

Town Council Meeting
Monday, December 9, 2019
6:00 P.M. Town Hall

Edinburgh Town Council met in a regular session on Monday, December 9, 2019 at 6:00 P.M. at the Town Hall, 107 South Holland Street, Edinburgh, Indiana.

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

Members answering roll call: Councilwoman Debbie Buck, Councilman Jeff Simpson, Vice President Dawn Graham, Councilman Ryan Piercefield, and President Jerry Lollar. Also present were Clerk-Treasurer Scott Finley, Town Attorney Dustin Huddleston, and Town Manager JT Doane.

Minutes – Council meeting minutes of November 25, 2019. Councilman Simpson made a motion to approve the minutes as submitted. Councilwoman Buck seconded. Motion carried.

Claims - The council received a copy of the claim docket in the council packet. The total for the docket was \$141,218.04. Mr. Finley said he had signed off on all the claims in that docket and handed them over to the council for approval.

President Lollar asked about the purchase of chemicals at the golf course.

Mr. Finley said the golf course usually purchases chemicals at the end of the year for the following year to get a better price.

Councilwoman Buck made a motion to approve the claims as submitted. Councilman Piercefield seconded. Motion carried.

Employee Health Insurance – Mr. Doane said Larry Mayfield of Zeller Insurance had provided the council with some information and he is present tonight to answer any questions. Mr. Mayfield looked at other carriers and also the possibility of going to a partially self-funded plan. The best option for the town and the employees is to stay with SIHO. The staff recommendation is to continue with SIHO and keep employee contributions the same as 2019.

Mr. Mayfield said SIHO has done well for the town over the years. The increase for 2020 is only 3%. He explained how the self-funded option would work and explained the risks involved. He recommended staying with SIHO as well.

President Lollar said he was present at the insurance meetings and also thinks SIHO is the best option for the town.

Councilman Piercefield asked what the deductible would be for a family on this plan.

Mr. Finley said the actual deductible for a family is \$10,000 but on the HRA plan the town reimburses the employee up to \$5,000.

Councilman Simpson made a motion to approve the SIHO Health Insurance renewal per the staff and Mr. Mayfield's recommendations. Councilwoman Graham seconded. Motion carried.

Ordinance 2019-19 Amending Fire Department (First Reading) – Mr. Doane said from previous discussions the council had showed interest in widening the area from which we could pull fire and rescue employees.

Councilwoman Graham made a motion to waive the first reading of 2019-19 and consider it for approval. Councilman Simpson seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Councilman Piercefield made a motion to approve Ordinance 2019-19. Councilwoman Graham seconded. Motion carried.

Ordinance 2019-20 Salary Ordinance (First Reading) – Mr. Doane said this ordinance sets the salary ranges for employees for calendar year 2020. He said he would be happy to give clarification or answer any questions. He explained that the ordinance does not guarantee increases for employees, it just sets the ranges for positions.

President Lollar said there are some large increases and he would like some more time to fully digest the numbers.

No action was taken on the ordinance.

Ordinance 2019-21 Transfer of Appropriations – Mr. Finley said this ordinance transfers appropriations between line items within the same fund. It does not increase any overall budgets.

No action was taken on the ordinance.

Ordinance 2019-22 Amending Chapter 50 Regarding Sewage Works (First Reading) – Mr. Doane said in speaking with Wastewater Superintendent Rebecca Frakes they found that several fees for the department were outdated. This ordinance would increase those fees to make them more current. He explained that this would not increase the utility rates but would increase fees associated with the utility.

Mr. Huddleston said for this ordinance and the next one on the agenda there is a similar process. Because there is an increase in fees, the first reading cannot be waived, and the ordinances must be advertised in the newspapers. Property owners outside the town limits serviced by these utilities must be notified by mail 10 days before the next meeting where a public hearing would be held. At that point the ordinance can be approved or amended based on the discussions. He said he could provide the notices that need to be mailed to the administrative staff. There will be some cost with publication and the sending of notices.

Councilman Simpson said he would like to hold off on the process until we can review the changes further.

No action was taken on the ordinance.

Ordinance 2019-23 Amending Chapter 51 Regarding Water Works (First Reading) – President Lollar said this has the same process as the previous ordinance. The ordinance changes deposits and other user fees.

No action was taken on the ordinance.

Resolution 2019-10 Expressing Interest in Real Estate and Appointment of Appraisers – Mr. Doane said the home adjacent to the fire department is available for purchase and could make a sleeping quarters for the department as we are transitioning to a stand-by department.

Mr. Huddleston said the resolution gives authorization to the two appraisers to start the appraisal work. The council can give authority to the town manager to determine the timing of the appraisals.

Councilman Simpson made a motion to approve Resolution 2019-10 and give the town manager authority to determine the start time of the appraisals. Councilman Piercefield seconded. Motion carried.

Resolution 2019-11 Approving an Emergency Extension of Temporary Loan – Mr. Finley said this resolution allows the pay back of the temporary loan from the Marketplace Fund to the NRO Timbergate Fund be pushed back to June 30, 2020. The bond payment and loan repayment are due at the same time and Timbergate does not have the cashflow to pay both payments. Statute allows a six-month extension of a temporary loan if approved by a resolution.

Councilman Piercefield made a motion to approve Resolution 2019-11. Councilwoman Buck seconded. Motion carried.

County Road 900 Engineering – Mr. Doane said the town has been awarded a grant through INDOT for the reconstruction of County Road 900. The project will be ready for bid soon. VS Engineering has completed the preliminary work and the next step is the geotechnical and pavement design analysis.

Josh Eisenhower of VS Engineering gave an explanation of the process. The cost for the work was \$11,770. Boring on the project would begin in mid to late January.

Councilman Simpson made a motion to approve the quote for geotechnical services and pavement design analysis from VS Engineering for \$11,770. Councilwoman Buck seconded. Motion carried.

State Road 252 – Mr. Doane said 252 will be rebuilt in 2024. There will be a public forum with INDOT next year. There is grant funding available for sidewalks, lighting, and right-of-way costs. The total cost of that work is \$1,590,484.43. The town's portion of the grant would be \$318,096.89. The grant application is due by Friday.

Councilman Simpson asked if the funding was available for the town's portion.

Mr. Finley said it is difficult to know if that funding will be available in 2024. It could be budgeted for in 2024 from the street or general fund. The rainy-day fund should also have funds available barring an emergency between now and then.

Councilman Piercefield asked if these numbers could change between now and 2024.

Building Commissioner Wade Watson said the amounts could change but if the town was awarded the grant, the money would be turned over to INDOT and they would handle all contracting and engineering for the project.

Councilman Simpson made a motion to commit 20% for 252 Project grant. Councilwoman Buck seconded. Motion carried.

2020 Paving Projects – Mr. Doane presented a map of possible roads for mill and overlay in 2020. The roads included Brown Street, Franklin Street, Keeley Street, Harrell Drive, and Walnut Street. The budget pricing for those roads was approximately \$471,000. The town has already committed \$213,025 for County Road 900.

Discussion was held regarding funding for the paving projects.

Councilman Simpson made a motion to proceed with the roads listed for 2020 paving. Councilwoman Buck seconded. Motion carried.

2020 Fire Department – Mr. Doane said applications are available for both paid standby and career positions with the department. Those can be picked up at the town hall during regular business hours. We are currently looking at options for properties for future expansion of the department.

Council Comments

Councilman Piercefield said he has received complaints about speeding on Lind Dr. He asked if we could get some additional speed limit signs in that area.

Mr. Finley said we received our preliminary budget order from the DLGF. He said he has reviewed the order and the town is working just under the max levy and all budgets have been approved as submitted. The tax rate dropped slightly from 2019 to 2.309. He will sign and return that document this week.

Departmental Comments

Street Superintendent Clark McCollum said he would like for the council to consider moving heavy trash to the spring rather than the summer. Having heavy trash during the summer cuts into time the department could be doing other projects.

President Lollar asked the council members to think about that option and we will discuss it at a later date.

Community Center Director SaraBeth Drybread said this weekend is the Holiday of Lights. She left flyers for the public to take regarding the event. There will be a lot of opportunities to donate to those in need, there will be a house decorating contest, as well as a downtown window decorating contest. Many of the businesses will be open late and there will be pictures with Santa and the Grinch downtown. More information can be found at the community center downtown.

Public Comments

John Burton of 515 South Walnut Street said he has several rentals in town and during big trash pickup his renters start collecting the items set out and it gets piled in the sheds. He recommended doing more than one pickup per year. He said he has also seen numerous issues with Ray's Trash Service that we never had when we were with Rumpke.

Janice Burton of 504 Fulford Drive asked if the town could put a crosswalk on Eisenhower near the restaurant. School kids go to the restaurant after school and cross the street going to practices.

President Lollar updated Ms. Burton on the Ray's issue she had brought up a few meetings ago. She said Mr. Doane has spoken with Ray's and they are supposed to be correcting the issues.

Kathy Hamm of 503 Lincoln Street said the fire department is not doing the good cheer baskets this year, so she has been working with the ministerial association to continue that process. They have received about 200 applications and about 100 of those will need to be delivered. She said they are in desperate need of volunteers and asked everyone to pass along the message.

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

EDINBURGH TOWN COUNCIL

James O. Lollar
James O. Lollar, President

Jerry Lollar
Jerry Lollar, President

Dawn Graham
Dawn Graham, Vice President

Debbie Buck
Debbie Buck

Ryan Piercefield
Ryan Piercefield

Jeff Simpson
Jeff Simpson

ATTEST:

Scott Finley
Scott Finley, Clerk-Treasurer