

Town Council Meeting
Monday, October 12, 2020
6:00 P.M. Town Hall

Edinburgh Town Council met in a regular session on Monday, October 12, 2020 at 6:00 P.M. at the Town Hall, 107 South Holland Street, Edinburgh, Indiana.

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

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

Minutes – Council meeting of September 28, 2020. Councilwoman Buck made a motion to approve the minutes as submitted. Councilwoman Rooks seconded. Motion carried.

Claims – The council received a copy of the claim docket in their council packets. The total for that docket was \$103,626,29. Mr. Finley said he had signed off on the claims in that docket and handed them over to the council for approval.

Councilwoman Rooks asked about the payment to B & W Lawn Care for the cemetery.

Councilman Piercefield reviewed the claim and said it appears to be for treatment of the cemetery.

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

Petition for Annexation Request – Barb Pierse – Ms. Pierse said she did not have the correct form when she presented at the previous meeting. She passed out a copy of the request to each council member. She explained that in order to sell her lot it needs to be buildable. In order to be buildable it needs to have connection to the town's wastewater system. She said she is requesting that the town annex that property so that the buyer could connect to the wastewater system.

Building Commissioner Wade Watson said he reviewed some of the statutes regarding annexation petitions. He said the town will need to hold a public hearing to consider the annexation within 30 days. The public hearing must be advertised 20 days before the public hearing. He recommend that we engage legal council to review the statutes as well.

Discussion was held regarding in costs associated with the annexation.

Ms. Pierse said on a separate note she wanted to express her gratitude for the upkeep of Rest Haven Cemetery. She said she visited several other surrounding cemeteries and Rest Haven is in much better shape than most.

Sacoma Utility Deposit – Mr. Finley said an issue has arose where Sacoma was purchased by Tru Flex a few years ago. When that happened, the utility bill was never switched into Tru Flex's name. That company has been purchased and again will become Sacoma. Tru Flex requested a final bill but since it was in Sacoma's name we did an occupant change to send that bill out. Normally we would require a deposit at that time. Most of those businesses in that industrial park do not have deposits on file for some reason. He asked if the council wanted to require this deposit for this occupancy change.

Discussion was held regarding industrial deposits compared to average bills and credit status of those businesses.

Mr. Watson said we have a lot of users on our system without deposits or with inadequate deposits because of the long history of ownership. Per our ordinances, new businesses and residents are required to have a deposit at the time of connection. Tru Flex is closing and a new business call Sacoma, LLC is coming in.

Councilman Piercefield said if we have ordinances in place we should apply them to all incoming businesses and residents.

Mr. Finley said this will also set a precedent if something similar happened with other businesses.

Councilman Piercefield made a motion to collect the utility deposit for Sacoma, LLC. Councilwoman Rooks seconded. Motion carried.

Edinburgh Fire & EMS Standard Operating Guidelines – Mr. Doane said these guidelines were prepared and then submitted to Town Attorney Huddlestone for review and approval.

Councilman Piercefield made a motion to approve the Fire and EMS standard operating guidelines as presented. Councilwoman Buck seconded. Motion carried.

Prosser Area Stormwater Project – Mr. Doane said the total project cost excluding road repair is \$991,000. The grant will cover up to \$600,000. The town will have to cover the remaining amount. He said he and Mr. Finley spoke and were comfortable with \$170,000 to come from the Stormwater Fund and the remaining amount to come from the Rainy Day Fund.

Mr. Finley said he was not initially aware of the additional amount that would be required for this project. He said he is not comfortable paying for any of this project from the Wastewater funds because of their current cash situation. The Stormwater Fund does not have as many operational costs and has an adequate cash balance to fund a portion of the project. The Rainy Day has just over \$1,000,000 and if the council chooses to use those funds for this project he is comfortable with the balance.

Councilman Piercefield said this project is a must and he is in favor of proceeding.

Discussion was held regarding Rainy Day funding.

Councilwoman Buck made a motion to commit \$250,000 from the Stormwater Fund (including the \$80,000 grant match) and \$141,000 from the Rainy Day Fund for the Prosser Area Stormwater Project. Councilman Piercefield seconded. Motion carried.

7498 County Line Road Property – Mr. Doane said at the previous meeting the council approved the continuous enforcement order which was served to the property owner. This will be a discussion topic at the next meeting unless the nuisance is abated before then.

Councilman Piercefield asked if we have been able to hand deliver any notices.

Town Marshall Doyne Little said these have been door copies both times but they have been delivered to his last known address. They have not been left at the County Line Road address.

Mr. Watson said he has had in-person communication with the property owner as well.

CCMG – Mr. Doane said the call for projects for the Community Crossings Matching Grant was opened and the deadline for submissions is the end of this month. He recommends two separate applications. The first would be for High School Drive for \$817,800 with the town portion being \$204,050. The second would be for County Road 250 for \$889,100 with the town portion being \$222,275. It's possible we could be awarded both, just one, or neither application.

Mr. Finley said if the town were awarded both grants that would take up a majority of what our street repairs budget is for 2021. There would be a limited amount for other street repairs but obviously our money will go further if we can use it toward the match for the grant.

Discussion was held regarding the application process.

Mr. Finley said his only fear would be if the town was awarded the Stormwater Grant but not the Community Crossings Grant for the High School Drive project. At that point we would not have the funds to rebuild High School Drive. If we get the County Road 250 funds but not the High School Drive funds, they probably cannot be transferred to the other project.

Mr. Watson said we had a similar issue with East Main Cross. We received a grant for the Stormwater project and then submitted for CCMG funding in two applications. We patched the road temporarily until the funding was available for the paving project. He said you are scored poorly if you accept a grant and do not do the project. He would recommend applying for both and if we do not get the Stormwater grant, withdraw the application before the grants are awarded.

Councilman Piercefield made a motion to submit both CCMG applications for High School Drive and County Road 250. Councilwoman Rooks seconded. Motion carried 4 to 1 with Councilwoman Buck voting nay.

Other Business

Mr. Doane said this week he and Water Superintendent Bill Jones will attend the bid opening for the Easter Bartholomew Water Connection project.

Councilwoman Rooks asked when the leave vac would be out this year.

Mr. Doane said the leaf vac has been set up and that process will start very soon. The department was out Friday as there were already residents putting leaves out.

Community Center Director SaraBeth Drybread said she wanted to clarify that early voting at the community center will start on October 21, 2020. That information can be found online and on social media. Residents can vote now at specified county locations. She said the OCRA Peer Program public forum has been moved to October 23rd and 6 P.M. The police and fire departments are planning a chili supper with funds going to the Cheer Fund. It will be pre-order and pickup only.

Town Marshall Doyne Little said Kids for Cams will be in tomorrow with the Daily Journal. The kids are purchasing body cameras to donate to the police station. He said the last Durango should be shipping out to the department soon.

Mr. Jones said Westec just finished the water study. They should have a report ready in the next couple of weeks. The manganese numbers are looking a lot better. The department started flushing today. Compared to last time, they are having to flush a lot less.

Public Comments

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

EDINBURGH TOWN COUNCIL

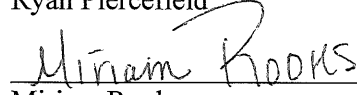


Jeff Simpson, President



Dawn Graham, Vice President

Debbie Buck

Ryan Piercefield


Miriam Rooks

ATTEST:



Scott Finley, Clerk-Treasurer