

Town Council Meeting
Monday, July 28, 2025
6:00PM

Edinburgh Town Council met in a regular session on Monday, July 28, 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.

Council President Ryan Piercefield stated that due to a technical difficulty the meeting will not be livestreamed tonight.

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 Council Meeting July 14, 2025

Councilwoman Rooks made a motion to approve the July 14, 2025, Council Meeting minutes. Councilwoman Buck seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

Claims- Clerk-Treasurer Barrett presented one claim docket in the amount of \$949,924.13. All claims have been reviewed & signed.

Councilwoman Buck made a motion to approve the claim docket as presented in the amount of \$949,924.13. Councilwoman Sweet seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

Public Hearing- Alley Vacate Petitioner Randy Burton- Planning Director Julie Young stated that Mr. Burton has requested to vacate the alley that crosses his property at 111 N Holland Street. Mr. Burton owns all the property on either side of the alley and that it has been properly advertised.

Council President Piercefield opened the public hearing for the Alley Vacate at 111 N Holland. With no comments, President Piercefield closed the public hearing.

Councilwoman Rooks made a motion to approve the Alley Vacate Petitioner Randy Burton as presented for the vacation of the alley on 111 N Holland Street. Councilman Bryant seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

Public Hearing- Alley Vacate Petitioner Donald Lee- Planning Director Julie Young stated that Mr. Lee has petitioned to vacate the alley between 103 N Blue River Drive and 101 N Blue River Drive and have the alley go to 103 N Blue River Drive, this has been properly advertised and there have been no comments received.

Council President Piercefield opened the public hearing for the Alley Vacate at 103 N Blue River Drive. With no comments, President Piercefield closed the public hearing.

Councilwoman Sweet made a motion to approve the Alley Vacate Petitioner Donald Lee as presented for the vacation of the alley between 103 N Blue River Drive and 101 N Blue River Drive to go to 103 N Blue River Drive. Councilwoman Buck seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

Ordinance 2025-10 Amending Chapter 74 Code Regarding the Stop Sign on Kyle Street and Ward Street (2nd Reading)- Attorney Huddleston stated that this was introduced at the previous Council meeting. The Council requested to draft an ordinance to remove the stop sign at this intersection, this is the second reading, and the ordinance is ready for approval.

Discussion was held regarding why the stop sign was originally put there.

Councilwoman Buck made a motion to approve Ordinance 2025-10 Amending Chapter 74 Code Regarding the Stop Sign on Kyle Street and Ward Street. Councilwoman Rooks seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

77 Fund Board of Metropolitan Police and Fire Commissioners Appointments- Attorney Huddleston stated that this is the last step for the adoption of the 77 Fund and appoints members to the boards as outlined in the requirements. The Ordinance that is in effect adopting the 77 Fund, abolishes the Town Marshal Position and puts in place the Police Chief Position and other positions as outlined in the Ordinance. The Board is ready for appointments.

Council President Piercefield stated that the people who will be serving on the boards to meet the required political affiliations would be himself, Curtis Rooks, and Emily Cravens.

Discussion was held regarding whether the members would serve certain terms.

Attorney Huddleston stated that once the appointments are made, these boards would set the terms.

President Piercefield stated that this board had to be in place before the 77 Fund could be solidified, and this board will act for both Police and Fire Merit Commission.

Councilwoman Buck made a motion to approve the three board members, Council President Ryan Piercefield, Curtis Rooks, and Emily Cravens to the 77 Fund Board of Metropolitan Police and Fire Commissioners. Councilman Bryant seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

Discussion was held regarding the next steps for the 77 Fund. Attorney Huddleston stated that as of August 1, 2025, it would change over from the Town Marshal to the Police Chief.

Elected Official Contracting Statement- Attorney Huddleston stated that this is a conflict-of-interest form disclosure for Councilwoman Buck whose son, Craig Buck, did work at the cemetery and before the claim can be considered the disclosure needs to be made. Councilwoman Buck has provided the necessary documents and disclosure if the council approves, then the claim can be submitted for payment.

Discussion was held regarding what work Mr. Buck of Buck's Mowing and Landscaping completed for fertilizing at the Cemetery.

Councilwoman Rooks made a motion to approve the Elected Official Contracting Statement regarding Debra Buck Town Council Member. Councilwoman Sweet seconded. Councilwoman Buck abstained. Motion carried 4-0.

K-9 Fund Donation- Clerk-Treasurer Barrett presented a donation of \$150 from The Phillips Company received for the K-9 Fund golf outing.

Councilwoman Rooks made a motion to approve the K-9 Fund Donation as presented in the amount of \$150. Councilwoman Buck seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

Wessler Invoice #47616 for Water Treatment Plant- Clerk-Treasurer Barrett presented Wessler Invoice #47616 for Water Treatment Plant in the amount of \$3,232.50. Water Superintendent Bill Jones has reviewed and approved.

Discussion was held regarding what the invoice was for.

Councilwoman Rooks made a motion to approve Wessler Invoice #47616 for Water Treatment Plant in the amount of \$3,232.50. Councilman Bryant seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

Councilwoman Rooks made a motion to authorize Council President Piercefield to sign off on Wessler Invoice #47616 for Water Treatment Plant. Councilwoman Buck seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

Wessler MS4 2025-2026 Professional Services Proposal- Wastewater Superintendent Robert Jessie stated that this is a necessary program for pollution prevention that the Town has used

Wessler to assist the Town for several years. Superintendent Jessie stated that these professional services help the Town stay in compliance with the required permitting.

Linda Sanders with Wessler stated that they had been assisting the town for over 20 years with this program.

Discussion was held regarding what MS4 meant and what assistance Wessler provides.

Councilwoman Sweet made a motion to approve Wessler MS4 2025-2026 Professional Services Proposal. Councilwoman Buck seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

Councilwoman Sweet made a motion to authorize Council President Piercefield to sign off on Wessler MS4 2025-2026 Professional Services Proposal. Councilwoman Rooks seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

Zoll Monitor/Defibrillator Donation from Johnson Co Health Department- Fire Chief Justin Lollar stated that the Town received a donation of a new Zoll monitor/defibrillator from the Johnson County Health Department. Chief Lollar stated that this item cost \$44,800, was purchased by the Health Department and will go on the backup ambulance. Chief Lollar was very thankful for the donation.

Council President Piercefield made a motion to accept the Zoll Monitor/Defibrillator Donation from Johnson Co Health Department. Councilwoman Sweet seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

Pole Purchase- Electric Superintendent Stephen Clark presented quotes from Brownstown Supply in the amount of \$21,572.25 and Koppers in the amount of \$18,718.00 to purchase a load of poles. Superintendent Clark stated that these are for routine maintenance.

Councilwoman Rooks made a motion to approve the Pole Purchase from Koppers in the amount of \$18,718.00. Councilwoman Buck seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

Transformer Sales- Electric Superintendent Stephen Clark stated that they have 21 transformers that are 2400 primary voltage that the Town no longer uses. Superintendent Clark stated that the Town has sent them off to a recycling company or sold them to other communities in the past. Superintendent Clark stated that an individual reached out to him requesting to purchase the transformers for \$300 each for use in other communities in Ohio.

Councilwoman Rooks made a motion to authorize Attorney Huddleston to review the Transformer Sales information presented by Superintendent Clark. Councilwoman Buck seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

Phosphorus Removal Quote- Wastewater Superintendent Robert Jessie presented one quote from Krofta Technologies in the amount of \$38,493.48. Superintendent Jessie stated that this is a once-a-year purchase that is used to remove phosphorus out of the Town's wastewater stream. Superintendent Jessie stated that he was only able to get two quotes, and one was significantly higher.

Councilwoman Buck asked if there was a copy of the other quote available to review the difference in prices.

Discussion was held regarding the prices of the quotes and why one was higher.

Councilwoman Rooks asked Superintendent Jessie to bring in the second quote for the next Council meeting.

New Tax Abatement Request- Planning Director Julie Young stated that this is a new personal property request on the Main Street facility for Ditech for a new \$1.9 million investment.

Kim Bieker, President of Ditech, stated that currently Ditech is an automotive tier two supplier, and they are looking to improve their market position. Ms. Bieker stated that it includes purchasing a new laser machine that gives them the ability to continue to grow their business. Ms. Bieker stated that they hope to add six more positions over the next three years. Ms. Bieker

stated that they also need to purchase a new piece for one of their machines to provide cutting capacity.

Attorney Huddleston reviewed the process with the Council for a new tax abatement which includes having a resolution drafted for consideration before approval.

Councilwoman Rooks made a motion to authorize Attorney Huddleston to draft a resolution for the New Tax Abatement Request from Dillingham Investments otherwise known as Ditech. Councilwoman Buck seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

201 West Main Cross Demolition Quotes- Director of Economic Development SaraBeth Drybread stated that there were two quotes received for the demolition of the JMH building at 201 W Main Cross one in the amount of \$14,000 and one for \$13,800 and that the Town received \$14,000 in donations from the Conover Foundation to cover the cost of demolition. Director Drybread stated that she asked the two people who had given her quotes for the demolition concerning the air conditioning units on top of the building and was informed that they would be scrapped.

Discussion was held regarding whether the quotes from 2024 were still valid, SaraBeth has reached out to both quoters and those prices are still valid, and the demolition would be possible by Fall Festival.

Discussion was held regarding whether anything was going to be put down once the building was demolished and whether the Street department has anything that could be used to fill the area after the building is demolished.

Councilwoman Buck made a motion to approve the 201 West Main Cross Demolition Quote from Ryan Facemire in the amount of \$13,800. Councilman Bryant seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

Discussion was held regarding whether a contract was needed and certificate of insurance.

Councilwoman Rooks made a motion to authorize Attorney Huddleston to draft a contract for the demolition. Councilwoman Buck seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

Other Business

Council President Piercefield stated that retired K-9 Skye passed away over the weekend. Piercefield also stated that Chief Lollar has posted a video on social media of the training the fire department has been doing and encouraged everyone to check it out.

Police Chief Doyne Little stated their call volume has been up a little.

Wastewater Superintendent Robert Jessie stated that the department is going to replace a section of the sewer main on Russell Street. Superintendent Jessie stated that they are refurbishing the compactor and have a new polymer system for the press that they will be installing soon.

Cemetery Superintendent Stan Brown thanked the Police and Fire departments for assisting with Jackie Smith's funeral.

Director of Economic Development SaraBeth Drybread stated that she should have the final draft of the plaza design by the end of the month. Director Drybread stated that she attended a Main Street 101 session in Indianapolis last week with a group of small business owners and downtown merchants who are actively working on a Main Street initiative. Director Drybread stated that they will be doing a presentation to the Council at the August 25, 2025, Council meeting. Director Drybread stated that the annual National Night Out has been postponed until August 12 and will be hosted at the fire station this year.

Public Comments

Darren Koors with the Edinburgh Police Department asked fellow Edinburgh Police Officer Sean Pendleton to assist him in reading a letter he wrote about retired K-9 Skye who passed away. Officer Koors was given the opportunity to be a K-9 handler when he met Skye. Skye performed

amazingly during her active time working as a K-9 and assisted with one of the largest drug seizures in Town history. Due to an injury, Skye's time as a K-9 was cut short. Skye transitioned to retired life with Officer Darren Koors and his family. On Friday evening, Skye became ill and was taken to the veterinarian. Skye passed away Saturday, July 26, 2025, at 11:28PM. Officer Darren Koors thanked everyone for the messages and support his family has received during this time and thanked the Council for allowing him to work with K9 Skye.

Adjourn

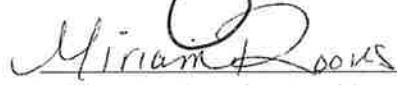
Being no further business or comments, Councilwoman Sweet made a motion to adjourn. Councilwoman Buck seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

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



Sherri Sweet



Michael Bryant

ATTEST:



Rhonda Barrett, Clerk-Treasurer