

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MARCH 14, 2023

The Edinburg Town Council met in a regular session on Tuesday, March 14, 2023. Mayor Harshman called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. All the Council Members were present. Also present were Mr. Steve Crisman and Dep. Andrew Mason from the Shenandoah County Sheriff's Department.

Mayor Harshman asked if anyone had anything that was not on the agenda.

A motion was made by Councilman Dellinger and seconded by Councilman Baird to approve the minutes of the February 14, 2023 regular meeting. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Councilman Wood and seconded by Councilman Beachy to approve the Treasurer's report and to pay all the bills as presented. Motion carried.

Councilman Beachy stated that he attended the last Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) construction upgrade meeting and it was his impression that everything was going fairly smoothly.

Mayor Harshman called attention to Inboden's report and reported that water production was down.

Mayor Harshman reported that the Town received the 6 new membrane for filter #2 which has been offline and as he reported last month, the membrane cost \$850 each and there were also o-rings and other parts needed that totaled \$486. The membrane comes from Australia and the shipping charges were \$959. There are a total of 30 membranes, so there is still a way to go with replacements.

Mayor Harshman reported that filter #4 is having high trans membrane pressure (TMP) issues. The TMP measures how dirty the membrane is and if it reaches a certain level, it will shut down the filter. This is a problem that has happened in the past during times of higher turbidity that impacted all of the filters to the point that the filtered water ran out and no matter how many times it was backwashed and chemically cleaned, the TMP would not go down. Mayor Harshman reported that this problem was from organics building up on the membranes and Memcor came up with a new cleaning regiment that has worked for 10 years up until this problem with filter #4. Mr. Mark Inboden told Mr. Harshman that he had another cleaning procedure that he was going to try, but if it doesn't work, the membrane for filter #4 will need to be replaced. Mayor Harshman also reported that he has contacted Memcor about a cost estimate to have one of their techs come and go through all of the filters.

Mayor Harshman reported that the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) 2021 Lead and Copper Rule Revision requires all community water systems to take several actions, including conducting an inventory of all service lines in their water distribution networks. This will require the Town to determine what each service line is made of and classify each line as lead requiring replacement or non-lead on both the utility owned side of the meter and the customer owned side. If a line is identified as unknown, it will be considered as a lead line in need of replacement. Mayor Harshman reported that once the inventory is completed, the Town will be required to submit a Lead Service Line Replacement Plan to the State by October 16, 2024.

Mayor Harshman reported that Inboden Environmental Services has given the Town a proposal to assist with this inventory at a cost of \$24,080. Even with Inboden's assistance, the Town staff will still have to do quite a bit and some of the historical data will be difficult for the Town to provide, so Mayor Harshman has reached out to the other towns to see how they will be doing this work. Mayor Harshman has also contacted the Virginia Department of Health (VDH) about possible funding sources and whether they have heard from any other small communities about working with someone to complete the work. There are around 650 individual service lines, so the Town will need to get started soon.

The Street Committee had no report. Councilman Baird stated that he thought a mirror was needed on the corner of Palmyra Road since there is a lot more traffic there and it is hard to see around the wall. Councilman Wood stated that 2 mirrors may be needed there, so he and the Mayor will take a look at this area.

Mayor Harshman reported that he still has not heard anything about the grant funding for the sidewalk study. He also reported that Mr. Steve Van Stee came and gathered all the switch equipment for the crosswalk lights at the Post Office. Mr. Van Stee is going to rebuild them before reinstalling them, and

once he has all of the new components assembled, the Mayor is going to ask him for backup parts for future repairs.

The Ordinance Committee had no report. Mayor Harshman reported that everything has been submitted for the Town Code update.

The Personnel Committee had no report.

The Finance Committee had no report. Mayor Harshman reported that there are lots of unknowns in the Budget at this point such as the health insurance. He also reported that the Town received the renewal rates from Anthem Local Choice with an 8.4% increase.

The Property Committee had no report. Mayor Harshman stated that some work needs to be done on the exterior of the King Cola building. He reported that one side of the building currently has vinyl siding and a large broken window and the rest of it has wood siding. There are other windows in the building that are also broken and in need of repair. Some of the wood siding needs to be replaced and the entire building needs to be painted or sided. Mayor Harshman reported that since the building is in the Historic District, whatever is done will require Architectural Review Board (ARB) approval. The window replacement and new vinyl siding is going to be fairly expensive, but Mayor Harshman thinks some of the work can be done by himself and the Town Crew. The ARB has approved vinyl siding on other historic buildings, so Mayor Harshman asked the Council what they thought should be done with the building. Councilman Beachy stated he thought the window repairs should be done and the wooden siding should be painted. Councilwoman Reistetter thought the Town should get a price on painting and on vinyl siding. Mayor Harshman stated that he will get pricing on painting, vinyl siding and windows for the building.

The Cemetery Committee had no report.

The Park Committee had no report. Councilwoman Wymer-Hollar reported that she was contacted by an individual that would like to do his Eagle Scout Project at the Edinburg Pool. The proposal for this project includes constructing a sunshade/sail for the northeast corner of the pool, 4 changing pods and 6 swim team benches. She also reported that other Scouts and family will be helping him and he may need some help from the Maintenance Department. The total cost of this project is projected to be \$2,800 and this individual would do all the fundraising for the project and believes the project could be completed in 3 days, over 2 weekends. A motion was made by Councilwoman Wymer-Hollar and seconded by Councilman Wood to approve the proposed Eagle Scout Project at the Edinburg Pool. Motion carried. Councilwoman Wymer-Hollar also reported that lifeguard training and recertification have already been set up.

Mayor Harshman reported that he heard back from the tennis court company about the courts and to totally redo the 2 courts it will cost \$117,900, which includes removing the existing fencing for access and reinstalling the same fencing, removing the old courts, installing new asphalt, reinstalling the existing nets and poles and applying colored courts and lining. Councilwoman Wymer-Hollar reported that people use the courts early in the morning and later in the evening and if the courts are repaired, she thinks it may bring more players. Councilman Wood reported that someone may also start doing tennis lessons at the courts. Councilman Dellinger stated that the Town should check and see how much of the work the Maintenance Department can do and wait and see how much the water line issue will cost first.

The Insurance Committee had no report. Mayor Harshman reported that he contacted McGriff to start the search for an insurance alternative to Anthem. McGriff stated that companies haven't released their rates for the current year yet, but this should be happening soon since the Town has already received Anthem's rates. Mayor Harshman also reported that the Town sent a letter to Anthem telling them that we would not be renewing this year, which the Town was required to do before April 1st. The Town did retain the right to rescind this decision by June 1st if we changed our minds.

The Health and Safety Committee had no report. Mayor Harshman called attention to the February Calls for Service report.

Mayor Harshman reported that the Rails to Trails meeting last night was well attended. He also reported that the purpose of the meeting was for VDOT to get information and help with the planning and design. Councilwoman Wymer-Hollar stated that the meeting was very informative. Councilman Beachy asked if

there would be enough roadway south of the bridge across the creek for the trail and what would be done about the slope going down. Mayor Harshman stated that there is another 10 feet with the right-of-way and the sides could be built up and the top widened. Councilman Baird stated that he was concerned about the safety of the trail and how it would be handled. Mayor Harshman stated that it will probably be handled like park situations are and he doesn't think that it will be patrolled on a regular basis.

Mayor Harshman reported last month about the annual inspection of the fire sprinkler system at the Edinburg Mill and the need for additional work. The work that needs to be done includes completing the 5-year internal pipe inspection, the 5-year internal check valve inspection and the required 5-year fire department connection hydrostatic testing, replacing all gauges, installing a fire department connection sign and a sign for the riser room and replacing 13 sprinkler heads at a cost of \$3,000.

Mayor Harshman reported that the ShenGo bus ridership was up to 1,244 in February. The northern route is still seeing more riders and they have been talking about placing shelters and benches at some of the stops. They would like to place a bench at the corner of Rose Drive and Kadies Lane.

Mayor Harshman reported that he sent additional photographs and the Town's approval for the tank antennas to T-Mobile, but he hasn't heard anything back.

Mayor Harshman reported that he met with 2 different tank painters and is waiting on the quotes. The tank painting work will be paid for with American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds.

Mayor Harshman reported that he will be meeting with the Engineer and the VDH this Friday about the permits for the Pump Station and the 200,000-gallon tank.

Mayor Harshman reported that the VDOT Land Use Permit application for the speed signs has been approved.

Mayor Harshman reported that VDOT has started conducting traffic counts this week through May 26th. He also reported that the Town can request the count information.

Mayor Harshman reported that the Visitor Center sign installation on I-81 has been moved to April.

Mayor Harshman reported that the next Town & County Dinner will be in Mt. Jackson on April 5th starting at 6:00 p.m. The Town will pay for the Council Members and if they would like to bring their spouse, the cost is \$25. Mayor Harshman is not sure of the location yet, but the guest speaker will be the President of Rt. 11 Chips.

The ARB did not meet.

The Planning Commission did not meet other than the meeting held after the February 14th Public Hearing.

There were no Zoning Permits issued.

Mayor Harshman reported that he was in contact with the Town Attorney today about the closing on the USDA loan.

Mayor Harshman stated that the next WWTP upgrade construction progress meeting will be on Tuesday, April 4th at 10:30 a.m. at the Town Hall.

Mayor Harshman reported that they have finished installing the clarifier mechanisms and have installed the piping for the aeration blowers in the aeration tanks. Mayor Harshman also reported that they hope to set the manholes, pump stations and underground piping connecting the clarifiers and aeration tanks so that they can complete the backfilling.

Mayor Harshman reported that Viola Engineering has been doing the backfill inspections and quality control inspections for the project. WGK Construction has been focusing on using the backfill that is on site to open up staging areas for things like the concrete pump and crane required to complete the next construction phase which will include the pouring of the control building's floor and setting the precast concrete walls and roof of the building. Mayor Harshman also reported that the control building should be

on site in 6 weeks and the Contractor will be hauling in additional backfill from the offsite storage areas as needed.

Mayor Harshman reported that one of the digester blowers has been installed and the electrician was scheduled to hook it up at the end of last week. The Town Crew hauled liquid sludge out of the Plant last week to open up storage space in the digester while the blowers are off-line. WGK is welding the air piping for the new digester blowers and will be turning on one of them soon while installing the second unit.

Mayor Harshman reported that the variable frequency drives are now on site and they will begin working on the influent pump upgrades soon. This will depend on the weather since the wet well will need to be bypassed while this work is being done. Mayor Harshman reported that a couple of warmer days and nights are needed so that the bypass pumps are not affected by freezing temperatures.

Mayor Harshman reported that 2 of the 3 aeration blowers are sitting in Fredericksburg and WGK is waiting for the third one to arrive before bringing all 3 to Edinburg. These will be located in the control building that needs still to be built, so there is time before they will need to be installed. Mayor Harshman also reported that 65-70% of the work is complete at this point.

Mayor Harshman asked the Council to consider a Resolution establishing April 2023 as National Autism Awareness Month in the Town of Edinburg. A motion was made by Councilman Dellinger and seconded by Councilwoman Reistetter to adopt a Resolution establishing April 2023 as National Autism Awareness Month in the Town of Edinburg. Motion carried.

Mayor Harshman asked the Council to consider authorizing him to sign a quote to have a Memcor Technician visit the Water Treatment Plant for a period of 3 days to evaluate the function of the Memcor Filters at a cost of \$9,579. A motion was made by Councilman Beachy and seconded by Councilman Dellinger to authorize the Mayor to sign a quote to have a Memcor Technician visit the Water Treatment Plant for a period of 3 days to evaluate the function of the Memcor Filters at a cost of \$9,579. Motion carried.

Mayor Harshman asked the Council to consider appointing Cynthia Morris to the Architectural Review Board for the balance of Anne Parks' term that expires June 30, 2024. A motion was made by Councilman Dellinger and seconded by Councilman Wood to appoint Cynthia Morris to the Architectural Review Board for the balance of Anne Parks' term that expires June 30, 2024. Motion carried.

Mayor Harshman reported that the Bank Franchise Tax has gone down from \$40,000 last year to \$39,648 this year.

With no further business, a motion was made by Councilman Beachy and seconded by Councilman Dellinger to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 8:26 p.m.

Daniel J. Harshman, Mayor

Mary L. Lowerre, Town Clerk