

Town Council Meeting
Monday, October 27, 2025
6:00PM

Edinburgh Town Council met in a regular session on Monday, October 13, 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.

Roll Call- Council President Ryan Piercefield, Councilwoman Miriam Rooks, Councilwoman Debbie Buck, Councilman Michael Bryant.

Councilwoman Sherri Sweet was absent.

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

Minutes- Council Meeting October 13, 2025

Councilwoman Rooks made a motion to approve the October 13, 2025, Council Meeting minutes. Councilwoman Buck seconded. Motion carried 4-0.

Claims- Clerk-Treasurer Barrett presented one claim docket in the amount of \$1,077,354.59. All claims have been reviewed and signed.

Councilwoman Buck made a motion to approve the claim docket as presented in the amount of \$1,077,354.59. Councilman Bryant seconded. Motion carried 4-0.

Public Hearing Request for Annexation- Council President Piercefield opened the public hearing for the Request for Annexation for 7995 South U.S. 31.

Planning Director Julie Young stated that this is a request for annexation to obtain public utilities and the petitioner is present.

Civil engineer Debra Hughes spoke on behalf of the petitioner. Ms. Hughes stated that Angela Kelsey is the property owner of 7795 South US 31. Ms. Hughes stated that there are two parcels located on the east side of US 31, north of State Road 252. The parcels are outside of town limits but are within the town's zoning jurisdiction. The proposed use would like to have town sewer and water; the property is contiguous to the current town limits. The property would remain under Angela Kelsay's ownership and leased to the prospective builder. Ms. Hughes stated that Ms. Kelsey is in favor of the annexation. Ms. Hughes presented the preliminary site plan of the proposed use of the property. Ms. Hughes stated that it is a 4,000 square foot convenience store with fuel pump islands. Access to the property would be from US 31 and State Road 252 using the existing driveways.

Discussion was held regarding the parcels of the property.

With no further comments, President Piercefield closed the public hearing.

Resolution 2025-10 Electing to Join 1977 Police Officers and Firefighters Pension and Disability Fund- Attorney Huddleston stated the Council had approved this previously but there has been updates to the plan since it was approved.

Councilwoman Rooks made a motion to approve Resolution 2025-10 Electing to Join 1977 Police Officers and Firefighters Pension and Disability Fund. Councilwoman Buck seconded. Motion carried 4-0.

Resolution 2025-11 Electing to Join 1977 Police Officers and Firefighters Pension and Disability Fund- Attorney Huddleston stated the Council had approved this previously but there has been updates to the plan since it was approved.

Councilwoman Rooks made a motion to approve Resolution 2025-11 Electing to Join 1977 Police Officers and Firefighters Pension and Disability Fund. Councilwoman Buck seconded. Motion carried 4-0.

Conflict of Interest Approval- Attorney Huddleston stated that this is a specific conflict of interest for Council President Piercefield to submit a bid for a major project for the water department, that is submitted to the State Board of Accounts. Attorney Huddleston stated that President Piercefield cannot vote on the conflict of interest nor can he be involved in the bid approval process if he submits a bid for the project.

Discussion was held regarding why this wasn't covered under the previous conflict of interest agreement approved by Council.

Councilwoman Rooks made a motion to approve Conflict of Interest Approval for Ryan Piercefield. Councilman Bryant seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Council President Piercefield abstained.

Approval of Public Official Bond- Clerk-Treasurer Barrett presented three bonds for approval. Clerk-Treasurer Barrett stated that the first bond is for Emily Cravens as a Metropolitan Police Commissioner in the amount of \$5,000. Clerk-Treasurer Barrett stated that the second bond is for Curtis Rooks as a Metropolitan Police Commissioner in the amount of \$5,000. Clerk-Treasurer Barrett stated that the last bond is for Doyne Little as a Police Chief in the amount of \$5,000. Clerk-Treasurer Barrett stated that the last bond is from the Town changing from Marshals to Officers.

Councilwoman Rooks made a motion to approve the Public Official Bond for Emily Cravens in the amount of \$5,000. Councilwoman Buck seconded. Motion carried 4-0.

Council President Piercefield made a motion to approve the Public Official Bond for Curtis Rooks in the amount of \$5,000. Councilwoman Buck seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Councilwoman Rooks abstained.

Council President made a motion to approve the Public Official Bond for Doyne Little in the amount of \$5,000. Councilman Bryant seconded. Motion carried 4-0.

Redevelopment Bond Discussion- Clerk-Treasurer Barrett stated that this is to follow up on whether the Council would like to move forward with the redevelopment bond or not. Clerk-Treasurer Barrett stated that this was included in the 2026 budget and would keep the tax rate the same. Clerk-Treasurer Barrett stated that if the Council would like to pursue the bond, the process needs to start this week because there is a time limit. Clerk-Treasurer stated that she has mixed feelings about issuing a redevelopment bond as there are no specific projects to use it for currently.

Discussion was held regarding what the GO bond from last year was spent on including the sidewalks and lighting for 252, some equipment for the street department, and some equipment for the wastewater. President Piercefield stated that it has been a while since a capital outlay project has been done and that needs to be done moving into the future.

Clerk-Treasurer Barrett stated that the redevelopment bond is \$1,000,000. If the Council decided against the bond, the tax rate would decrease by \$0.09. Clerk-Treasurer Barrett stated that she does not feel comfortable moving forward with the bond as there is not a specific project at this time.

Discussion was held regarding who would decide what to use the bond on and how long the bond would be good for.

Town Manager John Myers asked if the bond had to be used directly by the Redevelopment Commission. Attorney Huddleston stated that he would have to investigate that and whether it had restrictions on what it could be used for.

Discussion was held about whether the Council could table this discussion until the next Council meeting on November 10th. Clerk-Treasurer Barrett stated that she was not sure if there'd be enough time if the Council waited until the next meeting and the Redevelopment Commission has a meeting on November 10th as well.

Director of Economic Development SaraBeth Drybread stated that the timeline is her main concern. Director Drybread stated that the Redevelopment Commission does have some priority projects like looking at the Town's development needs.

Councilwoman Rooks made a motion to authorize Attorney Huddleston to investigate the restrictions and timelines for the redevelopment bond. Councilwoman Buck seconded. Motion carried 4-0.

Wreaths Across America- Mary Ann Sweeney with American Legion Auxiliary stated that the American Legion Auxiliary is participating in Wreaths Across America and would like to make it

an annual event for the community at Rest Haven Cemetery. Ms. Sweeney stated that they would need the Town to store the wreaths and possibly use Town equipment to unload them once they're delivered to the cemetery until the event on December 13th. Ms. Sweeney stated that they have volunteers lined up to help as well.

Discussion was held regarding utilization of other Town departments to assist if needed.

Council President Piercefield stated that his personal company, Piercefield Contracting, would volunteer any of their equipment to assist.

Dawn Graham stated that if anyone is welcome to volunteer and that there are 1,215 wreaths to place on gravesites within three hours.

Discussion was held regarding Wreaths Across America being a national event.

Discussion was held regarding when the wreaths would be delivered.

Cemetery Supervisor Stan Brown stated that they will have a meeting to discuss where the wreaths will be stored.

President Piercefield made a motion to approve use of Town Equipment and employees for Wreaths Across America. Councilwoman Buck seconded. Motion carried 4-0.

Other Business

Town Manager John Myers stated that he received a request to add a handicapped parking space on the northwest corner of East Main Cross Street and Holland Street by Big Red's. Mr. Myers stated that Street Superintendent Sean Barnett measured the space and confirmed it is big enough.

Councilwoman Rooks made a motion to authorize Attorney Huddleston to draft a resolution to add a handicap parking space. Councilwoman Buck seconded. Motion carried 4-0.

Town Manager John Myers announced Electric Superintendent Stephen Clark is leaving employment with the Town and commented on what a great loss it will be to the town. Mr. Myers thanked Superintendent Clark for his friendship and commitment to the town.

Clerk-Treasurer Barrett stated that the Town received team sponsorship donations for the Park and Rec basketball teams. Clerk-Treasurer Barrett stated that the donations are \$300 each from Edinburgh Chiropractic, Ditech, JC Lawn Care and Snow Removal, Amos Hill Associates, and Huddleston and Huddleston.

Councilwoman Rooks made a motion to accept the donations as presented for the Park & Rec Basketball teams totaling \$1,500. Councilwoman Buck seconded. Motion carried 4-0.

Police Chief Doyne Little stated the police department will be doing active shooter training at the outlet mall tomorrow at 8PM. Chief Little thanked Electric Superintendent Stephen Clark for his hard work and the town is losing a really good guy.

Cemetery Superintendent Stan Brown thanked Electric Superintendent Stephen Clark for his friendship and dedication to the community. Superintendent Brown thanked Parks Director Daniel Teter for Setting up Trunk or Treat at the high school and stated that it went very well.

Water Superintendent Bill Jones stated that the bid opens at 2PM on Wednesday for the fire hydrants and mixers for the water towers.

Parks Director Daniel Teter stated that USFA voted Edinburgh Sports Complex as 2025 Facility of the Year and a plaque will be hung up. Director Teter stated that the Trunk or Treat went well and thanked Police Chief Doyne Little for being the DJ at the event. Director Teter stated that this is the last week for basketball signups. Director Teter stated that they are working on the Christmas decorations and have switched them to rope lighting to give them a more defined look. Director Teter stated that they found new pole decorations for East Main Cross Street, but they are out of stock currently.

Council President Piercefield thanked Electric Superintendent Stephen Clark for leading and advancing his department.

Director of Economic Development SaraBeth Drybread stated that Cathy Hamm will be assisting with Wreaths Across America and that there will be a meeting next week to discuss it. Director Drybread stated that the ERC has several projects that they are discussing and stated that TIF funds can be used to pay back the redevelopment bond. Director Drybread stated that it would be great if they could utilize the police department's drone to get aerial pictures of the cemetery during the Wreaths Across America.

Public Comment

Kyle Caraway, 124 West Thompson Street, stated that he approached the Council approximately two years ago regarding semis coming dangerously close to his property and RV when going through the alley between his property and the library that connects to the post office. Mr. Caraway stated that nothing was ever resolved the last time he approached the Council and that he has contacted Town Hall seven times with no response. Mr. Caraway stated that he is frustrated that his property line is being invoked on and that his property is in jeopardy because of the semi drivers. Mr. Caraway stated that they had broken the guard rail after hitting it and that he had to fix it himself.

Discussion was held regarding how many semis go through the alleyway each day and if there are other ways for them to get to the post office.

Discussion was held regarding Attorney Huddleston creating an ordinance and the Town notifying the post office.

Councilwoman Buck made a motion to approve Attorney Huddleston to create an ordinance to close off the alley to semi traffic one block east of Main Street. Councilwoman Rooks seconded. Motion carried 4-0.

Adjourn

Being no further business or comments, Councilwoman Rooks made a motion to adjourn. Councilwoman Buck seconded. Motion carried 4-0.

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