

Town Council Meeting
Monday, September 23, 2013
6:00 P.M. Town Hall

Edinburgh Town Council met in a regular session on Monday, September 23, 2013 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 were Town Attorney Dustin Huddleston and Clerk Treasurer Scott Finley.

President Hoffman said next on the agenda were the minutes of the Council Meeting of September 9, 2013. Councilman Rooks made a motion to approve the minutes as submitted. Councilwoman Ervin seconded. Unanimous.

President Hoffman said claims were next on the agenda and handed it over to Clerk Treasurer Finley.

Clerk Treasurer Finley said everyone should have received the normal claim docket. He had one addition and that was the police department's Huddleston & Huddleston bill. He said he had signed off on all the claims in the docket and handed them over to the council for approval. Councilman Simpson made a motion to approve the claims as submitted. Councilman Drybread seconded. Unanimous.

President Hoffman said next on the agenda was the Public Hearing for the 2014 Budget. There will be a workshop immediately following the meeting as there have been quite a few cuts. He opened the floor to public questions and comments.

John Rondot asked if the budget forced any cuts in personnel or people being cutback to part time.

Councilman Drybread said there were no cuts made to personnel. There have been some positions that were not back filled after retirements and such but the town has not laid anyone off. He said there should be no change in services or hours of operation.

President Hoffman said the budget has been cut over \$2 million in the past 3 years so things are getting close but the town is not at the point to have to change any personnel yet.

Mr. Rondot asked if the new software has helped with the budget work in the offices.

Clerk Treasurer Finley said the staff is still learning the new system and getting some of the bugs out but it does look like the system will be very beneficial to the staff in the office for the budgeting process. There are still some things that need to be worked out between the town and the software system. It is a big change going from a system implemented in 1984 to the latest software system out.

Being no further public questions or comments President Hoffman closed the public hearing for the 2014 budget.

Council Comments

Councilman Drybread gave an update on the Blue River Dam. The town still does not have the funding to seek repairs to the dam. In a memo sent from Christopher Burke Engineering they stated that with the wild fires out west and the floods in Colorado the likelihood of the town receiving funding for this was pretty slim. The dam does not have any emergency situation that would happen if the dam were to break. Until the town has funding there is not a lot that can be done other than wait to see what happens. There have been very few questions in the past couple of weeks. He believes people understand there are some huge costs involved with fixing the dam.

Councilwoman Ervin asked if there was any public information that could be put out on the website.

Councilman Drybread said they could probably summarize some of the information and put it on the webpage for the public to view.

President Hoffman said he has had several questions and when he explains that it will take nearly \$200,000 to see what is wrong with it the urgency for the matter dissipates.

Bill West asked if there was someone down by the dam fishing and it would happen to break would the town be liable.

Councilman Drybread said the town did put signs and tape up warning people it could be a hazardous location. He said he doesn't know if it would be any different than someone fishing down there any other time.

Mr. Huddleston said the town could pass a resolution like it did with the ponds at Timbergate that prohibits anyone that is not a town employee from being on or in front of the site as long as the town owns it. The resolution could then be lifted at any time.

Councilman Drybread said one of the options is if it cannot be fixed then it can be decommissioned. He said looking at old pictures with Mr. Watson you can tell the hole has been there for years it just became more visible when the water level dropped.

Mr. Huddleston said just like the Timbergate ponds a sign could be posted saying per ordinance, no trespassing.

Mr. Rondot said no signs were ever put up at Timbergate. The ordinance was passed but after that nothing was done and he recently saw people fishing there.

Councilwoman Ervin said if the town was to make it off limits a gate should be put up in front of the steps to keep people out. She made a motion to allow Mr. Huddleston to put together an ordinance addressing the liability issue with the Blue River Dam. Councilman Simpson seconded. Unanimous.

Councilman Rooks asked everyone to keep the family and friends of the elementary school student that passed away on September 20 in their prayers.

Councilwoman Ervin believed it would be a good idea for the town to make a donation to the library at East Side Elementary for books or send an arrangement to the family.

Councilman Drybread made a motion to allow \$200 to be spent on both the arrangement and the donation to the library for books. Councilwoman Ervin seconded. Unanimous.

Departmental Comments

Mr. Watson wanted to acknowledge the staff report and ask the council if it had any questions on where they stood with the demolition project.

President Hoffman said he had done a great job of outlining the steps that needed to be taken and also who he had spoken with and he thinks he made it very clear where we stand.


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

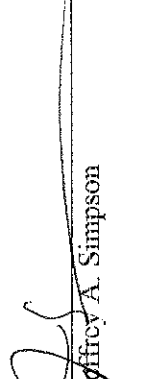
EDINBURGH TOWN COUNCIL


Ron Hoffman, President

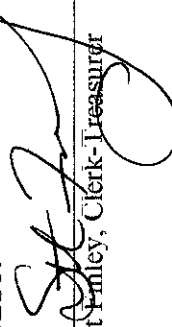

Curtis Rooks, Vice President


John Drybread


Kami Ervin


Jeffrey A. Simpson

ATTEST:


Scott Finley, Clerk-Treasurer