

Town Council Meeting
Monday, October 14, 2013
6:00 P.M. Town Hall

Edinburgh Town Council met in a regular session on Monday, October 14, 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 23, 2013, the Budget Workshop of September 23, 2013, and the Special Meeting of October 4, 2013. Councilman Rooks made a motion to approve the minutes as submitted. Councilwoman Ervin seconded. Unanimous. President Hoffman explained that the October 4 special meeting was held to meet the deadline for the approval of the release of money for the grant the town has received. There was not going to be a regularly scheduled council meeting before the deadline so a special meeting had to be held.

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 three claim dockets this week. There was a July end-of-month docket, and June end-of-month docket, and the regular docket for the period. There was one additional claim and that was a partial Verizon bill that needed to be added to pay the entire bill. He said he had signed off on all the claims in the dockets 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 Ordinance 2013-6 Adoption of 2014 Budget. He asked if there were any questions about the 2014 budget.

Mr. Finley said he had a few things he wanted to add. For the Fire and EMS budgets the worker's comp was increased slightly because there was a large shortfall there this year and the med bill was increased as well as there was a shortfall there. Also, the revenue from the Fire and EMS NRO account was increased to offset the increase in worker's comp and med bill. Those were the only changes to the actual budget. That made the total budgeted expenditures \$4,532,790 and the total tax levy of \$3,447,812. For reference he gave numbers from 2013 budget numbers. The council approved tax rate last year was 2.83. The council approved rate that will be adopted during this meeting is 3.14. He added that you have to take into account that for budgeting purposes we use 80% of actual assessed value. In 2013 the state approved rate was about 2.27. If we use the growth quotient on the current assessed value we get a tax rate of about 2.45 or an increase of about \$.18.

Councilman Rooks made a motion to approve Ordinance 2013-6. Councilwoman Ervin seconded. Unanimous.

President Hoffman said next on the agenda was the Timbergate update by Wayne Gibbs.

Mr. Gibbs handed out a PowerPoint packet to the council. He said the 2013 revenues for the third quarter were \$378,324.31 and expenses including the second bond payment of the year were \$498,733.65 for a net loss of \$120,409.34. The next page was a breakdown of where that revenue came from. The difference between 2013 and 2012 was only around \$2,000. The last page was a breakdown year-to-date through September for the past years. The far right column showed the profit per year if the bond was deducted. He stated there have only been three years when that number has been positive and 2013 through September is one of them.

Councilwoman Ervin said the numbers look good considering the numbers from the first quarter were well below the previous year.

Mr. Gibbs said the first quarter was the biggest difference from 2012 to 2013. It was hard to beat the weather from 2012. There were over 400 rounds of golf played in January.

Councilwoman Ervin asked if there were any plans for winter to bring in revenue.

Mr. Gibbs said they are constantly advertising the simulators and each year they get more rounds played on them. The simulator rounds combined with alcohol sales should bring in quite a bit of revenue throughout the winter. Mr. Gibbs thanked the council for their time.

Council Comments

Councilman Drybread said the railroad through town will be increasing traffic up to 17 trains per day. That is an average of about one every 85 minutes. Right now there are only a few CSX trains running through town. The majority of the current trains are Louisville Indiana trains carrying vehicles to the plant in Chicago. Letters have been sent to the railroad explaining the towns issues with the increase. The president of the railroad said they are aware of the issues and are also aware of the demolition project going on with the grain elevator.

Councilwoman Ervin said she gets a lot of complaints about trains coming through at 4 o'clock in the morning.

Councilman Drybread said unfortunately it may get worse. There have been several trains that have blocked every intersection in the town. It is an issue for the police and an issue for the fire and rescue. We will have to see how it pans out.

Councilwoman Ervin said she believed the state had recently increased the legal speed trains can travel through towns to 50mph.

President Hoffman said they are supposed to be replacing the stick track with welded track which will reduce some of the noise and there will be major improvements throughout the system.

President Hoffman said in the past the town had entered into a contract with Mike Buening as an on call engineer. His contract has had to be amended and he let Mr. Huddleston explain why.

Mr. Huddleston said the agreement in front of the council members is very similar to the one signed in March. Part of the grant itemizes certain expenses the town will have. The grant states consulting fees for an engineer for the town of up to \$9,000. OCRA is requiring the town to state in the agreement with Mr. Buening that his compensation cannot exceed that \$9,000. Rather than amend the agreement he drew up a new agreement that is very similar to the existing one. The existing agreement will still be in place. This agreement provides the ceiling for the \$9,000 dollars but also allows the town to use the grant money to reimburse the town for what has already been paid to Mr. Buening for work he has done on the grant. This came up in a meeting with state officials on Friday October 11 which is why it was brought up on short notice.

Councilman Simpson made a motion to approve the contract with Mike Buening as presented by Mr. Huddleston. Councilman Rooks seconded. Unanimous.

Public Comments

Ray Walton asked if there was anything being done or can be done about the core business on the corner of Holland and 252. He said it is an eyesore and if he were a businessman looking to move to Edinburgh and saw that in the town he would take his business elsewhere.


President Hoffman said there have been issues brought up and Building Commissioner Wade Watson is currently working on that situation.

Councilman Drybread said the town has also had the EPA looking at the situation as well.

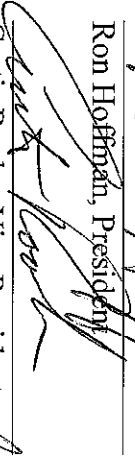
President Hoffman said the council is well aware of it and Mr. Watson will be doing all he can to take care of the situation.

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



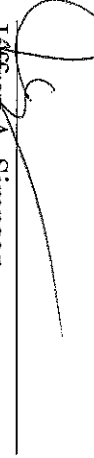
Curtis Rooks, Vice President



John Drybread




Kami Ervin



Jeffrey A. Simpson

ATTEST:



Scott Finley, Clerk-Treasurer