would focus on remanufacturing the large die cast moldings. While this is a startup company it does have two well known, financially stable companies and should have business immediately. The site search included sites in Michigan, Indiana, Ohio, and Illinois. The site the company would like to locate to is the site in Edinburgh at 600 S. Kyle St. They have entered into a purchase contract for the building. The building has been vacant for a long time so there are some unique aspects and costs to putting it back into service. The key considerations for the site were the overall cost effectiveness of the real estate, the availability of incentive support, and accessibility to interstates. The actual project would produce 37 new jobs at an average wage of about \$45,000 per year. They would hope to grow beyond that number but the initial commitment would be for 37 employees. They also expect to spend about \$2.4 million, \$375,000 in renovations and the rest in new equipment. Mr. Sweeney thanked the town for its consideration in the tax abatement and opened the floor for questions.

Mr. Huddleston said to make sure everyone was on the same page, at this time the council is just voting to designate the area as an ERA they are not actually voting on the abatements. This is just the first step of the abatement process. After the resolution is approved a public notice is published in the newspaper and any type of taxing district in the area would receive a notice that there will be a hearing at the next meeting, August 26, to consider the two abatements.

Councilman Simpson said it would be nice to have something back in that building that has been sitting empty for so long. Bringing 37 jobs to the area with those salaries is pretty substantial. He believes anything the council can do to help would be a good idea.

Councilman Drybread said he was able to meet with Mr. Sweeney and with the president of the company in a walkthrough of the building and everything seemed very positive. He said he is excited to get things moving.

John Rondot asked if it was a ten year abatement.

President Hoffman said it was.

Mr. Rondot asked if the company was going to use the whole building or if part of the building would remain vacant.

Mr. Sweeney said they will occupy the whole building and the improvements to be made would be made on the whole facility. Initially they will use part of it and hope to grow into it over time either through their own use or bringing other suppliers or partners to the building.

Mr. Rondot asked if that could mean having more abatements if other suppliers came in.

Mr. Sweeney said the abatement would cover the whole building so any other abatements in the future would only be for personal property.

Councilman Simpson made a motion to approve Resolution 2013-2. Councilman Drybread seconded. Unanimous.

President Hoffman said next on the agenda is the PSAP Consolidation Inter-local Agreement. He said they have received the final draft of the agreement that was signed by the commissioners from Johnson County. He said he and Mr. Huddleston attended the commissioners meeting prior to the council meeting and they have agreed to the document that Mr. Huddleston had drawn up. At the same time they also approved the City of Greenwood's agreement which was similar to Edinburgh's agreement. Mr. Hoffman said the council and Mr. Huddleston believe the document represents the best interest of the Town of Edinburgh. He then opened the floor for questions or discussion.

Councilman Drybread said for those who had not been at prior council meetings there may be some confusion on what the Inter-Local agreement is exactly.

President Hoffman explained the inter-local agreement for those who were not aware of what it was.

Councilman Simpson made a motion to approve the PSAP Consolidation Inter-Local Agreement. Councilwoman Ervin seconded. Unanimous.

President Hoffman said next on the agenda is the staff report regarding requested tax abatements. He asked Building Commissioner Wade Watson to explain the requested abatements to the council.

Mr. Watson said the town has a request for tax abatement from Hisada America and there were two representatives from the company present to answer questions. The council should have received a staff report with relevant information and supporting documentation in their packets. The anticipated acquisition cost is a little over \$2 million and they are requesting a ten year abatement on personal property. The staff recommendation for this abatement is approval through a resolution to be drafted after council approval.

Kevin Chestnut from Hisada America said he would be happy to answer any questions the council or anyone else may have.

President Hoffman said there is a lot of money involved but a limited projection on new employees.

Mr. Chestnut said the particular piece of equipment was for Toyota and it could possibly lead to other business so there is potential for larger growth. He said they have always underestimated their numbers and usually exceed that goal.

Councilman Drybread said Hisada has been in the community for a while and they have always been very professional and their employment has always been greater than what was stated on paper. He believes they currently employ over 300 people.

Councilman Simpson made a motion to approve the abatement as recommended by the staff. Councilman Rooks seconded. Unanimous.

Mr. Watson said the second abatement for consideration was for CL Tech and Fred Stadler was present to answer questions on behalf of CL Tech. The anticipated equipment cost is a little over \$300,000 and the recommended abatement is for 5 years.

Mr. Stadler said this is not the company's first abatement and the abatements have been a great asset to the company. The company is very pleased about the project and he thinks it will give the company a little more credibility in the machining industry. He thanked the council for its consideration.

Councilwoman Ervin asked what the relationship was between CL Tech and MA Metal.

Mr. Stadler said he owns both companies and are both C-corps. He separated them to get them on their own track and profit center. The two companies work for each other in the same professional way as if they were not in the same building.

Councilwoman Ervin said she knows MA Metal has been a big supporter in the community and that is something she likes to see.

Councilman Simpson made a motion to approve the abatement as recommended by the staff. Councilwoman Ervin seconded. Unanimous.

President Hoffman said the next item on the agenda is the Ordinance 2013-5 Amending Electric Ordinance 2012-5. However, because Mr. Huddleston was busy with numerous other things, the issue was tabled until the next meeting.

President Hoffman said next on the agenda was Rick Wilson with Aspire Johnson County.

Mr. Wilson said the discussion would be for informational purposes. He had invited a couple guests that are much more knowledgeable on the subject. Those guests were Larry Heydon, co-chairman of Aspire Johnson County and CEO of Johnson Memorial Health in Franklin, and Lee Lewellen who owns Lewellen Progress Strategies.

Mr. Heydon introduced himself and said Aspire Johnson County in a nutshell is about collaboration. It attempts to get cities and towns in Johnson County to work together instead of against each other. The competition for the Town of Edinburg is not Franklin or Greenwood it is the world. The county needs to work together to maximize the opportunities it has to attract businesses and make the county a better place for the citizens. Aspire Johnson County believes if Edinburg wins, the entire county wins. The biggest benefit to this is small towns will be able to work together with larger cities to better understand issues every city and town face. It is early in the stages of Aspire Johnson County and they would like to get as many communities involved as possible.

Mr. Lewellen said there is an Aspire Johnson County meeting on August 15 at 8:30 A.M. at the Ivy Tech campus in Franklin. They would like to have someone from the council attend that meeting and also the elected official meeting on August 27. Mr. Lewellen said he could make sure the council got plugged into information regarding Aspire Johnson County.

President Hoffman said that would be great because if he has seen or heard about it before he did not know what it was about. He asked if there was a cost to the town to be involved.

Mr. Lewellen said just your time. He thanked the council for their time.

Council Comments

Councilman Rooks complimented Daniel Teter on the canopy over the playground at the Park and Rec. He said it looks very nice out there.

Departmental Comments

Daniel Teter presented the council with an updated budget since he had not been able to work on his budget prior to the workshop due to some personal issues. He made a few adjustments to the Park and Rec. and Buildings and Grounds budgets and noted the changes. He also said he would like to set up an NRO account for delinquent yard mowing. The Park and Rec. department in coordination with Wade Watson takes care of mowing delinquent yards. Currently the proceeds from that get put into the general fund. He would like that money to go into an NRO account that the Park and Rec. has access to so they can pay for equipment repair and equipment replacement.

Councilwoman Ervin made a motion to allow Mr. Huddleston to draft a resolution to set up an NRO fund for proceeds from delinquent yard moving to be used to repair and replace Park and Rec. equipment. Councilman Rooks seconded. Unanimous.

Public Comments

Dick Hammond said he wanted to again ask for a stop sign to be placed at the corner of Center Cross and Lind. He recently witnessed a child riding his bicycle, cutting the corner and a car narrowly missing the child on the bicycle. He believes that if it would have been the other way around the car would not have had time to stop.

Councilwoman Ervin said she believed the biggest problem is it is such a long stretch of road that cars do pick up speed through that high traffic area. She thinks it is something the town should look into.

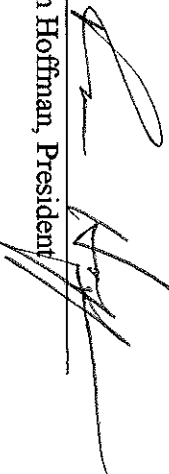
Councilman Rooks said if there were to be a stop sign placed there he would like to see temporary red flashing lights there until people were used to stopping there.

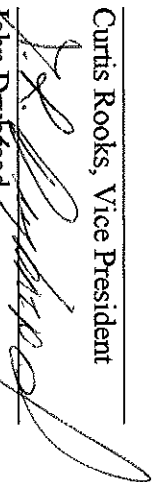
Robert "Doc" Garmin said he used to be a police officer for the town and has recently moved back to Edinburgh. He said he is very impressed with the town's police department. He sees a squad car every time he turns around and that is a good thing. He is pleased with the progress the town has made since he has been out of town and he wanted to thank the council for that as well.

John Rondot also agreed with Mr. Garmin. He is very impressed with the town. He has only lived in town for 8 years but he thinks it is a great little town.

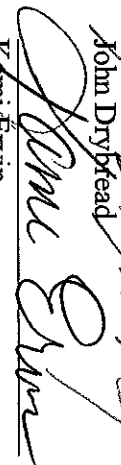
Being no further business or comments, Councilman Simpson made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Councilwoman Drybread seconded. Unanimous.

EDINBURGH TOWN COUNCIL


Ron Hoffman, President


Curtis Rooks, Vice President


John Drybread


Kasei Ervin


Jeffrey A. Simpson

ATTEST:


Scott Finley, Clerk-Treasurer