

Town Council Meeting
Monday, December 30, 2024
6:00PM

Edinburgh Town Council met in a regular session on Monday, December 30, 2024, at 6:00PM, at the Town Hall, 107 South Holland Street, Edinburgh, IN.

Council President Piercefield called the meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Members Answering Roll Call: Council President Ryan Piercefield, Councilwoman Miriam Rooks, Councilwoman Debbie Buck, Councilwoman Sherri Sweet, and Councilman Michael Bryant.

Also present were Clerk-Treasurer Rhonda Barrett and Town Manager John Myers. Town Attorney Dustin Huddleston was in attendance via phone call.

Minutes- Minutes of December 9, 2024, Town Council Meeting and minutes of December 19, 2024, Executive Meeting.

Councilwoman Buck made a motion to approve December 9, 2024, Town Council meeting minutes and December 19, 2024, Executive Meeting minutes. Councilwoman Sweet seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

Claims- Clerk-Treasurer Barrett presented one claim docket in the amount of \$1,742,793.52, all claims have been reviewed and signed.

Councilwoman Sweet asked what the line-item Council Promotions was on page six of the claim docket. Clerk-Treasurer Barrett stated this was likely for water or snacks for the Holiday of Lights.

Councilwoman Rooks made a motion to approve the claim docket as presented in the amount of \$1,742,793.52. Councilwoman Buck seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

Ordinance 2024-25 Amending Planned Unit Development for Timbergate (2nd Reading)- Attorney Huddleston stated this was the request made by Timbergate Development to reduce the minimum square footage of the homes being built. Attorney Huddleston stated the Planning Commission gave an unfavorable recommendation, so he recommends the Council deny the ordinance.

Councilwoman Rooks made a motion to deny Ordinance 2024-25 Amending Planned Unit Development for Timbergate (2nd Reading). Councilwoman Buck seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

Ordinance 2024-26 Amending Salary Ordinance (2nd Reading)- Clerk-Treasurer stated this is the second reading of the salary ordinance for 2025.

Councilwoman Buck made a motion to approve Ordinance 2024-26 Amending Salary Ordinance (2nd Reading). Councilwoman Sweet seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

Ordinance 2024-27 Amending Fee Schedule- Clerk-Treasurer Barrett stated this is the second reading of the fee schedule for 2025. Clerk-Treasurer Barrett stated some fees in the planning, zoning, and compactor areas were updated.

Councilwoman Rooks made a motion to approve Ordinance 2024-27 Amending Fee Schedule. Councilwoman Sweet seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

Ordinance 2024-29 Transfer of Appropriations (1st Reading)- Clerk-Treasurer Barrett stated this ordinance is done at the end of the year as an accounting cleanup. Clerk-Treasurer Barrett requested the 1st reading be waived as changes need to be done by the end of 2024.

Councilwoman Buck made a motion to waive the 1st reading of Ordinance 2024-29 Transfer of Appropriations. Councilwoman Rooks seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

Councilwoman Buck made a motion to approve Ordinance 2024-29 Transfer of Appropriations. Councilwoman Rooks seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

Ordinance 2024-28 Amending Ordinance 2024-19 (1st Reading)- Attorney Huddleston stated this is amending Ordinance 2024-19 which abolishes the office of Town Marshall to change the date from January 1, 2025, to March 1, 2025, and also amends the municipal code. This ordinance and the following 2 resolutions are all part of the process for joining the 77 fund for police and fire. The first reading can be waived tonight.

Councilwoman Rooks made a motion to waive the first reading of Ordinance 2024-28 Amending Ordinance 2024-19. Councilwoman Buck seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

Councilwoman Rooks made a motion to approve Ordinance 2024-28 Amending Ordinance 2024-19. Councilwoman Buck seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

Resolution 2024-37 Join 1977 Fund (Fire)- Attorney Huddleston stated this resolution is part of the 77 Fund process allowing Firefighters to join with a date of January 1, 2026, as recommended by a representative of INPRS to allow time for all participants to complete the process. This date can be moved up if all participants have completed the process prior to January 1, 2026.

Councilwoman Rooks made a motion to approve Resolution 2024-37 Join 1977 Fund (Fire). Councilman Bryant seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

Resolution 2024-38 Join 1977 Fund (Police)- Attorney Huddleston stated this resolution is part of the 77 Fund process allowing Police Officers to join with a date of January 1, 2026, as recommended by a representative of INPRS to allow time for all participants to complete the process. This date can be moved up if all participants have completed the process prior to January 1, 2026.

Councilwoman Rooks made a motion to approve Resolution 2024-38 Join 1977 Fund (Police). Councilman Bryant seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

Purchase of Real Estate- Attorney Huddleston stated this is to decide if the Town would like to proceed with the purchase of 201 West Main Cross Street from JMH. JMH is not going to have the building removed from the property before the Town purchases. Attorney Huddleston stated JMH has offered to reduce the price of the property by \$2,500. The council has the option to proceed with the purchase and accept the \$2,500 reduction, or the option to not proceed with the purchase and cancel the contract.

Councilwoman Rooks is in favor of canceling the purchase agreement and not proceeding with the contract as JMH is not willing to remove the building. Council President Piercefield was in agreement to not purchase and is not favorable of spending money to remove the building.

Councilwoman Buck is in favor of proceeding with the purchase with the \$2,500 reduction as there is a future need for the property. Councilwoman Sweet wants to proceed with the purchase. Councilman Bryant is in favor of proceeding with purchase and would prefer JMH reduce price by the cost of removal of the building.

Further discussion was held concerning the need to use that property in the future and the cost of demolition of the building.

Councilwoman Rooks made a motion to not proceed to purchase the property at 201 W Main Cross Street. Roll call to not proceed to purchase the property: Council President Piercefield voted yea, Councilwoman Rooks voted yea, Councilwoman Buck voted nay, Councilwoman Sweet voted nay, and Councilman Michael Bryant voted nay. Motion denied to not purchase 2-3.

Councilwoman Buck made a motion to purchase the property at the reduced price. Councilwoman Sweet seconded.

Roll Call for Purchase of Real Estate: Council President Piercefield voted nay, Councilwoman Rooks voted nay, Councilwoman Buck voted yea, Councilwoman Sweet voted yea, and Councilman Michael Bryant voted yea. Motion carried to purchase the property 3-2.

Councilwoman Buck made a motion to authorize Town Manager John Myers to sign the contract for Purchase of Real Estate. Councilwoman Sweet seconded.

Roll Call to authorize Town Manager John Myers to sign off on the contract for the Purchase of Real Estate: Council President Piercefield voted nay, Councilwoman Rooks voted nay, Councilwoman Buck voted yea, Councilwoman Sweet voted yea, and Councilman Bryant voted yea. Motion carried 3-2.

Street Superintendent Position- Town Manager John Myers requested to promote Assistant Street Superintendent Jacob Cox to the Street Superintendent position.

Councilwoman Rooks asked if this would be effective immediately. Mr. Myers confirmed that it would be effective immediately.

Councilwoman Rooks made a motion to promote Jacob Cox to the Street Superintendent position effective immediately. Councilwoman Buck seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

Assistant Town Marshall- Police Chief Doyne Little recommended Officer Shawn Kelsay to be promoted to Assistant Town Marshall for the police department. Chief Little stated Mr. Kelsay helps teach kids at the schools, is a member of the SWAT team, and is a good leader.

Councilwoman Sweet made a motion to approve the promotion of Shawn Kelsay to Assistant Town Marshall. Councilwoman Buck seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

GO Bond Project Discussion- Clerk-Treasurer Barrett stated on December 12, 2024, the Town closed on the GO bonds, and it was discussed to use some of these funds for the State Road 252 project. Clerk-Treasurer Barrett stated our share of \$690,325.00 for the 252 project was paid out of the utility and street department funds. Clerk-Treasurer Barrett requested to reimburse Town funds using the GO bonds funds.

Councilwoman Rooks made a motion to approve use of \$690,325.00 out of the GO bonds to reimburse Town funds. Councilwoman Buck seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

Wessler Invoice 46050 for Water Treatment Plant- Clerk-Treasurer Barrett presented Wessler invoice 46050 in the amount of \$93.00 for engineering services on the Water Treatment Plant for approval and also will need authorization for Council President Piercefield to sign.

Councilwoman Rooks made a motion to approve Wessler Invoice 46050 for the Water Treatment Plant in the amount of \$93.00. Councilwoman Buck seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

Councilwoman Rooks made a motion to authorize Council President Piercefield to sign off on Wessler Invoice 46050. Councilwoman Sweet seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

Fire Vehicle Purchase- Fire Chief Justin Lollar stated this was discussed and tabled at the previous meeting. Chief Lollar provided three additional quotes for a 2024 Chevrolet Tahoe. Chief Lollar stated the original quote he provided at the last meeting from Kelley Chevrolet in Fort Wayne, IN in the amount of \$51,075 is the cheapest of the presented quotes.

Discussion was held concerning the presented quotes vs. QPA pricing.

Discussion was held regarding how Chief Lollar obtained these quotes.

Councilwoman Buck asked what vehicle the Chevrolet Tahoe would be replacing. Chief Lollar stated the 2012 Chevrolet truck with approximately 105,000 miles on it would be replaced.

Discussion was held regarding the uses of the vehicle.

Councilwoman Buck asked if a lot of money has gone into the 2012 Chevrolet truck for repairs. Chief Lollar stated there has not been, but the truck will need transmission work soon.

Council President Piercefield asked if the 2012 Chevrolet truck was the newest vehicle the department has. Chief Lollar confirmed it is.

Councilwoman Rooks asked if Chief Lollar plans on keeping the 2012 Chevrolet truck. Chief Lollar confirmed that he does.

Councilwoman Rooks made a motion to approve the purchase of the 2024 Chevrolet Tahoe for the Fire Department with the QPA pricing of \$51,075 which was budgeted for. Councilman Bryant seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

Councilwoman Rooks made a motion to authorize Council President Piercefield to sign the 2024 Chevrolet Tahoe purchase agreement. Councilwoman Sweet seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

Police Vehicle Purchase- Police Chief Doyne Little presented another quote for a 2025 Chevrolet Tahoe from John Jones Auto Group in Salem, IN in the amount of \$56,444.50. Chief Little stated that the window to order a Ford Interceptor opened back up until March.

Council President Piercefield stated based on information obtained from SBOA, the Town cannot purchase two different brand of police vehicle models from two different vendors due to a \$5,000 difference in pricing. The Town would need to purchase two of the same brand of vehicles from the same vendor. Attorney Huddleston verified this information is correct.

Discussion was held regarding the possibility of ordering a Chevrolet Tahoe next year.

Councilwoman Buck made a motion to approve the purchase of a second Ford Interceptor. Councilwoman Rooks seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

Lights for Police Vehicles- Police Chief Doyne Little presented three quotes for the police vehicle lights for Ford Interceptors. The quote from JTN Services was \$13,760.70, Waymire Fleet was \$16,095.64, and Move Over Outfitters was \$14,745.65.

Councilwoman Rooks asked if these quotes were for each car. Chief Little confirmed they were.

Councilwoman Rooks asked if Chief Little had this in his 2025 budget. Chief Little confirmed that he did.

Councilwoman Rooks made a motion to approve the purchase of the lights for the police vehicles from JTN Services in the amount of \$13,760.70 per car. Councilwoman Buck seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

Golf Course Equipment Purchase- Timbergate Manager Wayne Gibbs requested to purchase a 2025 John Deere 2052R Compact Utility Tractor in the amount of \$41,851.00, a 2025 John Deere Gator GS in the amount of \$15,865.00, and a 2025 Lely HR Fertilizer Spreader in the amount of \$6,227.00 all from Beard Equipment Company. Manager Gibbs stated the current equipment is approximately 20 years old and these are all replacement items. Manager Gibbs stated they have \$41,095.00 in their available budget for this year, which would leave a deficit of \$22,848.00 which would be paid out of the golf course revenue fund.

Councilwoman Rooks asked if standard warranties would come with these pieces of equipment. Manager Gibbs confirmed it would.

Councilwoman Rooks made a motion to approve the equipment purchase in the amount of \$63,943.00 for the Timbergate Golf Course as presented. Councilwoman Sweet seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

2024 Encumbrances- Clerk-Treasurer Barrett stated Timbergate Manager Wayne Gibbs needs to encumber \$41,095.00 from the 2024 budget to pay for the equipment he requested when it comes in 2025. Clerk-Treasurer Barrett stated Fire Chief Justin Lollar needs to encumber \$4,090.00 for Ambulance 41 graphics from Pop Print Company and \$15,531.17 for the 2024 Chevrolet Tahoe equipment package from Waymire Fleet.

Councilwoman Rooks made a motion to approve the 2024 Encumbrances as presented. Councilwoman Buck seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

Timbergate S4 Bonds- Town Manager John Myers presented ten subdivision maintenance bonds for section four of Timbergate development for curbs, streets, erosion control, sanitary sewer, etc. Mr. Myers recommends legal review before accepting the bonds. Wastewater Superintendent Robert Jessie has not received pressure test results or camera footage on the sewer lines in that section. There are erosion control problems that have not been addressed and there has been a stop work order in place since June, but they continue to work.

Adam Mears, Land Use and Project Facilitator at Gradison Land Development, stated the purpose of the bonds is to provide surety to the Town that these items get resolved. Mr. Mears stated they cannot get plats recorded until the bonds are accepted and cannot sell lots until the plats are recorded. Mr. Mears stated they have been trying to get this done since October 2024.

Mr. Mears stated when it comes to the stop work order, he has had several conversations with Planning Director Julie Young about the punch list of items from the plans.

Town Manager John Myers referenced a meeting in August 2024 with Gradison concerning items such as erosion control, drainage, and rip rap and other items to be completed within 2 weeks and all items discussed during that meeting have not been completed as of today.

Discussion was held regarding Mr. Mears' attempts to receive answers from the Town and the goal line being moved every two weeks.

Discussion was held regarding the purpose of the bonds and the protection it gives to the Town.

Discussion was held regarding copies of the pressure test results and videos.

Council President Piercefield stated the Council needs to make a decision and noted the involved Town employees are not present for rebuttal.

Councilwoman Buck made a motion to approve the Timbergate S4 Bonds subject to Attorney Huddleston's review. Councilwoman Rooks seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

Other Business

Councilwoman Sweet noted the great article in the paper about the Town's new fire truck.

Councilwoman Rooks stated the Holiday of Lights went well. Councilwoman Rooks thanked Police Chief Doyne Little and Fire Chief Justin Lollar for their service and stated she was glad they are getting the equipment they need.

Council President Piercefield stated it is important on the Timbergate development to get everything right, as there is only one chance to get everything underground and erosion control right from the beginning. President Piercefield stated the community deserves nothing short of perfection, and the Town needs to have a high standard on development. President Piercefield stated he is happy to have Shawn Kelsay as assistant Town Marshall and Jacob Cox as Street Superintendent will do a great job in his new role.

Police Chief Doyne Little stated the police department was awarded a JAG grant of \$23,000 to get replacements of their radios and car radios and will be receiving a reimbursement check. Chief Little stated they will be purchasing new bulletproof vests as it is required every five years, but he is looking into grants for that purchase. Chief Little welcomed Shawn Kelsay.

Street Superintendent Jacob Cox thanked the Council for the opportunity to give back to the community.

Fire Chief Justin Lollar stated he is finishing his first calendar year with the town as the Fire Chief. Chief Lollar thanked the Council for all their support.

Timbergate Manager Wayne Gibbs thanked the Council for all their support and stated the golf course had a good year. Manager Gibbs stated this is the third or fourth year in a row that they have beaten records.

Discussion was held regarding future remodeling needed at the golf course.

Assistant Town Marshall Shawn Kelsay thanked the Council for the opportunity to prove himself.

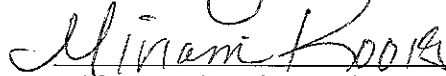
Adjourn

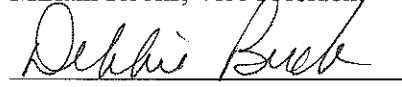
Being no further business or comments, Councilwoman Rooks made a motion to adjourn. Councilwoman Buck seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

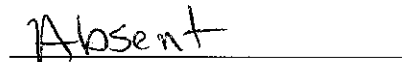
These minutes are a summary of actions taken at the Town of Edinburgh Council meetings. The full video archive of the meeting is available for viewing at <https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL0pagNU7lg5FkjGffOvWphctPehLL-R5g> for as long as this media is supported.

EDINBURGH TOWN COUNCIL


Ryan Piercefield, President



Miriam Rooks, Vice President


Debbie Buck


Absent
Sherri Sweet


Michael Bryant

ATTEST:


Rhonda Barrett, Clerk-Treasurer