

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING FEBRUARY 9, 2021

The Edinburg Town Council met in a regular session on Tuesday, February 9, 2021. Mayor Harshman called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. All Council Members were present, except for Councilman Boone, Councilman Dellinger and Councilman Van Stee. Also present were Sgt. Robert French and Dep. Hank Hoover from the Shenandoah County Sheriff's Department.

Mr. Harshman stated that there was an error in the January 12, 2021 minutes that needed to be corrected. The Town Clerk will make the correction. A motion was made by Councilman Wood and seconded by Councilman Baird to approve the minutes of the January 12, 2021 regular meeting with the correction. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Councilman Wood and seconded by Councilwoman Wymer-Hollar to accept the Treasurer's report and to approve the bills that have already been paid. Motion carried.

The Water and Sewer Committee had no report. Mr. Harshman reported that there were some influent pump issues at the WWTP, but the Plant Operator by-passed one of the pumps to keep things running. Mr. Harshman also reported that the water levels are still good.

The Street Committee had no report. Mr. Harshman reported that the Town has put in for \$4,000 more for snow removal with VDOT. Mr. Harshman also reported that the Town is using some part-time drivers to assist with the snow plowing. Councilman Wood commended Mr. Ross and his staff on the snow removal.

The Ordinance Committee had no report.

The Personnel Committee had no report. Mr. Harshman reported that he will be meeting with the Maintenance Department employees on Friday regarding some Personnel Manual issues.

The Finance Committee had no report. Mr. Harshman reported that the accountant is still working on the QuickBooks reports. Mr. Harshman also reported that when last year's budget was adopted, raises for the town employees were held off until after the first of the year. When this was done, it was thought that the pandemic would be under control by now, but obviously, that has not occurred. Mr. Harshman reported that the February numbers for the year will give a better feel for the COVID impact on the revenues and a decision should be able to be made on moving forward with the raises or not. Mr. Harshman asked the Council if they were okay with him communicating to them about the raises by email and they were fine with this.

The Property Committee had no report. Mr. Harshman reported that Woodstock is selling their old dump truck for \$15,000 and they are going to bring it by the Maintenance Shop so it can be looked over.

The Cemetery Committee had no report.

The Park Committee had no report. Mr. Harshman reported that he received a request from Mr. Jered Hoover from Parks & Rec about possibly starting a comprehensive committee consisting of a town representative or other appointed member to help collaborate Parks & Rec throughout Shenandoah County during COVID-19. Councilwoman Wymer-Hollar stated that she would be on this committee if they met in the evenings and if not, Mr. Harshman will be the town representative. The Council asked Mr. Harshman to get more information about this committee. Mr. Harshman also reported that he reached out to the other towns about their playgrounds. The Edinburg Town Park is still closed, but most of the other towns have left their parks open, but they have posted "use at own risk" or "follow rules" signs. This will be revisited again after the cold weather.

The Insurance Committee had no report.

Sgt. French from the Shenandoah County Sheriff's Department reported that there were 728 total Calls for Service in January. Mr. Harshman let Sgt. French know that there is an issue with a resident in Madison Village that keeps letting their dog defecate in the common area and does not clean it up. Sgt. French also reported that the deputies are aware of directing traffic in Edinburg if necessary.

Mr. Harshman reported that the Tourism Council had a virtual meeting in January. He reported that there have been a couple of advertising campaigns done with social media to promote what the County has to offer and there have also been a number of things going out showing how steps are being taken to protect visitors. Mr. Harshman also reported that the new Shenandoah County Small Business COVID Grant application has been sent out. Businesses can apply for up to \$15,000 and the deadline to apply is March 5, 2021. These funds are coming from the CDBG funds received by the County.

Mr. Harshman reported that Cornerstone Technologies is coming on Thursday to meet with the Town Office staff to train them on how to use the new equipment.

Mr. Harshman reported that the Bus Service Committee met to discuss what to do next. The funding has been approved and work on drafting the RFP for a contractor to provide bus service will begin soon. The RFP will be for 12 months of service, but the funding will allow for 18 months to make everything happen. The Committee is thinking service will not begin until the fall of this year.

Mr. Harshman reported that he attended the ribbon cutting for 2 new businesses in Edinburg. One was for Mrs. Joan Reistetter's yarn shop on N. High Street and the other one was for 2 businesses located in Mrs. Reistetter's former location on N. Main Street. Forgotten Curiosities is an antique shop run by Mrs. Jody West. Mrs. West is also a graphic designer and will be running her company, Riverbend Art & Design from the same location.

There was no ARB meeting this month.

Mr. Harshman reported that the Planning Commission will be meeting next week to discuss the possible changes to the R-2 District.

There were no Zoning Permits issued.

There was no Town Attorney report.

Mr. Harshman reported that the only update he had on the WWTP upgrade was that the borings were done. He knows that some rock has been found but has not heard how it might affect the project.

Mr. Harshman asked the Council if they wanted him to schedule a Public Hearing next month if the Planning Commission votes to recommend approval of the possible changes to the R-2 Residential District. The Council agreed that Mr. Harshman should schedule a Public Hearing before the March council meeting.

Mr. Harshman stated that Ms. Barbara Strong's term on the Board of Zoning Appeals does not expire until March 20, 2022.

Mr. Harshman asked the Council to consider appointing Ms. Barbara Strong to the Architectural Review Board. A motion was made by Councilman Wood and seconded by Councilman Baird to approve the appointment of Ms. Barbara Strong to the Architectural Review Board. Motion

carried. The Town Clerk will notify Ms. Strong that she has been appointed to the Architectural Review Board.

Mr. Harshman reported that he sent out the information on the new Local Choice Health Benefits Program rates for the period beginning 7/01/2021 through 6/30/2022 to the Council to look over and asked them to consider approving the renewal of the insurance. The total increase for all employees totals \$107 per month. A motion was made by Councilwoman Wymer-Hollar and seconded by Councilman Baird to approve the renewal of the Local Choice Health Insurance for 7/1/2021 through 6/30/2022. Motion carried.

With no further business, a motion was made by Councilman Wood and seconded by Councilman Baird to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 8:04 p.m.

Daniel J. Harshman, Mayor

Mary L. Lowerre, Town Clerk