

Town Council Meeting
Wednesday, April 10, 2024
6:00 P.M.

Edinburgh Town Council met in a regular session on Wednesday, April 10, 2024, at 6:00 P.M. at the Town Hall, 107 South Holland Street, Edinburgh, Indiana.

Vice President Miriam Rooks called the meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Members answering roll call: Councilman Michael Bryant, Councilwoman Debbie Buck, Councilwoman Sherri Sweet, and Councilwoman Miriam Rooks. Council President Ryan Piercefield arrived at the meeting at 6:23 p.m.

Also present were Clerk Treasurer Rhonda Barrett, Town Manager Kevin McGinnis, and Town Attorney Dustin Huddleston.

Minutes –Council meeting minutes of March 25, 2024.

Councilwoman Buck made a motion to approve March 25, 2024, council meeting minutes. Councilwoman Sweet seconded. Motion carried.

Claims – Clerk-Treasurer Rhonda Barrett said in your packet, there was a claim docket, and there were a few claims added today. The claim docket total is \$409,704 32.

Councilwoman Sweet made a motion to approve the claim docket as presented. Councilwoman Buck seconded. Motion carried.

Wessler Invoice 43774 for Water Treatment Plant – Clerk-Treasurer Rhonda Barrett presented Wessler invoice 43774 in the amount of \$58,979 92 for approval of payment for construction inspections at the water treatment plant.

Councilwoman Buck made a motion to approve Invoice 43774 from Wessler for the Water Treatment Plant. Councilwoman Sweet seconded. Motion carried.

Clerk-Treasurer Rhonda Barrett asked for a motion to allow Council President Piercefield to sign the invoice for payment.

Councilwoman Buck made a motion to approve Council President Ryan Piercefield to sign Invoice 43774 from Wessler. Councilwoman Sweet seconded. Motion carried.

Donations to Fire and Police – Clerk-Treasurer Rhonda Barrett said that the Town had received a donation from the American Legion in the amount of \$6,000, to be split evenly between the fire and police department and that a motion is needed to accept that donation.

Councilwoman Sweet made a motion to accept the \$6000 donation from the American Legion to be split between the Police and Fire. Councilwoman Buck seconded. Motion carried.

TIF Report Update – Clerk-Treasurer Rhonda Barrett said the council should have received an email from her concerning the TIF report that Scott Finley from Baker Tilly had presented at the March 25, 2024, council meeting. Clerk-Treasurer Barrett explained that the TIF report contains a list of the US 31 Tif District properties which are in Bartholomew County. Clerk-Treasurer Barrett said that Mr. Finley informed her that the list of properties that Baker Tilly had received from Bartholomew County for the TIF district included a property that should not have been on there. Mr. Finley informed her that Baker Tilly has updated the list and removed the incorrect property from the list. Clerk Treasurer Barrett said that she wanted to advise the Council of the change and that the TIF report is uploaded to Gateway for submission and will be submitted on April 11, 2024.

Councilwoman Buck asked if a motion or anything was needed. Clerk Treasurer Barrett said that a motion is not needed, this is for informational purposes.

Street Sweeper Quotes for Reconditioning and Used – Street Superintendent Clark McCollum gave a presentation to the council on replacing the Street sweeper that is currently inoperable. Clark said he contacted Brown Equipment where the sweeper was originally purchased in 2004 and they wrote up a detailed report on a possible overhaul that would cost between \$80,000 to \$115,000. Clark said Brown Equipment also offered a quote on a used 2016 model sweeper at a cost of \$165,000. Clark said he talked with Clerk-Treasurer Barrett about funding. He also looked on Municipal Trader and found a 2023

sweeper that is still under factory warranty with 11 hours for \$209,000. Clark said he just wanted to start the conversation about possible solutions to purchasing.

Councilwoman Rooks asked about the Street Department working with the Wastewater Department on MS4 requirements and if the cost could be shared between the two departments. Superintendent McCollum said that discussion had been held with Wastewater Superintendent Jessie and there is money available in the stormwater budget for it. Clerk-Treasurer Barrett said that the Stormwater Fund could pay up to \$100,000 towards the purchase of the 2023 Street Sweeper, and other possible funding included Riverboat or Rainy Day.

Further discussion was held on the time frame of replacing the current sweeper, trade in or selling value of the current sweeper, and how much had previously been spent on repairs of the current sweeper. Superintendent McCollum said that he had reached out to the seller in Chicago, about the 2023 sweeper, it has a two-year 2000-hour warranty, and a five-year warranty on the vacuum motor itself. Clark said that he had negotiated the price down to \$206,500 to include delivery and training on the equipment. Further discussion was held on the need for quotes or bidding of equipment.

Attorney Huddleston asked Superintendent McCollum to email him the information and he would review what was required to replace the current sweeper.

JCREMC Community Fund Operation Round-Up Grant – Councilwoman Rooks spoke on behalf of Fire Chief Justin Lollar for council approval to apply for the JCREMC Johnson County Community Fund Operation Round-Up Grant. Councilwoman Rooks said that the application can be for up to \$5,000 and is a non-matching grant.

Town Manager Kevin McGinnis asked if we are required to be in REMC's jurisdiction to apply for that grant? Councilwoman Rooks said that under applicant eligibility, contributions will generally be made primarily to nonprofit organizations, government entities, school districts, or colleges that have been granted tax exempt status by the Internal Revenue Service. The organization must contribute to the entire community's health and or welfare, and the services must be non-discriminatory in nature. Town Manager Kevin McGinnis said that he could call REMC tomorrow and clarify if we need to be in their electric jurisdiction to get those funds and will email the council with that information.

Councilwoman Buck made a motion to approve for Fire Chief Lollar to apply for the JCREMC Community Fund Operation Round-Up Grant subject to Kevin McGinnis clarification on eligibility from JCREMC. Councilwoman Sweet seconded. Motion carried.

Amend Electric Rate Ordinance 2024-2 – Electric Superintendent Steve Clark gave a presentation on the definitions of power factor and the need for amending Electric Rate Ordinance 2024-2.

Mr. Clark discussed language in the ordinance that is somewhat open to interpretation and the need to change verbiage in the ordinance to avoid some potential issues on how we apply power factor to the rates. Mr. Clark stated that this change applies to one paragraph on three of the pages which say power factor that is less than unity, lagging, is what our ordinance currently says and even though less than unity is both leading and lagging, we need to add the terms for leading in the ordinance. Mr. Clark said on the last one on the very last line it said percent factor for some odd reason the word power was left out. Mr. Clark said in years past with older meters they could only measure lagging, so the verbiage has more than likely been in the ordinances for a long time and never modified so, we need to make sure that what we are billing and what we are doing is what is included in our ordinance.

Councilwoman Buck asked what the Council needs to do to correct this. Attorney Huddleston said that Mr. Clark had emailed him this information and he can add these by amending the ordinance. Attorney Huddleston said that the only question is, do we have to republish the electric rate ordinance and that he can research that and have it ready for the next meeting. Attorney Huddleston said that he would prepare the amendment and be able to answer that question if we are required to publish the Ordinance again.

New Forklift Proposals – Electric Superintendent Clark said that in the council packet, there were three quotes for Tow Motors. Mr. Clark discussed the history and repairs of the current tow motor in use which is a 1994 Mitsubishi bought in 2001 with a rebuilt motor. Mr. Clark said that the tow motor worked great until about a month ago and it has started smoking profusely again, so the question is whether to keep putting money into repairs or to look to purchase a used one.

Superintendent Clark reviewed the quotes that he received on a 2015 Yale for \$47,000, a 2018 refurbished Cat for \$46,000, and a 2022 Crown with less than 200 hours in Cincinnati for \$49,000.

Councilwoman Buck asked if they would deliver from Cincinnati. Superintendent Clark said delivery would be additional and would cost approximately \$700, he can attempt to negotiate at least the delivery and can offer lower than the \$49,000.

Councilwoman Rooks made a motion to purchase the 2022 Crown Tow Motor. Councilwoman Sweet seconded. Motion carried.

Council President Ryan Piercefield said that legal counsel advised that since I was tardy for this meeting to come on public record and state that I am here.

Opioid Settlement – Town Manager Kevin McGinnis gave an update on the funds received from the State for Restricted and Nonrestricted Opioid settlements. Kevin said that the total funds we have received for both Restricted and Nonrestricted is \$22,752. Kevin said his idea was to get the Police Chief, Fire Chief, a council member, and himself to come up with what type of drug addiction things we want to spend those funds on.

801 E Thompson Street – Town Attorney Dustin Huddleston said an order was issued today by Robert Overton to repair the property that's identified as 801 East Thompson Street. Attorney Huddleston said this property has a long history of violations and citations from the Indiana State Police, Johnson County Health Department, and our offices. Dustin said this order requires the property owner to clean up the property described in the order not just by themselves, but through a qualified inspector cleanup, and they have 14 days to do it. Dustin said today we need to set a hearing on the matter for April 22nd where the property owner can come in to present their evidence. At the hearing, the council will either affirm that order and decide how to proceed. The council can impose fines or bring action to enforce the Ordinances and compliances with the property. Dustin said the order has been personally served by Chief Little, a notice has been posted at the site, and mailed to the property. Dustin said he also sent a copy to the director of Johnson County Health Department, and she has received it. Today, the council needs to make a motion to approve and set a public hearing for April 22nd, 2024, at 6 p.m. for this matter.

Councilwoman Rooks made a motion to set a Public Hearing for April 22, 2024, for the property located at 801 E. Thompson Street. Councilwoman Buck seconded. Motion carried.

Other Business

Councilwoman Sweet thanked Jason Hyer for 4 years of service as a Police reserve and will continue as Chaplain, so I just want to publicly thank him for his service today.

Councilwoman Buck asked Attorney Huddleston if we had found out any more about the East Main Cross building.

Attorney Huddleston said yes that he had sent an email, but Mr. McGinnis gave him some information, and he would need to send another email tomorrow.

Councilwoman Buck thanked Parks Director Daniel Teter and Police Chief Little for all their work on Monday for the Solar Eclipse, even though we didn't get the amount of people that we thought we might get, everything went fine, and it was just an amazing day.

Councilwoman Rooks also thanked Director Teter and Chief Little. She said she heard great things from her grandkids, and they all had a good time. She said she appreciates everyone who was involved in that. She also thanked Electric Superintendent Clark and Street Superintendent McCollum for all their research time and their presentations.

Council President Piercefield thanked everyone involved with the solar eclipse, this time we planned for the worst and hoped for the best and we did it this time well, because we've been on the other side of things where we didn't plan and then the worst happened. As always, you guys do a good job as a town. I think it's underappreciated so I think we need to echo as much as we can we're proud of you guys, we're happy to have all of you and you guys all do a good job together, every one of you.

Town Manager Kevin McGinnis gave a power point presentation and an update on the fire station. Kevin said that a contractor was on site yesterday looking at the roof. To remove and install a new membrane roof would cost approximately \$35,000.

Further discussion was held on options for use of the building, condition of the 27-year-old roof as well as other problems with the building, possibly putting up a wall and using half of the building for a joint training for Police and Fire and renting out the other half to produce rental income to offset the cost of repairs.

Council President Piercefield suggested exploring other options for a metal roof or membrane and to get 2 more bids.

Departmental Comments

Police Chief Doyne Little invited everyone to come to Fire Station 2 on April 24th at 6 pm as they conduct building searches. Chief Little said there were approximately 3,000 people in town for the eclipse with lots of telescopes, he thanked Timbergate for the use of golf carts. Chief Little commented on how impressive the town is and how all the departments work together.

Parks Superintendent Daniel Teter commented on the great turnout for the eclipse, the vendors were happy and several of them sold out. He said they received lots of compliments on the mural and the dam gallery at the JRDCC building. He said the wood carving is in the community center. Mr. Teter said they received a nice email from some visitors who were from Alabama. Mr. Teter said they have some cricket tournaments booked, the senior banners are in, and youth baseball practices have started. Mr. Teter said that the pool is fully staffed, and lifeguard training will be happening soon. Mr. Teter said that the Toro diamond pro ordered 2 years ago will be here the end of this month. Mr. Teter said that the 1st three months of revenue are up about 75% and the firecracker festival and holiday of lights planning is going on. He said planning for the 12 days of Christmas with an ice skate rink is going on and 46 people are going with the senior group to Holland Michigan. He said they are still looking for help for cemetery weed eaters.


Wastewater Superintendent Bob Jessie said they have completed the pretreatment inspection of industrial users and business as usual with trying to keep up with equipment repairs. Superintendent Jessie said that Josh Elmore has passed the MS4 inspection class as well as Class 1 wastewater test.

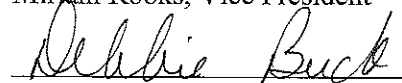
Adjourn


Being no further business or comments, Councilwoman Buck made a motion to adjourn Councilwoman Rooks seconded. Meeting adjourned.

EDINBURGH TOWN COUNCIL


Ryan Piercefield, President


Miriam Rooks, Vice President


Debbie Buck


Sherri Sweet


Michael Bryant

ATTEST:

Rhonda Barrett, Clerk-Treasurer