

Town Council Meeting
Monday, July 25, 2022
6:00 P.M. Town Hall

Edinburgh Town Council met in a regular session on Monday, July 25, 2022, at 6:00 P.M. at the Town Hall, 107 South Holland Street, Edinburgh, Indiana.

Vice President Dawn Graham called the meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Members answering roll call: Councilwoman Debbie Buck, Councilwoman Miriam Rooks, Vice President Dawn Graham. Also present were Clerk-Treasurer Scott Finley and Town Attorney Dustin Huddleston.

Minutes – Executive Meeting of July 8, 2022, and Council Meeting of July 11, 2022. Councilwoman Rooks made a motion to approve the minutes. Councilwoman Buck seconded. Motion carried.

Claims – The council received two claim dockets in their council packets. The first was the regular claim docket for the period totaling \$1,062,726.49 and the second was an end-of-month docket for March totaling \$1,159,729.97. Mr. Finley said he had signed off on all the claims in those dockets and presented them to the council for approval.

Councilwoman Buck made a motion to approve claims as submitted. Councilwoman Rooks seconded. Motion carried.

Public Hearing Horizon Freight Lines – Mr. Huddleston said a public hearing has been advertised for tonight for a rezoning request from Horizon Freight Lines. There are 3 members present tonight and thus any action on this request would need to be unanimous by the present members. If it was not unanimous it would be continued, and the petitioner would have to make the presentation again when all members were present. The council could continue the hearing to the next meeting when the full council is present.

Councilwoman Rooks made a motion to continue the public hearing for Horizon Freight Lines to the next council meeting. Councilwoman Buck seconded. Motion carried.

4kV Line Conversion Project Labor Bids – Planning Director Wade Watson said the town received bids for the conversion of the 4kV line to a 12kV line. We only received one qualified bid. The bid was for \$404,999.27 which was substantially higher than the \$100,000 engineer's estimate. The recommendation from the staff and the engineer firm is to reject all bids and consider readvertising. There were several things found during discussions with the contractors that did not submit bids on why they did not submit bids. The work was scheduled for the fall but that is the busy season for these types of contractors. We would change the time frame for the work to be done as well as reduction in penalties.

Councilwoman Rooks made a motion to reject all bids for the 4kV Line Conversion project. Councilwoman Buck seconded. Motion carried.

Crossroads Engineers SR 252 Electric Easement RW Services Fee Proposal – Mr. Watson said at the last meeting the council agreed to continue the 252 project with underground electrical. That project will require negotiations with private property owners for utility easements. This contract is for the work on procuring those easements. There is an error on the document submitted to council. The numbers are correct but there is some incorrect verbiage. He said he would bring the corrected document back to council at the next meeting for approval.

Bose McKinney & Evans Bond Counsel Engagement Letter – Mr. Watson said this engagement letter to retain Bose McKinney & Evans as bond counsel for the electric department projects including the substation and the 252 project. This was prepared by Mr. Huddleston and is ready for approval.

Councilwoman Buck made a motion to approve the Bose McKinney & Evans Bond Counsel Engagement Letter. Councilwoman Rooks seconded. Motion carried.

Councilwoman Buck made a motion to allow Vice President Dawn Graham to sign the engagement letter on behalf of the council. Councilwoman Rooks seconded. Motion carried.

Water Treatment Plant Pay Application #2 – Mr. Finley said this is the second pay app for the water treatment project. The total of the pay app is \$282,368.33. Upon approval, the pay app will be submitted to the State Revolving Fund for processing.

Councilwoman Rooks made a motion to approve Water Treatment Plant Pay Application #2. Councilwoman Buck seconded. Motion carried.

K-9 Purchase Agreement – Town Marshall Doyne Little said the purchase of a dog for the K-9 program. There are two agreements, one for the dog and one for the training, for that process. The agreement has been reviewed and approved by Mr. Huddleston.

Councilwoman Buck made a motion to approve the K-9 purchase agreement. Councilwoman Rooks seconded. Motion carried.

Councilwoman Buck made a motion to allow Vice President Dawn Graham to sign the agreement on behalf of the council. Councilwoman Rooks seconded. Motion carried.

Discussion for Additional Police Officers – Assistant Town Marshall Hector Mercado said in the past, the department had a 113 officer. That position was never back filled with the School Resource Officer program ended. The department would also like to add a 114 officer. In 2021, several officers reached milestone anniversaries and gained additional PTO. That coupled with the lack of reserves the department is causing coverage issues. Currently, he and Town Marshall Little are covering those hours. He showed a breakdown of the hours he was projecting for which the department would not have coverage. He is asking for 2 new officers on a new rotation. The current officers work 6 AM to 6 PM and 6 PM to 6 AM. The new rotation would be 8 AM to 8 PM and 8 PM to 8 AM. This staggers the shifts to ensure constant coverage. He has had to turn down some vacation time this year due to lack of coverage. The plan would be to advertise for 45 days and hopefully have two people chosen by December. This allows them to sign up for the next academy. The signup date for the academy is December 19th, 2022.

Councilwoman Rooks asked about the budget for police salaries.

Mr. Finley said the budget for personnel in the police department is \$764,500. Through the end of June, they have used \$338,000. The department was short an officer during the majority of that period. He estimated that if we add two officers on the lower end of the matrix the increase would be about \$120,000 with wages and benefits.

Councilwoman Buck asked if it would be best for them to bring this to the table during the budget process.

Mr. Finley said he would recommend a similar presentation during the budget workshops and the council can decide at that time if they want to increase the budget for the department. The first step would be to approve the budget with the increased wages and the second step would be to approve the hiring of two additional officers.

Amity Fire Department Request – Fire Chief John Henderson said the Amity ambulance is out of service. They have asked to borrow Edinburgh's reserve ambulance while theirs is repaired. This process is not laid out in the mutual aid agreement, so he wanted to bring it to council. He explained that the town has a backup ambulance as a duplication of resources. Amity assists the town regularly with ambulance runs. Amity would provide insurance on the ambulance while they were using it.

Councilwoman Graham said she would not want to make a decision without Mr. Huddleston reviewing. The agreement shows that the entity providing the equipment is completely responsible.

Mr. Huddleston said he can draft an agreement showing the requirements and who would be responsible for the equipment and have it at the next meeting.

Councilwoman Graham made a motion to allow Mr. Huddleston to draft an agreement with Amity for the backup ambulance request. Councilwoman Buck seconded. Motion carried.

Other Business

Mr. Finley said he is hoping to get the budget forms out to the department heads this week so that we can have budget workshops at the next two council meetings.

Mr. Watson said Terzo & Bologna will be requesting right-of-way on a property owned by the town on State Road 252. Pole testing will begin this weekend. The railroad crossing in town will be upgraded to have gate guards. That should start in September. The council has a quote in front of them for transformers. The quote is \$164,000. There is a 60-week lead time and the town will need them for subdivisions that may happen in the near future.

Councilwoman Rooks made a motion to approve the purchase of transformers for \$164,000. Councilwoman Buck seconded. Motion carried.

Mr. Watson said this will be the last council meeting in the current council room. The construction of the new council chambers will start this week. During construction council meetings will be held across the street at 104 South Holland Street.

Town Marshall Little said the town was awarded the dog from the 550 Foundation. This would be the second K-9 unit.

Councilwoman Buck made a motion to accept the dog from the 550 Foundation subject to an agreement being presented to council. Councilwoman Rooks seconded. Motion carried.

Wastewater Superintendent Rebecca Frakes said the repair on Pleasant Street has been completed.

Public Comments

Debby Vaughan of 1127 Constitution Drive asked if there was anything that could be done about the grain elevator on 252.

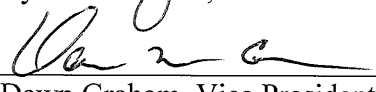
Mr. Huddleston said she could speak to Planning Director Wade Watson about that issue.

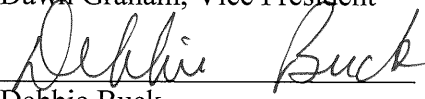
Ms. Vaughan said she would like to see a Pickleball court put in somewhere in town.

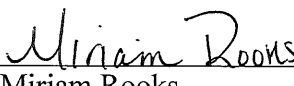
Being no further business or comments, Councilwoman Buck made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Councilwoman Rooks seconded. Motion carried.

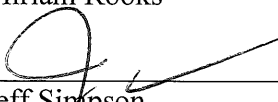
EDINBURGH TOWN COUNCIL


Ryan Piercefield, President

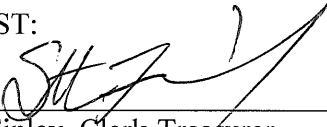

Dawn Graham, Vice President


Debbie Buck


Miriam Rooks


Jeff Simpson

ATTEST:


Scott Finley, Clerk-Treasurer