

**Town Council Meeting**  
**Monday, June 22, 2020**  
**6:00 P.M. Town Hall**

Edinburgh Town Council met in a regular session on Monday, June 22, 2020 at 6:00 P.M. at the Town Hall, 107 South Holland Street, Edinburgh, Indiana.

President Simpson called the meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Members answering roll call:** *Due to the COVID-19 public emergency and per Executive Order 20-09, members may have attended electronically (e).* Councilwoman Debbie Buck, Councilwoman Miriam Rooks, Vice President Dawn Graham, and President Jeff Simpson. Also present were Town Attorney Dustin Huddleston, Clerk-Treasurer Scott Finley, and Town Manager JT Doane. Councilman Ryan Piercefield was absent.

**Minutes** – Executive meeting of June 8, 2020 and council meeting of June 8, 2020. Councilwoman Graham made a motion to approve the minutes as submitted. Councilwoman Rooks seconded. Motion carried.

**Claims** – The council received two claim dockets in their council packets. The first was the end-of-month docket for April totaling \$202,373.95. Mr. Finley said he had signed off on 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 Buck seconded. Motion carried.

**Public Hearing on Additional Appropriations** – Mr. Finley said this additional appropriations request is for the Fire and EMS in the General Fund due to the change to a paid standby system as well as LOIT Special Distribution for the additional street work.

President Simpson opened the public hearing. With no questions or comments from the public, President Simpson closed the public hearing.

**Ordinance 2020-11 Additional Appropriations** – Councilwoman Graham made a motion to waive the first reading of Ordinance 2020-11 and consider it for approval. Councilwoman Buck seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Councilwoman Buck made a motion to approve Ordinance 2020-11. Councilwoman Rooks seconded. Motion carried.

**Ordinance 2020-12 Weeds & Trees (First Reading)** – Mr. Doane explained that the staff is constantly contacting habitual offenders of the rank vegetation ordinance. This amendment would allow the town to send one notice out for the year on violations. Subsequently, the town can clean up that property once the vegetation gets to a certain point. This ordinance also reduces the time number of days required for notice from ten days to five days.

Councilwoman Buck asked why we need to shorten the notice time. That seems like a short period of time. She asked what happens if someone is out of town and cannot get it taken care of in that time.

Councilwoman Rooks said a yard does not get to that point overnight. The staff would need to work with residents that have extenuating circumstances.

Building Commissioner Wade Watson said he is always willing to work with residents if they call into his office and explain their situation. If it is a valid reason, he works out a timeline that works for both parties. The ordinance will require more record keeping as the notices must be sent to the property owner. If the property changes hands, a new notice would need to be sent out.

Discussion was held regarding the notice time and the process if a resident does not clean up the property in a timely fashion.

Councilwoman Buck made a motion to waive the first reading of ordinance 2020-12 and consider it for approval. Councilwoman Graham seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Councilwoman Graham made a motion to approve Ordinance 2020-12. Councilwoman Rooks seconded. Motion carried 3 to 1 with Councilwoman Buck voting nay.

**Ordinance 2020-13 Golf Carts** – Mr. Doane said there is a discrepancy between the current ordinance and the paperwork provided by the police department when registering. The ordinance says you must be 18 to operate a golf cart and the police paperwork says 16.

Discussion was held regarding yielding to faster traffic and car seat requirements.

Councilwoman Rooks said there is a small typo and the date of passage of the original ordinance is incorrect.

No action was taken.

**Ordinance 2020-14 Fire Works** – Mr. Doane said this ordinance sets parameter for when fireworks can be let off inside town limits. Mr. Huddleston has some other language he would like to add before approval.

Mr. Huddleston said he would like to add verbiage allowing the town to have firework displays on other days if approved by council.

Town Marshall Doyne Little said the department has had numerous firework calls. This type of ordinance will create less calls over time but will take some education on why we are restricting further than the state allows.

President Simpson asked the council members to email Mr. Huddleston if they would like any changes. He said he does not think the town should limit other nationalities to celebrating only on national holidays.

No action was taken.

**Resolution 2020-18 Temporary Loan** – Mr. Finley said this type of resolution has been done in the past. Timbergate historically has cash flow issues in June and July when the first bond payment is due. That has been amplified by the public health emergency. The resolution states that the loan will bear no interest and will be paid back by December 31, 2020.

Councilwoman Graham made a motion to approve Resolution 2020-18. Councilwoman Buck seconded. Motion carried.

**Town of Edinburgh Personnel Policy** – Mr. Doane asked if the council had reviewed the policy draft and if they had any questions.

Councilwoman Buck said she thinks the wording should be changed to say background checks “shall” be required rather than “may” be required.

Discussion was held regarding probationary periods, absenteeism, FMLA, and tardiness.

Councilman Buck asked if we should add “quid pro quo” scenarios to offenses that could result in immediate discharge.

Mr. Finley said that could be added.

Mr. Huddleston said it would not hurt to add it but it is also covered under the conflict of interest policy.

**Comprehensive Plan Discussion** – Mr. Doane said the council had spoken about updating the comprehensive plan. He said he is afraid if we proceed with that process now, it could be difficult to perform necessary steps. He recommended we postpone that project until 2021. He said he has obtained quotes and will discuss with the vendors how long the quotes are good.

**Timbergate Golf Course Mower** – Timbergate General Manager Wayne Gibbs said John Deere has special financing allowing the course to take possession of the mower now and start payments

next year. The staff is currently walk-mowing greens which is labor intensive. The course has a 2003 ride mower, but it does not cut as low as the walk mowers do. New technology allows a shorter green length by ride mowing. This allows one person to mow faster than three can currently. The cost of the mower is \$44,625 and lease payments would start in January of 2021. This is not the lowest quote; however, it is a diesel model which should last much longer than the gas versions.

Councilwoman Graham made a motion to approve the John Deere Mower purchase from Greenville Turf and Tractor for \$44,625. Councilwoman Buck seconded. Motion carried.

**Paving Projects** – Mr. Doane said Robertson is currently working on ADA ramps and will begin paving in the next couple weeks. Mr. Miehl of ADA consulting was down to discuss ADA issues surrounding the project.

**Prosser Area/OCRA Stormwater Grant – Fall 2020** – Mr. Doane said OCRA had been discussing eliminating the fall grant series this year. After further discussion, they decided to move forward with the process. His plan is to apply for the Prosser area stormwater project in the fall.

**July 15<sup>th</sup> Ray's Heavy Trash Collection** – The town is actively informing the public what can and cannot be set out for heavy trash collection. The biggest issues from the previous pickup were TV's and building materials. Also, mattresses must be bagged before they are set out for collection.

Mr. Watson said the town made some exceptions and removed some uncollectible items during the last collection because of the public health emergency and our compactor being closed. Notices will be sent out if uncollectible items are set out.

**Compactor Discussion** – Mr. Doane said he would like to see the compactor re-open to the Tuesday, Friday, and Saturday schedule as it was revised prior to the pandemic.

President Simpson asked Wastewater Superintendent Rebecca Frakes to put together re-opening information for the next council meeting.

**Phosphorous Removal** – Mr. Doane said the council received a quote for an experimental process to remove phosphorous from our wastewater. The process would only require chemical expense and would not require any construction. Phosphorous removal will be required by IDEM in the near future.

Ms. Frakes explained the process. She said if this process works, the department could save over \$1 million in construction costs. It is possible that it does not work, and we would still need to pursue other options. The trial chemical cost is approximately \$8,000.

Councilwoman Graham made a motion to approve the trial process for phosphorous removal. Councilwoman Rooks seconded. Motion carried.

**Tru-Flex Stamping and Assembly (Sacoma International) CF-1 Tax Abatement** – Mr. Watson said Tru-Flex has five abatements: four personal property and one real property. He explained that they are not in compliance with 4 out of 5 of the original statement of benefits. Tru-Flex explained that this was due to list sales to a global competitor and the pandemic. Based on this, the staff recommendation is for approval of the five abatements.

Councilwoman Buck made a motion to approve all five CF-1's for Tru-Flex. Councilwoman Rooks seconded. Motion carried.

Councilwoman Rooks made a motion to allow President Simpson to sign the five CF-1's on behalf of the council. Councilwoman Buck seconded. Motion carried.

**SAPP (Edinburgh Investments LLC) CF-1 Tax Abatement** – Mr. Watson said SAPP has not reached the employment level listed in the SB-1 but has invested in the equipment. Edinburgh Investments has a vacant building abatement. They are still active and occupying the building which was the basic reason for the abatement. The staff recommendation was for approval of these CF-1's.

Councilwoman Graham made a motion to approve the SAPP CF-1. Councilwoman Buck seconded. Motion carried.

Councilwoman Graham made a motion to allow President Simpson to sign the CF-1 on behalf the council. Councilwoman Buck seconded. Motion carried.

Councilwoman Rooks made a motion to approve the Edinburgh Investments CF-1. Councilwoman Buck seconded. Motion carried.

Councilwoman Graham made a motion to allow President Simpson to sign the CF-1 on behalf the council. Councilwoman Rooks seconded. Motion carried.

**Old Senior Center Building Usage** – Community Center Director SaraBeth Drybread presented a PowerPoint presentation for a vision for the building across from the Utility Office. She does not want to see the town give up ownership of this building as she fears it will become apartments. She knows of a business, a coffee shop, that is interested in coming to downtown Edinburgh but does not have a building to do so. She explained how historic preservation can encourage downtown development. Currently a lot of downtown buildings are being used for storage. She showed an artist rendering of what the building could look like as a coffee shop created by local artist Rick Wilson. She explained the benefits of the town keeping this building to help development with downtown.

The council expressed their interest in a formal proposal regarding this project.

### **Council Comments**

President Simpson asked when the striping on the cemetery parking lot would be completed.

Mr. Doane said Robertson Paving is working on that project as well as several others in the town and should be getting to that soon.

Mr. Finley said he received a letter from Holli Russ on Franklin Street requesting the speed limit be lowered to 20mph and additional signage be added. There are a lot of children that play on her particular block of the street and she worries about people driving too fast and not seeing a child. Her letter was also signed by several other residents on Franklin Street. Mr. Finley said he also lives on Franklin Street and does see people speeding frequently.

Mr. Doane said he could draft an amendment to the traffic schedule.

### **Departmental Comments**

Mr. Doane said the golf course has put together some cautions and measures for operating during the public health emergency. The snack bar is currently still closed but could be open per state guidelines. He asked if the council had any reservations to re-opening the snack bar.

Councilwoman Graham made a motion to open the golf course snack bar and adhere to the state guidelines. Councilwoman Buck seconded. Motion carried.

Mr. Doane said the Eastern Bartholomew Water Connection project had a hang up with the original location. However, an alternative spot has been agreed upon near the County Road 800 lift station. Both parties met Thursday to discuss the location and engineers are working on the plans.

Mr. Doane said the pool property that the school had planned to donate to the town is still ongoing. Mr. Huddleston will draft an agreement to present to the school in the near future.

Ms. Drybread said the farmer's market is on Thursday's from 4pm to 7pm. The first few weeks have gone very well.

Parks Director Daniel Teter said the pool has been filled and the lifeguards have been trained. The concrete from the old baby pool should be removed soon and the new should be in by the weekend. They will not be issuing pool passes this year, there will be no deck chairs, and there will be no

group swim lessons. They were able to have some joint training with the fire department last week. Softball tournaments will be starting this weekend as well.

Town Marshall Little said the department has done several narcotics raids recently and received good comments from the public on those. The department performed the physical agility test recently. Six of the twelve passed that test and will move on to the next step of the process.

### Public Comments

Janice Burton of 504 Fulford Drive said she likes the idea presented by Ms. Drybread for the old senior center building. She asked what area the stormwater project would cover.

Mr. Doane said it would encompass the entire Prosser area.

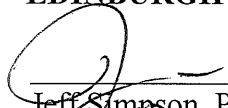
Rick Wilson of 500 South Main Street A, said he and his wife had the Peppermill Café downtown and he constantly has people expressing to him how much they miss it. Downtown needs quality shops and restaurants to bring in visitors.

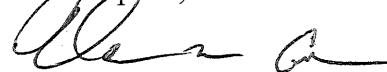
Bill Jones of 7795 East State Road 252 said he would appreciate the council looking at the speed limits on all town roads. He has a new driver in his household and 30 mph is too fast on some of those streets.

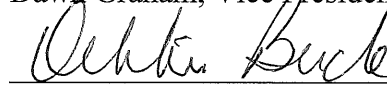
Randy Teltoe said he was present on behalf of Kevin Parks of Edinburgh Insurance. He said he wanted to apologize for the issue of the water slides being excluded from the town's general liability policy. He is confident any claims would have been covered as it was simply missed by the underwriter and the issue has been corrected in the current policy.

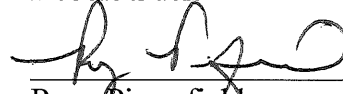
Being no further business or comments, Councilwoman Graham made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Councilwoman Buck seconded. Motion carried.

### EDINBURGH TOWN COUNCIL

  
Jeff Simpson, President

  
Dawn Graham, Vice President

  
Debbie Buck

  
Ryan Piercefield

  
Miriam Rooks

ATTEST:

  
Scott Finley, Clerk-Treasurer