

Town Council Meeting
Monday, July 27, 2020
6:00 P.M. Town Hall

Edinburgh Town Council met in a regular session on Monday, July 27, 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, Councilman Ryan Piercefield, and President Jeff Simpson. Also present were Town Attorney Dustin Huddleston, Clerk-Treasurer Scott Finley, and Town Manager JT Doane.

Minutes – Council meeting minutes of July 13, 2020 and executive meeting of July 20, 2020. Councilwoman Buck made a motion to approve the minutes as submitted. Councilwoman Graham seconded. Motion carried.

Claims – The council received a copy of the claim docket in their council packets. The total for the claim docket was \$656,447.34. Mr. Finley said he had signed off on the claims in those dockets and handed them over to the council for approval.

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

Public Hearing – Community Development Block Grant – Community Center Director SaraBeth Drybread said this is the public hearing for the \$240,000 COVID relief grant through OCRA. Johnson County Community Foundation has reviewed the applications but the public hearing and subrecipient documents must be completed before release of funds.

President Simpson opened the public hearing.

Debby Vaughan of 1127 Constitution Drive asked how many businesses applied for the grant.

Ms. Drybread said 12 applied and all were approved.

Being no further questions, President Simpson closed the public hearing.

COVID-19 Governor Holcomb's Executive Order – Mr. Doane said the mask mandate issued through Governor Holcomb's Executive Order went into effect today. A meeting was held with department heads to discuss internal processes and a memo was sent out to all employees.

Ordinance 2020-15 Fire and EMS FLSA (Second Reading) – Mr. Doane said this ordinance was amended per discussions at the last meeting.

Mr. Huddleston said he sent to the council a redlined copy showing the changes.

Councilwoman Graham made a motion to approve Ordinance 2020-15. Councilwoman Buck seconded. Motion carried.

Ordinance 2020-17 Historic Preservation Commission (Second Reading) – Mr. Doane said Mr. Huddleston needed some more time to review the ordinance. He recommended tabling the ordinance until the next meeting.

Councilwoman Buck made a motion to table Ordinance 2020-17. Councilman Piercefield seconded. Motion carried.

EBWC Emergency Water Connection – Mr. Doane said there has been a modification to the location of this connection. The connection will be near our County Road 800 lift station.

Mr. Huddleston said he was working on an easement agreement and it came to his attention that the agreement the council approved had the old location. This amendment updates the location of the connection. The amendment has already been approved by Eastern Bartholomew County Water.

Councilwoman Graham made a motion to approve the EBWC Emergency Water Connection amendment. Councilman Piercefield seconded. Motion carried.

Street Signage – Mr. Doane said some additional “children at play” and crosswalk signs have been ordered. Some locations have been mapped out for the new, brighter signs.

CR 900 Paving Update – Mr. Doane said utilities have been completed and paving work should start in the near future.

Wastewater Department Truck – Mr. Doane said they received an additional quote for a new pickup at the wastewater department to replace an old one that has had many repairs. He said he would like to table the decision until after the staff meets with Baker Tilly to discuss financials in the next couple of weeks.

Councilwoman Graham made a motion table the wastewater department truck discussion. Councilwoman Buck seconded. Motion carried.

Aerial Fire Truck – Mr. Huddleston said he drafted an interlocal agreement between the Town of Edinburgh and the City of Franklin for the purchase of an aerial fire truck and a Ford Expedition for \$125,000. If the council approves this agreement tonight, Franklin will approve the same agreement on August 3rd, and the town would pay for and take possession of the trucks on August 4th. The vehicle is being sold as-is however, Councilman Piercefield and Fire Chief Mike Herron have both knowledge of the history of the truck.

Councilman Piercefield said this is going to be a substantial savings for the town. A new aerial truck can range from \$1.5 to \$2 million. This truck is still currently in service in Franklin.

Councilman Piercefield made a motion to approve the purchase agreement for the aerial fire truck from the City of Franklin. Councilwoman Buck seconded. Motion carried.

Other Business

Mr. Doane said the 2020-2021 school year will be starting soon. He asked how the council wanted to proceed with the school resource officer.

President Simpson said he thinks Town Marshall Little has a short-term plan in place for the SRO, but a permanent decision has not been made yet.

Mr. Huddleston said the agreement says the town will provide an officer to the school. It does not list a specific officer and the school does not have input on that officer. The town has kept the school in the loop of that appointment process.

Councilwoman Graham said the email from the school sounded like they had not applied for the SRO grant yet. She said she would think that would need to be applied for before the school year.

Mr. Doane said he will keep the council informed of any updates.

Mr. Huddleston said Mr. Doane and Building Commissioner Wade Watson have sent out several demand letters to properties not in compliance with town code. He said they have developed a process where the notices are being signed by both Mr. Watson and Town Marshall Little.

Mr. Finley said he has received all the budget estimates back from the department heads. He will put those into a master sheet and begin calculating revenues this week. He told the council to plan on budget workshops before or after the next two council meetings. Any budget shortfalls from the pandemic will probably not start this year but in 2021 and carry over into 2022.

Departmental Comments

Water Superintendent Bill Jones said he has a preliminary engineering report from Wessler. He will be meeting with Wessler on August 7th and will present to the council after that.

Parks Director Daniel Teter said his staff has had multiple meetings with the Fall Festival committee. Unfortunately, due to the current situation, there will not be a Fall Festival this year. The parks department is planning some events for September in a safe manner, but it will be much smaller than the usual festival.

Councilwoman Buck asked if we would still be having fireworks around that time since the 4th of July fireworks were pushed back to the Fall Festival.

Mr. Teter said that will be a council decision. The parks department is down over \$100,000 in revenue from where they were last year. The pool is still seeing good crowds considering the limit on patrons. Guards and patrons are adjusting to the new COVID procedures.

Mr. Finley said the fireworks are typically paid for by the council budget, not the parks revenues.

Community Center Director SaraBeth Drybread said the community center has had Girls, Inc. using the center. There has been a great response. The center has also been hosting census training as well. There will be some new vendors at the farmer's market in the next couple of weeks.

Fire Chief Mike Herron thanked the council for the modifications to the fire house and the purchase of the aerial truck.

Public Comments

Debby Vaughan of 1127 Constitution Drive asked why the department heads were not present at the council meetings.

Mr. Doane said they are available by phone if necessary but because of the pandemic we are trying to limit the number of people in council meetings.

Ms. Vaughan asked if this was the largest area to hold the meetings.

Mr. Finley said we have had some preliminary discussions on some different council room options.

Ms. Vaughan asked why the fire and ems budget increased by almost 300% between 2019 and 2020.

Councilman Piercefield explained that the department transitioned from volunteer to paid standby-by in 2020. Previously, the town had to rely on volunteer to respond from home causing long delays in response. The department now has people on the clock 24 hours a day ready to respond to emergencies.

Ms. Vaughan said at the previous meeting Councilman Piercefield mentioned he was passionate about the fire department and money being better spent on the fire department. She explained that she is passionate about historic preservation in her hometown. She thanked Ms. Drybread for her work on trying to preserve historic buildings and districts in the town.

Councilman Piercefield said he has passion for this entire town and the protection of our citizens is vital.

Chief Herron explained the fire departments new schedule and how they respond to calls.

Councilwoman Graham said she wanted to state her support for the fire department. It was not just Councilman Piercefield that voted for this change.

Ms. Vaughan asked when the golf course bond would be paid off.

Mr. Finley said we have 3 more payments on the course and should be paid off at the end of 2021.

Allison Detling of 510 W. Center Cross Street asked if there was an update on why Ray's was not picking up certain things during heavy trash. She said she got a notice within a couple of days and she thinks the town is wasting resources sending letters out if there were issues with the trash service.

Mr. Doane said we have a one-year contract with Ray's for heavy trash. We are still working through some of the issues about what they will take and what they will not take and trying to convey that information to the citizens. There were some piles that were not picked up because they were prohibited items and few that were just missed by Ray's.

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

EDINBURGH TOWN COUNCIL

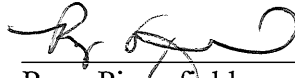
Jeff Simpson, President



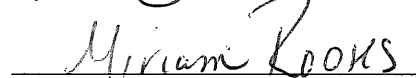
Dawn Graham, Vice President



Debbie Buck



Ryan Piercefield



Miriam Rooks

ATTEST:



Scott Finley, Clerk-Treasurer