

**Special Town Council Meeting
Monday, December 23, 2019
10:30 A.M. Town Hall**

Edinburgh Town Council met in a special session on Monday, December 23, 2019 at 10:30 A.M. at the Town Hall, 107 South Holland Street, Edinburgh, Indiana.

President Jerry Lollar called the meeting to order.

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

Resolution 2019-12 Expressing Interest in Real Estate and Appointment of Appraisers – Mr. Doane said as the council knows, the Phillips building in the industrial complex is an ideal spot for the future fire station and the owners are interested in possibly selling the building.

President Lollar asked if they have indicated a price.

Mr. Doane said they have not indicated a price but have just expressed interest in selling. The two appraisals would set the max price that the town could pay for the property.

President Lollar asked if they had planned another meeting with the owners.

Mr. Doane said they indicated it could be the first of the year.

President Lollar said he is concerned with their seriousness about selling the property. He does not want to waste money on appraisals if they are seriously considering selling.

Discussion was held regarding the history of the building and the uses for the building.

Mr. Doane said he would be happy to reach back out to the owners before the appraisal to see where they stand.

Councilman Simpson said the building is ideal for the department and appears to have everything the department would need.

Councilman Simpson made a motion to approve Resolution 2019-12 and authorize Mr. Doane to determine the timing of the appraisals following further discussion with the owners regarding price. Councilman Piercefield seconded. Motion carried.

Departmental Comments

Mr. Doane said the town has submitted documents for the County Road 900 project but INDOT had one other form they wanted signed in blue ink by all the council members. Councilman Piercefield made a motion to approve the INDOT LPA Contract for Community Crossing Matching Grant 2019-2. Councilwoman Graham seconded. Motion carried.

Mr. Doane said he is still working with Mr. Huddleston on the Gelfius Property and there will be further discussion on that property soon.

Mr. Doane said there has been an offer made for the building across the street from the utility office that used to house the food pantry. We will have to have appraisals done on that building before it can be sold.

Mr. Huddleston gave a brief explanation of the process of selling a property. The town is required to obtain two appraisals and make an informed decision on selling price. The cost of the appraisals can be added into the closing costs.

Mr. Doane said he would like to touch base with council regarding employee raises and the salary ordinance. It has been past practice to give a \$.50 on the hour raise as a standard cost of living

raise. He said he was considering up to a dollar an hour raise based on department head recommendations.

Councilwoman Buck asked if appraisals are done annually.

Mr. Doane said yes, at the end of the year usually.

Discussion was held regarding appraisals, raises, and the salary ordinance.

Wastewater Superintendent said her goal is to encourage further education and training within the department. A trained employee is more valuable and more efficient.

Councilwoman Buck asked how the staff came to the numbers in the salary ordinance.

Mr. Finley said a few years ago the town did an internal wage study using the AIM salary survey as well as other similar utilities in the area. The issue we had with the salary survey was it just showed salaries for other municipalities. When the town loses employees, specifically from utilities, they are not going to other cities and towns. They are going to surrounding private utility companies.

Water Superintendent Bill Jones said that is true but other local utility services are actively trying to take our employees as well.

Discussion was held regarding wages for utility employees in the private sector.

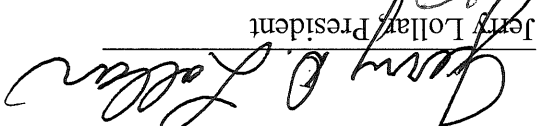
Councilman Simpson said he would like to give the employees a half day on New Year's Eve this year to show that the council appreciates the work they do.

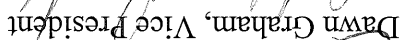
Mr. Finley said to keep in mind that some people will not benefit from the holiday as they have already scheduled their time off for the year.

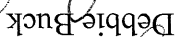
Councilman Simpson made a motion to make December 31, 2019 and half-holiday for the town employees starting after lunch. Councilwoman Graham seconded. Motion carried.

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

EDINBURGH TOWN COUNCIL


Jerry Lollar, President

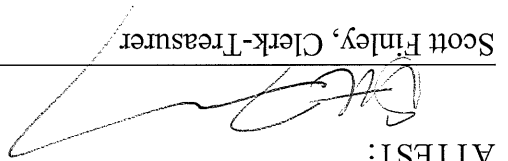

Dawn Graham, Vice President


Debbie Buck


Ryan Piercefield


Jeff Simpson

ATTEST:


Scott Finley, Clerk-Treasurer