

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MAY 11, 2021

The Edinburg Town Council met for a Public Hearing on Tuesday, May 11, 2020. Mayor Harshman called the Public Hearing to order at 7:04 p.m. All Council Members were present. There were not any visitors.

The purpose of the first Public Hearing is to receive comments on the proposed amendment of the 2020-2021 Budget and the proposed Budget for the Year beginning July 1, 2021 and ending June 30, 2022.

Mr. Harshman reported that the Town received a letter from a resident who was concerned about the water rates going up and she also thinks the Town needs to work on her road. Mr. Harshman stated that the sewer rate is going up, not the water rate and the road this resident lives on is a State road, so there is nothing that the Town can do.

There were no other comments.

The purpose of the second Public Hearing is to receive comments on a possible exemption from the disconnection ban included in the Commonwealth of Virginia's Budget Bill.

There were no comments.

A motion was made by Councilman Boone and seconded by Council Wood to adjourn the Public Hearing at 7:09 p.m. Motion carried.

The Edinburg Town Council met in a regular session on Tuesday, May 11, 2021. Mayor Harshman called the meeting to order at 7:27 p.m. All Council Members were present. Visitors present: Capt. Kolter Stroop and Deputy Tyler Jobe from the Shenandoah County Sheriff's Department.

A motion was made by Councilman Dellinger and seconded by Councilman Van Stee to approve the minutes of the April 13, 2021 regular meeting. Motion carried.

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

The Water and Sewer Committee had no report. Mr. Harshman reported that the water production is still less than 150,000 gallons a day.

Mr. Harshman reported that the Town received the results from the Health Department's Annual Inspection. There were some operational items on the report that Inboden will follow up on. Mr. Harshman also reported that he got a price of \$6,800 to power wash the elevated storage tank, but because of the number of unexpected water and sewer expenses, the Town will hold off on this until later in the year. Mr. Harshman also reported that the new permit for the WWTP has been submitted to the DEQ.

Mr. Harshman reported that a valve handle extension broke off on one side of the digester at the WWTP. The Maintenance Department pumped and hauled what they could of the contents of the digester to the County Plant. The rest had to be hauled by a pump truck that came from Richmond to completely empty it. Mr. Harshman reported that the Town has not received all the bills from this yet, but this repair will end up costing around \$15,000.

Mr. Harshman reported that one of the compressors at the WTP is having problems. It is the older of the two units and the parts are not available to repair it. A new unit has been ordered that is 5 HP and has a slightly larger air tank mounted under it. The new unit has the required air dryer and comes with extra lubricant and an auto restart and modulation control. Mr. Harshman reported that the cost for the new compressor is \$8,640 plus freight. The estimated delivery time is 4-6 weeks, so the Town will need to rent a compressor at around \$1,000 a month until the new unit arrives.

Street Committee Chairman, Councilman Baird asked about putting up a sign with blinking lights in front of the Insurance Company on Main Street since it has been hit so many times. Mr. Harshman stated that the Town has reached out to VDOT about rumble strips and have not heard anything, but he can reach out to them again about a sign. Councilman Baird also asked if anything could be done about what he brought up last month about re-directing the water away from his driveway. Mr. Harshman stated that he does not think there is anything the Town can do, and that the homeowner should approach VDOT about it.

Mr. Harshman reported that the VFW paid for all the new banner brackets for the 40 wooden utility poles. This will allow for the extension of the Veterans Banners to the town limits north and south on Route 11. The banners should be up by Memorial Day.

Mr. Harshman reported that the Town originally had \$20,000 in the Budget for the resurfacing of Town Hall Avenue and Park Road. The plan was to do half of the project in 2020-2021 and the other half in 2021-2022. Since that time, the Town was able to get a quote for the work and if the Council would like to move ahead on this, Mr. Harshman would like to get this completed before the Ole Time Festival. The total cost would be around \$43,000. A motion was made by Councilman Van Stee and seconded by Councilman Wood to get the paving done on Town Hall Avenue and Park Road. Motion carried.

The Ordinance Committee had no report.

The Personnel Committee had no report.

The Finance Committee had no report. Mr. Harshman reported that the Town heard from the State that they have decided to unallot \$8,628,574 from the State Aid to 599 (Police Department) Funds. They are saying that the 3rd quarter funding was higher than it should have been. To correct this the State will be lowering everyone's 4th quarter funding to be level with what it was in FY20.

The Property Committee had no report. Mr. Harshman reported that the Town purchased a used trailer from Laughlin's for \$3,200 for the Maintenance Department to use to haul sludge.

The Cemetery Committee had no report. Mr. Harshman reported that the Town received a request from someone asking if he could plant some trees on the roadway at the southern end of the cemetery. Mr. Harshman reported that it states in the Cemetery Rules & Regulations that "no trees or shrubbery shall be planted in Cedarwood Cemetery except as directed by the Edinburg Town Council". The Council agreed that this means no one can plant trees at the cemetery except for the Town. Mr. Harshman also reported that there have been a lot of little things like solar lights being left on and around graves at the cemetery, which is becoming a problem and makes it inconvenient for the Maintenance Department to try to mow the cemetery.

Park Committee Chairwoman, Councilwoman Wymer-Hollar reported that the pool will be opening on Memorial Day weekend and the staff will be sanitizing at the top of every hour. She also reported that there will be no Water Days or swimming lessons, but they will be doing pool parties and selling pool passes. Mr. Harshman reported that the factory that produces 3" chlorine tablets for the pool burned down, so it has been very difficult to get them. Instead of using the chlorine tablets, a liquid chlorinator will be installed, which will be cheaper in the long run. He also reported that sanitizing supplies have been ordered for the pool, as well as new picnic tables and new umbrellas.

The Insurance Committee had no report.

Capt. Strop called attention to the Calls for Service Report for April and the report from the speed signs that are posted in town. He reported that there are a lot of speeding issues on Main Street, which the Deputies will be working on. Mr. Harshman stated that he would like to put some speed signs up on a permanent basis. Councilman Dellinger asked if signs could be put up at the crosswalk near Bean's BBQ since there are so many people that cross the street there. Mr. Harshman stated that he will contact VDOT about doing that.

Mr. Harshman reported that the Tourism Council had another virtual meeting in April but will be meeting in person next week. He also reported that the COVID Small Business Grant applications are still coming in slowly.

Mr. Harshman reported that the second work party at the Rain Garden went well. Some new trees and plants were planted in preparation for the Garden Tour on June 26th.

Mr. Harshman reported last month that he sent some ideas for trailheads in Edinburg along the proposed Shenandoah Valley Rail Trail to the Department of Conservation and Recreation. He has a conference call with them on June 1st to further discuss this.

Mr. Harshman reported that visitation at the Visitor Center in May was up 20% over the attendance numbers for 2019 so far.

Mr. Harshman reported that T-Mobile contacted the Town about possibly relocating the antennas that are on a wooden pole in town to the elevated water tank. T-Mobile would lease the space and would paint the antennas to match the tank. Mr. Harshman asked the Council if this would be something they would be interested in doing. The Council stated that they were interested, and Mr. Harshman will reach out to T-Mobile to get more information about this.

There was no Architectural Review Board (ARB) meeting this month, but Mr. Harshman sent out a biography to the ARB from Mr. Fred Gunick who owns a house in Edinburg and is interested in serving on the ARB. The ARB looked at his bio and is interested in having him on the ARB. A motion was made by Councilman Van Stee and seconded by Councilman Wood to appoint Mr. Fred Gutnick to the Architectural Review Board. Motion carried.

The ARB has also been in contact with Mr. Charlie Ortt about the placement of the plantings along the retaining wall and the ramp at the train tracks on his property at 218 Center Street.

There was no Planning Commission meeting last month.

The Zoning Report showed that five permits were issued:

1. Billy J. Lonas
101 Jillian Ct.
Storage Shed
2. William T. Murden Construction, LLC
102-A S. Whissen St.
New Home
3. Pamela & Joel Andrews
111 S. Whissen St.
Deck
4. Main Street Homes, LLC
Lot #45 – Grafton Ct.
Build Duplex
5. Main Street Homes, LLC
Lot #46 – Grafton Ct.
Build Duplex

There was no Town Attorney report.

Mr. Harshman reported that everything is still moving ahead with the Wastewater Treatment Plant upgrade and he, the Maintenance Supervisor and the Plant Operator will be meeting with the Engineer on Thursday morning.

Mr. Harshman asked the Council if anyone had anything to discuss about the proposed amendment of the 2020-2021 Budget. They did not. Mr. Harshman read the Resolution to amend the budget for the fiscal year 2020-2021. A motion was made by Councilman Baird and seconded by Councilman Van Stee to adopt the Resolution to amend the budget for the fiscal year 2020-2021. Motion carried. Recorded vote as follows: Van Stee - aye, Dellinger - aye, Baird - aye, Wymer-Hollar - aye, Boone - aye, Wood - aye, Harshman - aye.

Mr. Harshman asked the Council if they had anything they wanted to discuss about the proposed Budget for the Year beginning July 1, 2021 and ending June 30, 2022. They did not. The Budget will be approved at the June meeting.

Mr. Harshman asked Council if he could just read the title for the second reading of an Ordinance to amend Chapter 160, Vehicles and Traffic, § 160.1 Adoption of State Law. A motion was made by Councilman Dellinger and seconded by Councilman Wood to allow Mr. Harshman to read just the title for the second reading of an Ordinance to Amend Chapter 160, Vehicles and Traffic, § 160.1, Adoption of State Law. Mr. Harshman read the title of the Ordinance. A motion was made by Councilman Dellinger and seconded by Councilman Wood to adopt an Ordinance to amend Chapter 160, Vehicles and Traffic, § 160.1 Adoption of State Law. Motion carried. Recorded vote as follows: Van Stee - aye, Dellinger - aye, Baird - aye, Wymer-Hollar - aye, Boone - aye, Wood - aye, Harshman - aye.

Mr. Harshman read the first reading of an Ordinance to amend Chapter 68, Article II, Water, Sewer and Trash Fees §68-3, Rates Established. The second reading will be at the next meeting.

Mr. Harshman asked Council to consider a Resolution to establish the percentage of Personal Property Tax Relief for qualifying vehicles during the 2021 tax year. Mr. Harshman asked Council if he could just read the tax relief amounts for the reading of the Resolution. A motion was made by Councilman Dellinger and seconded by Councilman Wood to allow Mr. Harshman to read just the tax relief amounts of the Resolution. Motion carried. Mr. Harshman read the tax relief amounts of the Resolution. A motion was made by Councilman Wood and seconded by Councilman Van Stee to adopt the Resolution to establish the percentage of Personal Property Tax Relief for qualifying vehicles during the 2021 tax year. Motion carried. Recorded vote as follows: Van Stee - aye, Dellinger - aye, Baird - aye, Wymer-Hollar - aye, Boone - aye, Wood - aye, Harshman - aye.

Mr. Harshman provided the Council with the information for the Town of Edinburg Utility Accounts showing accounts receivable arrearages exceeding 1% of the utility's operating revenues. With this information, the Town should be exempt from the disconnection ban included in the Commonwealth of Virginia's Budget Bill. The Town Council accepted the report as accurate.

Mr. Wood reported that Ms. Vicki Lutz, who is a P.E. teacher at Sandy Hook and a town resident, has received the Outstanding Teacher of the Year award.

With no further business, a motion was made by Councilman Wood and seconded by Councilman Dellinger to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Daniel J. Harshman, Mayor

Mary L. Lowerre, Town Clerk