

Town Council Meeting
Monday, April 14, 2025
6:00PM

Edinburgh Town Council met in a regular session on Monday, April 14, 2025, at 6:00PM at the Town Hall, 107 South Holland Street, Edinburgh, IN.

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

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

Also present were Clerk-Treasurer Rhonda Barrett, Town Manager John Myers, and Town Attorney Dustin Huddleston.

Minutes- Minutes of March 24, 2025, Council Meeting

Councilwoman Rooks made a motion to approve the March 24, 2025, Council meeting minutes. Councilwoman Buck seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

Claims- Clerk-Treasurer Rhonda Barrett presented two claim dockets in the amount of \$809,231.53 for end of month January 2025 and \$339,910.49 for April 14, 2025. All claims have been reviewed and signed.

Councilwoman Rooks asked what the gutters recap and repair on page three of the claim docket was for. Clerk-Treasurer Barrett stated it was for the cemetery.

Councilwoman Sweet asked why there is a January 31st end of month claim docket. Clerk-Treasurer Barrett stated that it is compiled after closing out for the month.

Councilwoman Rooks asked if the B&W Lawn Care on page 14 of the claim docket did lawn care for multiple departments or just the electric department. Town Manager John Myers stated that they do spraying for other departments. Councilwoman Rooks also asked if there was anyone on staff that is licensed and able to do this. Town Manager John Myers stated only the golf course staff are licensed and the golf course staff also sprays the ball diamonds. Other departments contract out for spraying.

Council President Piercefield asked if the spraying had been put out for bid. Town Manager Myers stated that the park and rec only had the hill which was approximately \$700, and other spraying was being put out for bids. Manager Myers stated that he had asked Stan Brown with the Cemetery to get bids for spraying as it is a larger dollar amount. Clerk Treasurer Barrett stated that Councilwoman Buck had inquired about the cost of spraying, and it is \$11,000 per year for the Cemetery.

Councilwoman Buck made a motion to approve the claim dockets as presented in the amounts of \$809,231.53 and \$339,910.49. Councilman Bryant seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

Recommendation to Approve Green Power Program- Attorney Huddleston stated this is a required recommendation the Electric superintendent is required to make to implement the Green Power Program. The council would need to approve the recommendation and authorize the Electric Superintendent to sign that he is recommending the Town go to Green Power Program.

Discussion was held on if the first reading could be waived to approve the Ordinance following the recommendation.

Councilwoman Sweet made a motion to approve the Recommendation to Approve Green Power Program. Councilwoman Rooks seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

Ordinance 2025-3 Adopting A New Voluntary Green Power Program for Services (1st Reading)- Attorney Huddleston presented the first reading of Ordinance 2025-3 Adopting A

New Voluntary Green Power Program for Services. Attorney Huddleston stated this was discussed at a previous council meeting.

Councilwoman Buck made a motion to waive the 1st reading of Ordinance 2025-3 Adopting A New Voluntary Green Power Program. Councilwoman Rooks seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

Councilwoman Rooks made a motion to approve Ordinance 2025-3 Adopting A New Voluntary Green Power Program. Councilman Bryant seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

712 S Eisenhower Drive Lease Agreement- Attorney Huddleston stated this is the drafted new lease agreement for 712 S Eisenhower Drive for a two-year period for the lease bid that was accepted at the last council meeting. The lease agreement is retroactive back to March 1st when the existing lease expired.

Councilwoman Rooks made a motion to approve the 712 S Eisenhower Drive Lease Agreement. Councilwoman Sweet seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

Contract Employing Attorney- Council President Ryan Piercefield recommended extending Town Attorney Dustin Huddleston's contract with the same terms.

Councilwoman Buck made a motion to approve Contract Employing Attorney Dustin Huddleston. Councilwoman Rooks seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

Wessler Invoice #46554 for Water Treatment Plant- Clerk-Treasurer Barrett presented Wessler Invoice #46554 for the water treatment plant in the amount of \$1,792.50 that will need approval to pay and approval for Council President Piercefield's signature.

Councilwoman Sweet made a motion to approve Wessler Invoice #46554 for Water Treatment Plant in the amount of \$1,792.50. Councilman Bryant seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

Councilwoman Sweet made a motion to allow Ryan Piercefield to sign the invoice for payment. Councilwoman Rooks seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

ERA 2024 Annual Report- Attorney Huddleston stated the Edinburgh Redevelopment Authority did not meet due to lack of quorum.

Councilwoman Rooks made a motion to table the ERA 2024 Annual Report. Councilwoman Buck seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

ERC 2024 Annual Report- Clerk-Treasurer Barrett stated this annual report was approved by the Edinburgh Redevelopment Commission at their meeting today IC code requires that the report be presented to the Council and Council President. No action is required by the council, this is just informational. Following this Baker Tilly will be presenting the 2024 TIF Management Report that is due to be uploaded on Gateway and presented to the Council by April 15th, the report was uploaded to Gateway on April 2nd.

2024 TIF Management Report- Scott Finley with Baker Tilly stated the TIF report is an outline of the reporting requirements for the Redevelopment Commission. Mr. Finley stated tax increment financing (TIF) is a tool that captures new assessed value and property taxes from new development in a designated area. There are currently four TIF allocation areas in Edinburgh and currently there is no debt for any of those areas. Mr. Finley stated that the US 31 area is the only area receiving any TIF revenue and the total 2024 revenue for the US 31 allocation area was \$66,001.91. As of December 31, 2024, the total fund balance for the US 31 allocation area was \$160,136.97 and the total fund balance for the Center Cross Street allocation area was \$24.29.

Belt Press Machine Refurbishment Quote- Wastewater Superintendent Robert Jessie stated he has two quotes for the belt press machine refurbishment. The first one is from Andritz in the amount of \$308,921.00. Superintendent Jessie stated Andritz is a sole source provider for parts for this machine. The second quote was from GSM Engineered Fabrics LLC in the amount of \$245,968.00. Superintendent Jessie stated he asked the representative from GSM if they could provide him with some references, but the GSM representative never gave him any.

Superintendent Jessie stated that for the belt press machine to operate at its best, it also needs a new control panel. The current control panel has features that no longer work and manual adjustments must be made. Superintendent Jessie stated he was only able to get one quote for a new control panel in the amount of \$38,969.00.

Discussion was held regarding how many quotes are required for each item.

Discussion was held regarding GSM not providing any references.

Superintendent Jessie is recommending the quote from Andritz due to the past history of work with the company and the fact that it is the manufacturer of the equipment.

Flow Meter Quote- Wastewater Superintendent Robert Jessie stated that the flow meter is the part of the belt press machine that says how many gallons of sludge have been pumped through the press. Superintendent Jessie stated the current flow meter has not worked in ten years and they must use a formula with a measurement to get the number.

Discussion was held regarding how many quotes are required for each item.

Poly Pump Quote- Wastewater Superintendent Robert Jessie stated their current polymer system is outdated and leaks. Superintendent Jessie presented one quote from The Henry P. Thomspen Company in the amount of \$41,567.50.

Discussion was held regarding how many quotes are required for each item.

Councilwoman Sweet asked how Superintendent Jessie planned to finance these parts.

Clerk-Treasurer Barrett stated the GO bond funds could be used for this project, the project could be paid for using Rainy Day Funds, or a loan could be issued to Superintendent Jessie from the Rainy-Day Fund. Clerk-Treasurer Barrett stated that Superintendent Jessie currently has a loan with the Rainy-Day Fund with a balance due of \$127,500.00.

Discussion was held concerning why Superintendent Jessie was only able to obtain one quote.

Discussion was held regarding the price difference between buying a brand-new belt press machine and the refurbishment of the current belt press machine.

Discussion was held regarding the life expectancy of the belt press machine after being refurbished.

Discussion was held regarding how long the quotes are good for.

Councilwoman Rooks asked if there was any warranty. Superintendent Jessie stated that he was not sure, life expectancy is 10-15 years.

Council President Piercefield made a motion to approve the belt press machine refurbishment quote from Andritz in the amount of \$308,921.00, and the control panel quote from Andritz in the amount of \$38,969.00 subject to Attorney Huddleston's review. Councilwoman Buck seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

Council President Piercefield made a motion to approve financing the project using the GO bond funds. Councilwoman Rooks seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

Council President Piercefield made a motion to approve the flow meter quote from HP Thompson in the amount of \$44,178.94, and the polymer system quote from HP Thompson in the amount of \$41,567.50 and approve financing the project using the GO bond funds. Councilwoman Buck seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

Conveyor Quote- Wastewater Superintendent Robert Jessie stated he has a quote for the conveyor but it does not include installation so he would like to table this item for now. Superintendent Jessie stated their department can manage without a conveyor for a while until the belt press machine is taken care of.

Golf Outing for K9 Fundraiser- Police Chief Doyne Little stated they are trying to raise donation money for the K9 program and would like to host a golf outing. Chief Little stated Timbergate does a similar program for the football team that has had success. Police Deputy Chief Shawn Kelsay stated that this could be made an annual event instead of the K9 officers doing multiple fundraisers every year.

Councilwoman Rooks made a motion to approve the Golf Outing for K9 Fundraiser. Councilman Bryant seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

Chief Little presented a \$600 donation from Guardian K9, LLC for sales of t-shirts for the K-9 fund.

Councilwoman Buck made a motion to accept the \$600 donation from Guardian K9, LLC. Councilwoman Sweet seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

Radio Purchase- Police Chief Doyne Little stated the Police department was awarded a JAG grant for \$22,000 to replace the in-car radios. Chief Little stated the current radios have reached their end of life. Chief Little stated he will be purchasing the radios from JFK Communications from the NRO fund. Chief Little stated this will be a reimbursement grant that will go back to the NRO Fund once the check is received.

Other Business

Councilwoman Sweet thanked all the departments for their assistance during the flooding.

Councilwoman Rooks stated that she appreciated Director of Economic Development Sarabeth Drybread work to help open the new ice cream shop downtown. Councilwoman Rooks thanked the departments for their assistance during the flooding.

Council President Piercefield stated he went out with Fire Chief Justin Lollar on a boat rescue and was proud of Edinburgh's public safety workers for saving a person's life and all their hard work during the flooding.

Clerk-Treasurer Barrett informed the Council that the State Board of Accounts will be doing an audit starting Wednesday. A council member will need to be present during the entrance conference. Councilwoman Sweet volunteered to be present at the entrance conference.

Clerk-Treasurer Barrett stated she had an item on the agenda that had been removed and there is an invoice from Baker Tilly that needs to be paid that she has been holding until a decision was made on the Baker Tilly quote. Clerk-Treasurer Barrett asked if the Council wanted her to go ahead and pay it at the full rate rather than the discounted rate quoted from Baker Tilly at a previous Council meeting. Council President Piercefield stated to pay the invoice as is.

Town Manager John Myers thanked the Police and Fire departments for their hard work doing rescues during the flooding. Mr. Myers stated that the Town Hall kitchenette has been finished, and they will start pulling the old kitchen to make another office.

Councilwoman Buck asked if there was any development on the street department. Town Manager John Myers stated there had not been any yet.

Police Chief Doyne Little stated the community came together during the flooding. Chief Little stated the campground hosts had a plan for the flooding. Chief Little stated that for the first time, there was no flooding in Prosser addition.

Electric Superintendent Stephen Clark stated that at the previous Council meeting it was approved for him to purchase a transformer from Sunbelt Solomon. Superintendent Clark stated he was able to locate a transformer from Johnson County for approximately \$800 cheaper.

Fire Chief Justin Lollar stated that their radios will eventually need replacement. Chief Lollar stated he is looking into different funding sources.

Water Superintendent Bill Jones stated that he received approval from SRF for spending the leftover funds from the water treatment plant. Superintendent Jones stated that he has a meeting on Monday to discuss the plan for how these funds will be used. Superintendent Jones stated that the Town's wastewater department got the lab of the year award, the electric department got a safety award, and Superintendent Jones received manager of the year award. Superintendent Jones stated that our community has some great people.

Director of Economic Development Sarabeth Drybread stated the owners of the El Potro restaurant opened Sweet Treats Las Comrades a new ice cream shop downtown on Sunday. Director Drybread stated that she has been looking into several different grants. Councilwoman Rooks asked if Director Drybread was working with Planning Director Julie Young on OCRA grants. Director Drybread confirmed that she has been. Director Young stated some different things came out today for OCRA.

Public Comments

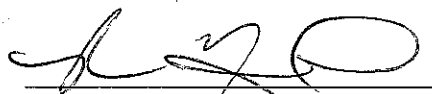
Sheila Simpson 611 N Park Drive asked if the new subdivision development on US 31 is still happening. Council President Piercefield stated that it is a private seller and private buyer, so the Town is not involved in the sale. The Town has annexed the property.

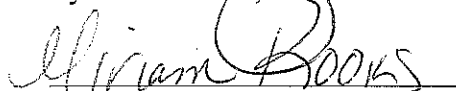
Edinburgh Police Officer Darren Koors thanked the Council for approving the Golf Outing for K9 Fundraiser. Officer Koors stated going to businesses around Town multiple times a year to ask for donations gets frustrating so it will be nice to do just one event all year.

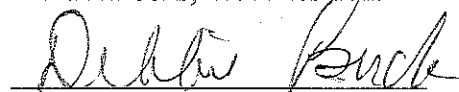
Being no further business or comments, Councilwoman Rooks made a motion to adjourn. Councilwoman Buck seconded. Motion carried 5-0.


These minutes are a summary of actions taken at the Town of Edinburgh Council meetings. The full video archive of the meeting is available for viewing at <https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL0pagNU7lg5FkjGffQyWphtcPehlL-R5g> for as long as this media is supported.


EDINBURGH TOWN COUNCIL


Ryan Piercefield, President



Miriam Rooks, Vice President


Debbie Buck


Sherri Sweet


Michael Bryant

ATTEST:


Rhonda Barrett, Clerk-Treasurer