

Town Council Meeting
Monday, May 8, 2023
6:00 P.M.

Edinburgh Town Council met in a regular session on Monday, May 8, 2023, 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 Miriam Rooks, Councilwoman Debbie Buck, Councilman Jeff Simpson, and Vice President Dawn Graham. Also present were Clerk-Treasurer Scott Finley, Interim Town Manager Wade Watson, and Town Attorney Dustin Huddleston. President Ryan Piercefield was absent.

Minutes – Council meeting of April 24, 2023, and executive meeting of April 24, 2023. *Councilwoman Rooks 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 their council packet. The total for the docket was \$205,386.62. Mr. Finley said he had signed off on all the claims in that docket and presented them to the council for approval.

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

Proposal to Rezone Real Estate – Vice President Graham said because the full council is not present, the council would like to table this proposal until the next council meeting.

Councilwoman Rooks made a motion to table the proposal to rezone real estate until the May 22nd council meeting. Councilwoman Buck seconded. Motion carried.

Town Attorney Dustin Huddleston said the public hearing will be held on May 22nd and the hearing will need to be re-advertised for that date.

Ordinance 2023-9 Abnormal Water Usage (Second Reading) – Mr. Watson said this was presented at the last meeting. A citizen had a large utility bill due to a malfunction of an appliance. This ordinance draws out requirements to have a water bill adjusted due to a malfunctioning appliance.

Councilman Simpson made a motion to approve Ordinance 2023-9. With no second, the motion failed.

Annual CF-1 Review for Amos Hill, LB Mold, Edinburgh Investments, and Ditech – Mr. Watson said companies with current abatements are required to submit a CF-1 for each abatement. The town has received those forms from Amos Hill, LB Mold, Edinburgh Investments, and Ditech.

- Amos Hill – Year 9 of 10. Staff recommendation – approval.
 - *Councilwoman Rooks made a motion to approve the CF-1 for Amos Hill. Councilwoman Buck seconded. Motion carried.*
- LB Mold – Year 10 of 10. Staff recommendation – approval.
 - *Councilman Simpson made a motion to approve the CF-1 for LB Mold. Councilwoman Rooks seconded. Motion carried.*
- Edinburgh Investments – Year 10 of 10. Staff recommendation – approval.
 - *Councilwoman Rooks made a motion to approve the CF-1 for Edinburgh Investments. Councilman Simpson seconded. Motion carried.*
- Ditech – 2 abatements. Year 10 of 10 & year 7 of 10. Staff recommendation – approval.
 - *Councilwoman Rooks made a motion to approve the CF-1's for Ditech. Councilman Simpson seconded. Motion carried.*

Councilman Simpson made a motion to allow Vice President Graham to sign the CF-1's on behalf of the council. Councilwoman Buck seconded. Motion carried.

252 Bridge Project Easement Acquisition Offer – Mr. Watson said this is a proposal from INDOT for an access easement for bridge repair on State Road 252. They will be putting scouring protection on the pillars. The proposal is to pay the town \$2,650 for that access. Projected to happen in 2024.

Councilman Simpson made a motion to approve the INDOT access easement proposal as submitted. Councilwoman Buck seconded. Motion carried.

Councilman Simpson made a motion to allow the Wade Watson to sign the proposal on behalf of the council. Councilwoman Buck seconded. Motion carried.

Industrial Park Transformer Bid Award – Mr. Watson said Larry Rudolph of Alpha Engineering is present to explain the bid. This is for the industrial park substation on the south side of town. There is a 3-year lead time on this transformer.

Mr. Rudolph said over the course of a month the lead times for these transformers has gone up almost a year. A purchase order locks in the price and date. Large utilities are putting in orders for several years' worth of transformers. Developers will be looking at the availability of electricity when deciding on a location.

Mr. Watson said bond counsel has been appointed for a bond for this project. We are still working on the design of this project.

Mr. Rudolph said Alpha is not recommending the low bidder. They are recommending the second lowest bidder, Niagara. This transformer is the same as the other transformer which makes it safer and easier for technicians to work on. This was also the only bid that gave the full 5-year warranty that was set out in the RFP.

Discussion was held regarding current and future demand.

Councilwoman Rooks made a motion to approve the transformer bid award to Niagara for the industrial park substation. Councilwoman Buck seconded. Motion carried.

Padmount Transformer Purchase – Mr. Watson said Gradison found some transformers that were readily available for the Timbergate subdivision. They were sold out from under us before we could get the papers signed. We have found a vendor with four transformers available for \$5,540 each. They will be here in 4 to 10 weeks. A PO was submitted to secure the transformers.

Councilman Simpson made a motion to approve the purchase of the four transformers for \$5,540 each. Councilwoman Rooks seconded. Motion carried.

Comcast Fiber Installation Quote – Mr. Watson said the town received a proposal from Comcast to provide fiber to each of the town's locations. We have negotiated with them on speeds. Comcast wants to branch out into Edinburgh and eventually provide fiber service options to our citizens. Our current provider has had the town without phone service for several days. This cost per month is about double what we are currently paying at about \$5,546 but will be much more reliable.

Councilwoman Rooks made a motion to approve the fiber quote from Comcast. Councilwoman Buck seconded. Motion carried.

Councilman Simpson made a motion to allow Wade Watson to sign the quote on behalf of the council. Councilwoman Rooks seconded. Motion carried.

Fixed Asset Inventory Services – Mr. Finley said the town received proposals for a fixed asset inventory on May 4th. The bad news is the town only received one proposal from Records Consultants, Inc. The good news is the proposal appears to cover all areas set out in the RFP and is well under the estimated budget for the project. He explained the scope of work to the council. The total for the project is \$18,500.

Councilman Simpson made a motion to approve the fixed asset inventory from Records Consultants, Inc. Proposal subject to legal review. Councilwoman Buck seconded. Motion carried.

Councilwoman Rooks made a motion to allow Scott Finley to sign the proposal on behalf of the council. Councilwoman Buck seconded. Motion carried.

Purchase of 5" Supply Hose – Interim Fire Chief Chuck Ridpath said the department has two trucks that need to be supplied with 5-inch hose. He would like to get one done this year and one done next year. He received 3 quotes and would like to go with Hoosier Fire as they have all the appliances that go with the hose. The cost is just over \$13,000.

Discussion was held regarding funding.

Councilman Simpson made a motion to approve the purchase of 5-inch fire hose from Hoosier Fire. Councilwoman Buck seconded. Motion carried.

Other Business

Councilwoman Rooks said she did not get to attend the circus over the weekend but heard good things and that there was a great turnout.

Mr. Finley said the SBOA audit for 2021 and 2022 is complete. He thanked Councilwoman Rooks for attending the exit conference. The official report will be available for review on the SBOA website. He said of the 4 comments the town received, 3 have already been corrected and the 4th is the fixed asset inventory.

Mr. Watson said the pavement outside the town hall is scheduled to be done this week. Robertson will be doing that work and then the parks department will be handling the landscaping.

Mr. Watson said the town needs to decide what to do about the baby box. There is currently a hole in the side of the new fire station for the box. We have tried to find a different supplier of that box but Safe Haven appears to be the only option. Safe Haven spoke poorly of Edinburgh in an unprofessional post on social media so we have been reluctant to work with them. We can either go back to them for the box or we can postpone the decision and put something temporary where the box is to go.

Councilwoman Rooks said due to the unprofessionalism that was displayed toward the town she would not want to work with Safe Haven. She recommended a dedication plaque in that spot for now.

The council agreed.

Departmental Comments

Building and Zoning Official Robert Overton said he spoke with Mr. Huddleston about the property at 602 River Road. The town had a court order against that property to get it cleaned up. The owner has unfortunately passed away. To take further action, the town will need to find the current owner. He would like permission from the council to find that legal owner.

Councilman Simpson made a motion to allow Mr. Huddleston to research the owner of 602 River Road. Councilwoman Rooks seconded. Motion carried.

Mr. Overton said the property at 613 Eisenhower Drive belonged to a person who has passed away and left no will. The attorney of the heir of the property advised them to walk away from the property as there would be liens on the property. He has tried to communicate with them but gets no response.

Councilwoman Rooks made a motion to allow Mr. Huddleston to review options for the property at 613 Eisenhower Drive. Councilwoman Buck seconded. Motion carried.

Town Marshall Doyne Little said he wanted to discuss the K-9 insurance Vested Interest wants to provide to the town at no cost. The insurance would be through Trupanion. It would cover both dogs. He recommends proceeding with the K-9 insurance.

Councilwoman Rooks made a motion to proceed with K-9 insurance with Vested Interest. Councilwoman Buck seconded. Motion carried.

Water Superintendent Bill Jones said he has been purchasing 24 meters per month for several years now. They are now requiring him to buy a year's supply at a time. The cost is \$50,504.48. It will be split between the water and wastewater funds.

Councilman Simpson made a motion to approve the purchase of meters for \$50,504.48. Councilwoman Buck seconded. Motion carried.

Parks Director Daniel Teter said they sold 898 tickets for the circus and the department profited about \$2,200 on those sales. The pool opening process has started and they hope to fill the pool next week. The pool will open on Memorial Day weekend. The department had a big tournament last weekend.

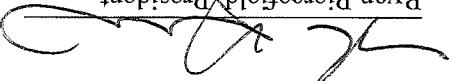
Community Center Director SaraBeth Drybread said she wanted to thank Kathy Hamm and Edna Whitlock for their work on Senior Moments. There were 24 seniors present. There will be a program listing out soon. The department will be doing a "Fishing with Mom" event at Irwin Park on June 10th. There will be a DNR expert present giving instruction. June 10th is also the next free pet clinic provided by the Humana Society.

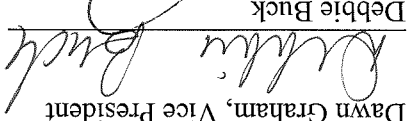
Public Comments

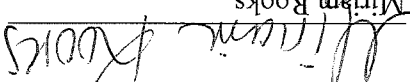
Mike Miller of 7777 East State Road 252 said he was present to express his strong opposition to the proposed Dollar General across from his house.


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

EDINBURGH TOWN COUNCIL


Ryan Piercefield, President

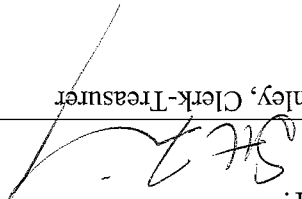

Dawn Graham, Vice President


Debbie Buck


Miriam Rooks


Jeff Simpson

ATTEST:


Scott Finley, Clerk-Treasurer