

Town Council Meeting
Monday, May 11, 2015
6:00 P.M. Town Hall

Edinburgh Town Council met in a regular session on Monday, May 11, 2015 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 Jack Shepherd, Councilman Jeff Simpson, Councilwoman Dawn Graham, Vice President 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 April 13, 2015 and the council meeting of April 27, 2015. Councilwoman Ervin made a motion to approve the minutes as submitted. Councilman Shepherd seconded. Unanimous.

President Hoffman said claims were next on the agenda and handed it over to Clerk Treasurer Scott Finley. Mr. Finley said everyone should have received a copy of the normal claim docket in their council packets as well as a March end-of-month claim docket. The total of the normal docket was \$144,412.83 and the total of the end-of-month docket was \$367,853.54. He said he had signed off on all the claims in those dockets and handed them over to the council for approval. Councilwoman Graham made a motion to approve the claims as submitted. Councilwoman Ervin seconded. Unanimous.

President Hoffman said next on the agenda was the American Legion Memorial Day Proclamation. He read the proclamation aloud. The proclamation stated that the Town of Edinburgh shall celebrate Monday, May 25, 2015 as American Legion Memorial Day. Councilman Simpson made a motion to approve the American Legion Memorial Day Proclamation. Councilwoman Graham seconded. Unanimous.

President Hoffman said next on the agenda was the first reading of Ordinance 2015-2 Amending Sewer Rate Ordinance. He said the rate increase will take effect in two phases. The first phase being July 1, 2015 and the second being July 1, 2016. Councilwoman Graham made a motion to allow Mr. Huddleston to add the effective dates of July 1, 2015 for the first phase and July 1, 2016 for the second phase to the ordinance. Councilwoman Ervin seconded. Unanimous.

Councilwoman Ervin made a motion to allow Mr. Huddleston to do any and all advertising associated with Ordinance 2015-2 Amending Sewer Rate Ordinance. Councilman Shepherd seconded. Unanimous.

President Hoffman said next on the agenda was Sewage Bond Issue Discussion. Dennis Otten of Bose, McKinney, & Evans and David Wimmer of Piper Jaffray were present to discuss a refinancing opportunity for the town's sewage bonds.

Mr. Otten said at this point in time interest rates are very low and have been for some time. The town has some bonds outstanding that would be good candidates for refinancing. He said to put it simply, this process would involve issuing new bonds at a lower rate to take out the old bonds at the higher rate. The payment dates and maturity date would not change but the town would be paying less by taking advantage of the lower interest rates. He said there are two bond issues they have been looking at. One is for the sewage works and the other is the bond on the golf course. After taking into account the cost of issuance for the bonds there is a real savings opportunity for the town. He said his main objective this evening was to answer any questions the council or public might have and hopefully get the council's blessing to move forward with the process. The next steps of the process would be drafting the appropriate ordinances and resolutions for approval by the council and also by the redevelopment authority.

Mr. Wimmer handed out examples of the savings for the town on each bond issue using the current interest rates. The current rates for the town's bonds range from 3.26% to 5.25%. The

rates would range from 2.15% on the sewage works bonds to 2.40% on the golf course bonds. He said he would work with Mr. Otten to prepare all the necessary documentation for him to place the bonds.

Councilwoman Ervin asked if those rates were guaranteed.

Mr. Wimmer said they are not. The market changes every day.

Councilwoman Ervin said if the market changes to a point that would not be beneficial to the town what would happen then?

Mr. Otten said how the process usually works is the council gives them the initial green light to get the bond documents prepared and when Mr. Wimmer is ready to go to the market he will have a conference call with the necessary parties discussing the current rates. Once the bond purchase agreement is signed the rates are locked in. If the rates were to rise tremendously the deal would simply not go through and the town would not be out anything.

Mr. Huddleston said for tonight's purposes the council would be approving President Hoffman to sign the engagement letters with Piper Jaffrey and Bose, McKinney, & Evans which would officially retain Mr. Wimmer and Mr. Otten to do the necessary work on issuing the bonds. Mr. Huddleston said the letters were sent to him and he reviewed them before sending them out with the council packet. The Redevelopment Authority will also have to hold a meeting and formally retain the two gentlemen as well. Councilman Simpson made a motion to move forward with the process and to allow President Hoffman to sign the necessary engagement letters. Councilwoman Ervin seconded. Unanimous.

President Hoffman said next on the agenda was Fire and Rescue EMS. He asked Fire Chief Allen Smith to lead the discussion.

Chief Smith said last fall the council had talked about the tragedy at the dam and that the town would like to recognize the Fire and Rescue workers that were at the scene. He said the four gentlemen in the back of the room are the reason that one young girl is still alive today. He said he would like to recognize those four gentlemen tonight.

President Hoffman presented Paul Bailey, Tory Routier, Casey Taylor, and Tim Bryant with plaques in recognition of the effective discharge of their duties as emergency responders.

President Hoffman said next on the agenda was Tax Abatements for Ditech, Hisada, LB Mold, SAPP, and Penway. He handed it over to Building Commissioner Wade Watson.

Mr. Watson said the council should have received staff reports for each of the tax abatements up for approval. He said he has reviewed all of the abatements and compliance forms and recommends approval for all except for the one from Hisada which has expired.

Councilwoman Ervin made a motion to approve the tax abatements as presented in the staff report including Resolutions 2005-4, 2010-4, 2011-9, 2012-5, 2014-6, 2006-4, 2011-3, 2011-4, 2013-3, 2014-5, 2013-5, 2013-6, 2007-3, 2008-4 and excluding Resolution 2002-6. Councilman Shepherd seconded. Unanimous.

President Hoffman said next on agenda was Carl Crider with a sidewalk discussion.

Carl Crider said on Thompson Street there has been an abundance of portable basketball goals on sidewalks with kids playing in the street. It is a real safety issue for the kids because Thompson is a fairly busy street and often people do not obey the speed limit on the street. He said he is afraid someone will eventually get hurt and it is an issue that he believes the council should look into.

Mr. Watson said the town does not have anything in our ordinances that addresses sidewalks with the exception of developing a new subdivision. Once the sidewalks are installed by the contractor they then become the property of the property owner. It may be appropriate to explore an ordinance that deals with how sidewalks are being maintained and used, particularly

in the fact that at some point in the future our community is going to be required to be ADA compliant for sidewalk crossings.

Councilwoman Ervin said she would be interested to see what other cities and towns are doing before the council gets too deep in the discussion.

Mr. Watson said he would be happy to investigate the topic further.

Departmental Comments

Police Chief David Mann said he would be submitting a grant application by the end of the week for bullet proof vests. There will be a mandatory wear policy put into place to ensure the officers are wearing them if the department is going to purchase them. Because of that he thought it would be important to include the officers in the selection of the vests and he has a supplier coming in to show them some products. He said he brings this up to the council in case there is somewhere on the grant form that the Council President, Town Manager, or Clerk Treasurer needs to sign.

Councilwoman Ervin asked if there was a town match on the grant.

Chief Mann said it was a 50% match. The total purchase will be around \$18,000 to \$20,000. Councilwoman Ervin made a motion to allow Chief Mann to fill out the grant application and to allow President Ron Hoffman, Clerk-Treasurer Scott Finley, and/or Town Manager John Dryread to sign the grant application if necessary. Councilwoman Graham seconded. Unanimous.

Building Commissioner Wade Watson said he received an application from Macbeath Hardwood applying for a tax abatement and they are requesting to establish an Economic Redevelopment Area. Macbeath has gone before the planning commission for approval of the project to develop that site. The town has issued a letter previously stating we would be willing to assist them with a tax abatement provided the application is on time and complete. Councilwoman Graham made a motion to authorized Mr. Huddleston to draft a resolution to have ready for the next council meeting provided the application for the tax abatement is acceptable. Councilwoman Ervin seconded. Unanimous.

Town Manager John Drybread said Electric Superintendent Kevin Rubush has requested to acquire property for infrastructure improvements. The improvements will give us the ability to power Duke Energy's customers if they have an outage and vice versa.

Councilwoman Ervin asked what physically would be on the property.

Mr. Drybread said it will be empty lots with two large poles.

Councilwoman Ervin made a motion to authorize the two property appraisals. Councilman Shepherd seconded. Unanimous.

Mr. Drybread said Strand Engineering had their preliminary engineering report for water treatment plant completed. The engineering costs associated with that project are not exceed \$40,000. He also said the swimming pool will be filled this week and will open Memorial Day weekend.

Fire Chief Allen Smith said he and Tim Bryant worked on updating fire and EMS contracts. He gave those to Mr. Huddleston for him to review.

Council Comments

Councilman Simpson said he would like to thank Chief Smith and his department for all their services they provide for the town.

Councilwoman Graham said she saw the new historic district signs for the Toner and Walnut districts and they look great. She also thanked Chief Smith for the great work the department has done.

Mr. Finley said if the council remembers last year they allowed Lisa Rooney of Rooney and Co. to submit a report on behalf of the town to attempt to collect extra Medicare and Medicaid money that is being disbursed. She was able to find approximately \$16,000. The town has not received that money yet but will pay Ms. Rooney 25% of that when the money is disbursed. He said he has with him an agreement for her to do the same report for 2014 if the council approves. Councilwoman Ervin made a motion to allow President Hoffman to sign the agreement with Rooney and Co. and pay the 25% contingency fee upon receipt of the funds. Councilman Simpson seconded. Unanimous.

Public Comments

Duane Terry of Cliff's Bar and Grill said he wanted to ask the council if there was any type of permit he needed to have a band play outside his bar in the alley after the bar's annual ride on June 6, 2015 from 6 P.M. to 10 P.M.

Councilwoman Ervin asked Mr. Watson if he knew of an application process.

Mr. Watson said he was unsure and would have to investigate.

President Hoffman asked if it would be ok if the council brought the matter up at the next council meeting to give Mr. Watson a chance to look into the process.

Mr. Terry said that would be fine.

Angela Moore said she lives on High School Drive and wanted to know if there was an ordinance related to having hunting dogs caged up in town. The dogs are penned up all day, every day and are constantly barking. She said she and other neighbors have spoke to the owners but have not had any luck getting them to stop.

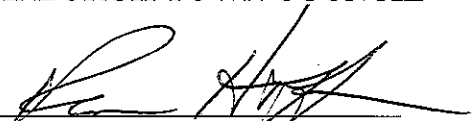
Mr. Finley said there is a rather old ordinance related to cats and dogs.

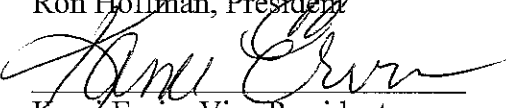
President Hoffman asked if Mr. Finley would have that ordinance available at the next meeting for review.

Mr. Finley said he would.

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

EDINBURGH TOWN COUNCIL


Ron Hoffman, President

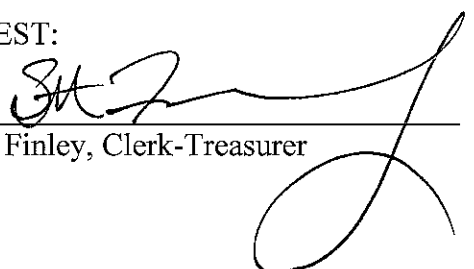

Kami Ervin, Vice President


Dawn Graham

Jack Shepherd

Jeffrey A. Simpson

ATTEST:



Scott Finley, Clerk-Treasurer