

Town Council Meeting
Monday, February 27, 2012
6:00 P.M. Town Hall

Edinburgh Town Council met in a regular session on Monday, February 27, 2012 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 was Clerk Treasurer Jackie Smith and Town Attorney Dustin Huddleston.

President Hoffman presented the minutes of the February 13, 2012 council meeting. Councilman Simpson made a motion to approve the minutes. Councilman Rooks seconded. Unanimous.

President Hoffman said claims were next and turned them over to Clerk Treasurer Smith. Clerk Treasurer Smith said he had signed all claims submitted to him and turned them over to the council for approval. Councilman Rooks made a motion to approve the claims. Councilwoman Ervin seconded. Unanimous.

President Hoffman said next on the agenda was Ordinance 2012-2 Supplement to Code of Ordinances. Ron said this is something we do every year and the American Legal Publishing puts it in the ordinance for us. Councilman Rooks made a motion to approve Ordinance 2012-2. Councilman Simpson seconded. Unanimous.

President Hoffman said next on the agenda was Resolution 2012-3 Imperial Tax Abatement, which is on Kyle Street.

Councilman Drybread said that it is at Linn Plastics on US 31.

President Hoffman said there are CF1 forms for MA Metals, which are in compliance for real property, and personal property and we have two articles to approve and we can do them in one motion.

Town Attorney Huddleston said we need two separate motions.

Councilman Rooks asked if these were in our packets?

President Hoffman said no and asked if he would like to look at them before.

Councilman Rooks said yes, he would.

Councilwoman Ervin said in the past we have been given a recommendation from staff, but she would like to look at them.

Councilman Drybread said we have two different ones here and they are both in compliance. Mr. Stadler is here tonight in case anyone has any questions on them. John said Imperial's tax abatement is the one out at Linn's old plastics building and there is a machine shop there. John said this is a joint venture with an Indian company.

President Hoffman asked Curtis if he had any questions for him?

Councilman Rooks said no and if it has been reviewed and recommended everything is okay and maybe in the future we could have that in our packets.

Councilwoman Ervin said she would like to know what you need to do to be compliant and what that means when you are compliant.

Councilman Drybread said we could put all that in on what they are committed to and the number of employees and equipment.

President Hoffman said that it is basically the CF-1 forms that says they continue to be in compliance with the abatement

Councilman Simpson asked who follows up on that?

President Hoffman said Angie.

John Rondot asked what are the potential amount of money and the duration of this tax abatement.

President Hoffman said the new one is for 5 years and it is usually 10 years and it goes down per year until they have to pay the full amount.

Councilman Rooks made a motion to approve Resolution 2012-3. Councilman Simpson seconded. Unanimous.

Councilman Rooks made a motion to approve the CF1 forms. Councilman Simpson seconded. Unanimous.

President Hoffman said next on the agenda was Bill Hawkins with Strands Associates on the Comprehensive Plan follow up.

Councilman Drybread said he had met with Bill and they came up and did some walking tours and read our Comprehensive Plan and they have some thought for projects based on the comprehensive plan.

Bill Hawkins said they did a good job of collecting information from the citizens and the board, but never took the next step in defining what to do. Bill said there are some things in the comprehensive plan on zoning and we didn't deal with that. He said we came in on water, wastewater, transportation and things like that and we looked at the plan to come up with a path to infrastructure improvements for the town. Bill said the comprehensive plan has a lot of information in it, but no priority list, so that how we went about it. We started with a review of goals and objective from the comprehensive plan to get a starting point and we came up with these three areas: 1-Residential, Commercial and Industrial Areas. 2- Transportation. 3-Image and Identity. Bill said starting with the residential, commercial and industrial objectives are 1-Provide buffering and screening from adjacent land uses. 2- Require improved pedestrian systems for new developments. 3- Improve facades, signage and landscaping. Bill said they were doing the same thing in Galena, Illinois and included a picture that showed some of the streetscape projects.

Bill said some Transportation Objectives are: 1- Establish Way-finding signs directing motorists and pedestrians to destinations 2- Investigate options for State Road 252 including realignment to US 31 and relinquishing to Edinburgh, 3- Interconnect sidewalks and trails. 4- Establish new trails and bicycle facilities including access to the outlet mall and Columbus Parks and Recreation.

Bill had a couple of aeriols of State Road 252 and said it shows how it winds through Edinburgh and one of the suggested ideas was to realign 252 and a new crossing at the river to 31. Bill said another idea was to relinquish 252 as it was done east of Flat Rock. Bill said INDOT will take a look at the condition of the road and determine what they will spend in the next 20 years and offer you that and you can use it on what they were going to do and if there was any left you could use it on what you wanted.

Bill said another option is tails to the outlet mall. He said there is a new proposed road and that could be carved out as a trail and then make a connection with the county roads along with signage and maybe tie that in with the Columbus people trails that now go to Owens Bend which is signed for bicycles.

Bill said finally on Image and Identity objectives there are 1- install unified streetscape on key corridors and 2- create gateways. Bill said to see what people associate with Edinburgh, things like the mound on the south entrance and you can recreate this or create new gateways to the town so people can associate it with Edinburgh.

Bill said what the town needs to do is establish a priority list of improvement with the costs. Bill presented a list of priorities that included: trails to the outlet mall, sidewalk connection in town, ADA upgrades to sidewalk ramps, gateway signs, additional way findings, building façade rehabilitation and landscaping. Bill said the comprehensive plan stops short of this and the town can work with a firm like us to see what the cost would be and with the priority lists you would know how to go forward. Once you set the list you can look for funding options or when fund become available you are already set. Bill said on their list for funding they had: INDOT relinquishing of SR 252, Federal surface transportation funds, transportation enhancement funds for trails and gateways, TIF districts and local fund drives/fund raisers.

Bill said that is our take of the comprehensive plan so it doesn't set on the shelves for 10 years and later we start the whole thing over.

John Rondot asked if they helped communities search out grants and funding?

Bill said we do that for our clients.

John Rondot said he knows grants are available, but sometimes you don't know how to apply to get the money where they are available or when they expire.

Bill said that's where this plan helps you because you have everything laid out even if you are a little behind.

Councilman Drybread said Dana is a certified grant writer for the state and she works directly with them. John said she just got us a grant on the storm water system and that's a good thing. John said there are so many avenues and Dana continually searches for them. John said he appreciated them coming in and put some structure in priority and there are some low-end improvements that don't cost a lot of money and we will use the input the best we can.

President Hoffman asked John if he would be working on it?

Councilman Drybread said I thought I would give you guys a chance to have some meetings and sit down and talk about it along with the superintendents and see what the best things to do are. John said we would like to get the sidewalks to the school done and get the community connected as well as the trails from the park down south because it seem that Johnson County and Bartholomew County want to get all the trails connected over time.

John Rondot requested that you keep the Redevelopment Commission close to these discussions.

Councilman Drybread said when we do this there will be invites sent out to all the boards.

Councilman Rooks asked how about the business associations?

Councilman Drybread said the Merchants Association and the Ministerial Association will be included also.

John said we have a storm water plan that is very detailed and there are a lot of things to go through there.

COUNCIL COMMENTS:

Councilman Drybread said we met on the software and went through everything again and we probably will have that finished by the end of March. John said once we get that figured out we will get the people back in here and get it completed and this is an expensive venture. John said we have the Blue River Bank gutted and we are ready to start on that.

Councilwoman Ervin asked what is the time frame for possible business incubation for the building.

Councilman Drybread said the pantry will take us until the end of summer and we want to have our plans for the whole building before we start on that. John said with the heating, plumbing and electrical and 2 people being committed to this speaking aggressively it would be December.

Councilman Rooks asked how we came out on the Amos-Hill property.

President Hoffman said we signed the agreement at the last meeting.

Councilman Rooks said we also approved the papers to be signed.

Town Attorney Huddleston said to answer your question closing will be March 30th. Dustin said if something comes up we can always opt out, but hopefully the closing will be March 30th.

Councilman Rooks asked if that building was in the comprehensive plan?

Councilman Drybread said it was not identified in the comprehensive plan, but it will be something we look at. John said his concern is if the Job Corp can handle it because of its complexities and we will probably sit down with some outside companies because there is a ton of money to be made on scrap. John said it is unfortunate, but he doesn't think the Job Corp has the equipment or expertise because that is a dangerous property.

President Hoffman asked if there is enough scrap steel to swap it out even up?

Councilman Drybread said if a contractor goes in he would know exactly.

Councilman Rooks asked if they planned to put the football field back in the park for Bantam Football?

Councilman Drybread said that actually they are looking at doing the Bantam League behind the swimming pool so they don't have to worry about high water. John said that the circus will be coming to town at the end of April and it will be either at the park or behind the swimming pool. John said the Merchants Association came to us on that.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

Utility Office Business Manager Monson said she attended a conference last week at Ball State and there are some different funding coming in. Dana said what they are looking at is not one main source of funding, but different smaller funding and she did get some information on that.

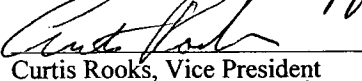
PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Fred Stadler thanked the council very much and said he appreciated it.

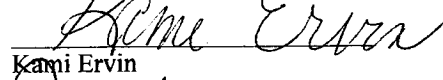
Being no further business or comments, Councilman Simpson made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Councilman Drybread seconded. Unanimous.

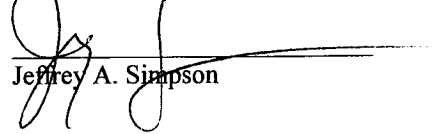
EDINBURGH TOWN COUNCIL


Ron Hoffman, President

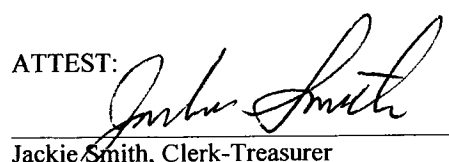

Curtis Rooks, Vice President


John Drybread


Kami Ervin


Jeffrey A. Simpson

ATTEST:


Jackie Smith, Clerk-Treasurer