

Town Council Meeting
Monday, June 23, 2025
6:00PM

Edinburgh Town Council met in a regular session on Monday, June 23, 2025, at 6:00PM 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: Council President Ryan Piercefield, Councilwoman Miriam Rooks, Councilwoman Debbie Buck, Councilwoman Sherri Sweet, and Councilman Michael Bryant.

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

Minutes- Minutes of June 9, 2025, Council Meeting and minutes of June 18, 2025, Executive Meeting

Councilwoman Buck made a motion to approve the June 9, 2025, Council Meeting minutes and the June 18, 2025, Executive Meeting. Councilwoman Sweet seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

Claims- Clerk-Treasurer Barrett presented an end of month claim docket for April 2025 in the amount of \$204,156.31 and a claim docket for June 23, 2025, in the amount of \$1,645,039.42. All claims have been reviewed and signed.

Councilwoman Rooks made a motion to approve the claim dockets as presented in the amounts of \$204,156.31 and \$1,645,039.42. Councilwoman Sweet seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

Ordinance 2025-7 Approving Plan Commission Resolution 2025-3 Rezoning Certain Property from General Business to Roadside Business (2nd Reading)- Attorney Huddleston stated that this was presented and a public hearing was held at the previous Council meeting. Attorney Huddleston stated this is proposing the rezoning of general business to roadside business for the property on Eisenhower Drive, there are some commitments limiting what uses can and cannot be allowed on the property.

Councilwoman Rooks made a motion to approve Ordinance 2025-7 Approving Plan Commission Resolution 2025-3 Rezoning Certain Property from General Business to Roadside Business. Councilwoman Buck seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

Ordinance 2025-8 Establishing Lawn Irrigation Access Services (1st Reading)- Attorney Huddleston stated that this establishes certain dates for the Town to turn on and off the access for irrigation systems as requested by Water Superintendent Jones. Attorney Huddleston stated that if the customer requests for their irrigation to be turned back on after the timeframe, a fee will be added.

Discussion was held regarding the reasoning behind this proposed ordinance and regarding liability for turning customers' irrigation systems on and off.

Ordinance 2025-9 Establishing Watering Restrictions (1st Reading)- Attorney Huddleston stated that this ordinance establishes a procedure for emergency measures during a drought or when water restrictions are needed. Huddleston stated that Superintendent Jones had reviewed the draft and agreed that it was something needed.

Downtown Plaza Project Donation- Clerk-Treasurer Barrett stated that a check was received from the Conover Foundation in the amount of \$14,000 to be used for the demolition of the building at 201 West Main Cross Street and needs approval to accept.

Discussion was held regarding the cost of the demolition of the building. Economic Development Director Drybread stated that this amount would cover the cost based on the three quotes that have been received.

Councilwoman Rooks made a motion to approve the receipt of the Conover Foundation donation in the amount of \$14,000. Councilwoman Buck seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

Town Annual P&C Insurance Renewal- Town Manager John Myers stated that this was discussed at the previous Council Meeting. Andy Brown and Charlie Vaught with Gregory & Appel discussed the cost and coverage difference between the insurances and what each company covers.

Discussion was held regarding the differences between insurance companies Selective and Chubb's coverage.

Discussion was held regarding the June 25th deadline to choose the insurance.

Councilwoman Buck made a motion to approve Chubb for property insurance in the amount of \$210,436.00. Councilman Bryant seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

Councilwoman Buck made a motion to approve IPEP for workers compensation insurance in the amount of \$114,958.00. Councilwoman Rooks seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

Discussion was held regarding what other coverages there were.

Council President Piercefield made a motion to rescind the last vote concerning the insurance quotes. Councilwoman Buck seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

Further discussion was held regarding what each insurance company covers.

Attorney Huddleston stated that the recommendation from the insurance agent has a total premium of \$330,215.38. Attorney Huddleston stated that the worker's compensation insurance is provided by IPEP with an estimated premium of \$114,958.00. Cyber liability provided by Houston Casualty Company with an estimated premium of \$16,497.38. Crime insurance provided by Travelers with an estimated premium of \$2,638.00. Accidental disability with police

reserves provided by Axis with an estimated premium of \$2,444.00. 24-hour accidental and medical for police provided by Axis with an estimated premium of \$314.00. Accidental and disability for volunteer fire and rescue provided by Axis with an estimated premium of \$4,622.00. 24-hour accidental and medical for volunteer fire and rescue provided by Axis with an estimated premium of \$555.00. Blanket accidental for the Parks and Rec department provided by Axis with an estimated premium of \$675.00. Property insurance provided by Chubb with an estimated premium of \$56,593.00. Equipment insurance provided by Chubb with an estimated premium of \$15,890.00. Liability insurance provided by Selective with an estimated premium of \$115,029.00.

Councilwoman Buck made a motion to approve the quotes recommended by Gregory & Appel Insurance Company with a total premium of \$330,215.38 consisting of Selective Insurance for the liability package, Travelers for the crime, Chubb for the property, IPEP for workman's compensation, Houston Casualty for the cyber liability, AXIS for the accidental and medical. Councilwoman Sweet seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

Wessler Pretreatment Program Assistance Agreement Amendment #1- Wastewater
Superintendent Robert Jessie stated that this is an amendment to the Pretreatment Program Agreement with Wessler for assistance with treating wastewater per IDEM's specifications. Superintendent Jessie stated that the \$70,000 amount is based on time and material and is not due as a lump sum.

Council President Piercefield stated that the amendment has not been reviewed by Attorney Huddleston.

Discussion was held regarding what Wessler assists with in the agreement.

Councilwoman Rooks made a motion to authorize Attorney Huddleston to review the Wessler Pretreatment Program Assistance Agreement Amendment #1 for the wastewater. Councilman Bryant seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

PERF Physicals Funding- Police Chief Doyme Little requested to pay for PERF physicals using the public safety fund as it was not in his 2025 budget. Chief Little stated that there will be funding set aside for physicals in the 2026 budget.

Councilwoman Rooks made a motion to approve the request to use the public safety fund to pay for the PERF physicals in the amount of \$20,745.88. Councilwoman Buck seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

JAG Grant Application/2026 Police Vehicle Discussion- Police Chief Doyme Little stated that he wants to apply for the JAG Grant when it opens again this year. Chief Little stated that if the Town is awarded the JAG Grant, he would like to spend the money on 2026 police vehicles and lights.

Discussion was held regarding how the JAG Grant reimbursement works, the likelihood of the Town being awarded the grant and the timeframe to apply for the JAG Grant.

Councilwoman Rooks made a motion to approve Chief Little to apply for the JAG Grant Application for \$150,000 as presented. Councilman Bryant seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

Jacobi, Toombs, and Lanz Professional Services Agreement- Planning Director Julie Young stated that this is a renewal of an existing consultant agreement. Attorney Huddleston has reviewed the agreement.

Councilwoman Rooks made a motion to approve the Jacobi, Toombs, and Lanz Professional Services Agreement as presented. Councilwoman Buck seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

Annual CF-1 Review for Copple's Wrecker Service- Planning Director Julie Young stated that this is year ten on the real property abatement. Director Young stated that Copple's Wrecker Service missed the May 15th deadline and asked Attorney Huddleston if a motion is needed to waive the deadline in addition to a motion for approval of the abatement.

Attorney Huddleston stated that there would need to be a motion for a waiver of non-compliance and after that motion the abatement can be considered.

Councilwoman Rooks made a motion for a waiver of non-compliance for the Copple's Wrecker Service tax abatement 2026. Councilwoman Buck seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

Councilwoman Rooks made a motion to approve the Annual CF-1 Review for Copple's Wrecker Service for 2025 payable 2026. Councilwoman Buck seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

Councilwoman Rooks made a motion to authorize Council President Piercefield to sign off on the Annual CF-1 Review for Copple's Wrecker Service. Councilwoman Buck seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

Distributed Generation Rate Category Revisions- Electric Superintendent Stephen Clark stated that the Town's current electric rate ordinance has a tariff in it for distributed generation up to 10 kW, basically for a simple house solar power system. Superintendent Clark stated that as more residents and factories want to install solar power, the Town does not have a structure in place to handle this. The structure is needed to handle larger solar arrays which can cause issues with the grid as the larger amounts of solar electricity can potentially push back on the grid. Superintendent Clark requested to allow Attorney Huddleston to review a series of four different documents that Alpha Engineering has prepared concerning technicalities and applications for a larger solar user. To do an impact study for this is approximately \$6,000-8,000 and currently we don't have a mechanism to charge that to the customer wanting solar power.

Councilwoman Rooks made a motion to approve Superintendent Clarks request to allow Attorney Huddleston to review the Distributed Generation Rate Category Revisions. Councilwoman Sweet seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

Other Business

Councilwoman Rooks asked Fire Chief Justin Lollar when their AEDs would be arriving. Chief Lollar confirmed they were supposed to arrive tomorrow.

Council President Piercefield stated that the stop sign at Ward Street and South Kyle Street is unnecessary as there is no longer an operational business on Kyle Street.

Discussion was held regarding the legal ramifications.

Attorney Huddleston stated that he would need to draft an amendment to the traffic ordinance.

Council President Piercefield stated that he received an alert from IMPA regarding the power grid.

Electric Superintendent Stephen Clark stated it is likely because of the heat wave.

Town Manager John Myers stated that a company that ranks golf courses, ranked Timbergate 19th out of 368 golf courses in Indiana and that he would like to recognize Golf Course Superintendent Wayne Gibbs and the golf course for a good job.

Police Chief Doyne Little stated that he has received three more donations for the golf outing. They were from Georg Utz for \$150, Hubler of Columbus for \$130, and Huddleston & Huddleston for \$500.

Councilwoman Rooks made a motion to accept the golf outing donations as presented. Councilwoman Buck seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

Water Superintendent Bill Jones stated that he got his new truck and wanted permission to sell his old truck.

Councilwoman Buck made a motion to approve Attorney Huddleston to draft a resolution to sell the water departments old truck. Councilwoman Rooks seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

Street Superintendent Sean Barnett stated that they have been working on storm cleanup and are getting ready for the Firecracker Festival.

Fire Chief Justin Lollar stated that he had applied for a grant to receive a cardiac monitor and that fell through, but the Health Department graciously bought one for the fire department instead and it will be delivered tomorrow.

Director of Economic Development Sarabeth Drybread stated that students from IU were looking at the property at 201 West Main Cross Street. By the end of June, the Town will have two plaza designs to choose from. Director Drybread stated the designs will be displayed at the Firecracker Festival to receive public input. Director Drybread stated that the Council will have to decide when the best time to demolish the building on that property whether it would be before or after the fall festival.

Discussion was held regarding how long it would take for the building to be demolished.

Public Comments

Robert Dengel, 204 St Andrews Avenue, thanked Police Chief Little for the police departments work on patrolling Timbergate. Mr. Dengel stated that on weekends there is increased traffic. Mr. Dengel stated that for the second year in a row, herbicide is being sprayed on the street curbs and overspray kills some of the grass and not just weeds.

Adjourn

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=PL0pagNU7lg5FkjGffOyWphicPehLL-R5g> for as long as this media is supported.

EDINBURGH TOWN COUNCIL

Ryan Piercefield, President

Miriam Rooks, Vice President

Debbie Buck

ATTEST:

Sherri Sweet

Rhonda Barrett, Clerk-Treasurer

Michael Bryant