

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MAY 14, 2024

The Edinburg Town Council met for a Public Hearing on Tuesday, May 14, 2024. Mayor Harshman called the Public Hearing to order at 7:15 p.m. All the Councilmembers except Councilman Dellinger were present. Also present were Mr. Jim Hines and Sgt. Dwayne Green from the Shenandoah County Sheriff's Department.

The purpose of the Public Hearing was to receive comments on the proposed amendment of the 2023-2024 Budget and the proposed Budget for the Year beginning July 1, 2024 and ending June 30, 2025.

There were no comments.

A motion was made by Councilman Wood and seconded by Councilman Beachy to adjourn the Public Hearing at 7:16 p.m.

The Edinburg Town Council met in a regular session on Tuesday, May 14, 2024. Mayor Harshman called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. All the Councilmembers except Councilman Dellinger were present. Also present were Mr. Jim Hines, Mr. Steve Crisman, Mrs. Fabiana French and Sgt. Dwayne Green from the Shenandoah County Sheriff's Office.

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

A motion was made by Councilman Beachy and seconded by Councilman Baird to approve the minutes of the April 9, 2024 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 called attention to Inboden's report for April.

Mayor Harshman reported that water production is still good.

Mayor Harshman reported that the back-up compressor and the dryer for the Water Treatment Plant (WTP) were finally up and running but had to be shut down due to some oil that was discovered under the unit. Mayor Harshman reported that there was a recent recall on the unit that the Town was not aware of, and he is not sure whether it will require the replacement of just parts or the whole unit, but either way, it will be warranty work.

Mayor Harshman reported that he sent the pictures of the cleanup at Well #2 to the Virginia Department of Health (VDH). Mayor Harshman also inquired about the "Waterworks Business Operations Plan" (WBOP) that the VDH mentioned the Town not having in the report. Mayor Harshman reported that the VDH clarified that this is recommended, but not required for existing waterworks and at this point Mayor Harshman is opting not to do one.

Mayor Harshman reported that VDH also inspected the switch to liquid chlorine at the WTP during their recent inspection. Mayor Harshman reported that VDH has signed off on it and has notified the engineer to provide a Substantial Completion Letter for that project.

Mayor Harshman reported that the drawings for the water line replacement at Cave Springs are in the hands of three contractors and the Town hopes to get some bids soon. Mayor Harshman reported that Mr. Ron Ross has also started talking to a number of suppliers about quotes on the materials.

Mayor Harshman reported that the Water Pump Station/200,000-gallon tank completion is also out for bids and there was a mandatory pre-bid meeting today. Mayor Harshman also reported that the deadline for bids has been extended until June 11, 2024.

Mayor Harshman reported that the generator at the Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) is back on-line. Mayor Harshman reported that the cost to repair the generator was \$2,631.86 and the Town is still waiting to hear what the cost will be for the generator that was rented.

The Street Committee had no report.

The Ordinance Committee had no report. Mayor Harshman reported that there is nothing in the Town Ordinance for the height of grass and he thinks that a limit should be set since it is difficult for the Town to enforce the Ordinance by not having a set height. Mayor Harshman reported that currently, Strasburg sets the height at 8" or more, Woodstock sets the height at a maximum of 10" and Mt. Jackson sets the height at anything exceeding 12". The mayor asked the Council if they wanted him to draft something for a possible amendment to Chapter 108 Nuisances and they agreed that he should put something together.

Mayor Harshman reported that he also wanted to call the Council's attention to Chapter 108, Nuisances, §108.2. Mayor Harshman reported that the last few sentences of this section talk about unsafe, dangerous buildings and the Council could possibly use this to address the unsafe conditions at the building on the corner of Printz and Center Streets and possibly the property at 207 S. Main Street. The mayor asked the Council to review this chapter and make a determination about the two buildings.

The Personnel Committee had no report.

The Finance Committee had no report. Mayor Harshman reported that the Town still hasn't received anything from the Auditor on the 2022-2023 audit, which was supposed to be completed by March 31st.

The Property Committee had no report. Mayor Harshman reported that there were what was thought to be termites in a section of the main floor of the Edinburg Mill. Mayor Harshman also reported that the building was treated for termites and post dust beetles back in 1979 when the restaurant conversion was done. Mayor Harshman stated that normally, termites lose interest in old wood, but the area where they showed up is an area where newer wood was added that might interest them. Mayor Harshman contacted Total Pest Services and they did a termite control treatment for a cost of \$950.

The Cemetery Committee had no report. Mayor Harshman reported that there was some damage to the shrubs at the southern exit at the cemetery where a vehicle ran off Route 11 and went down through that area. Mayor Harshman reported that he was not sure what the status was about finding out who did the damage. Mayor Harshman also reported that three of the benches that were part of an Eagle Scout project were pulled from around the monument at the cemetery so the wood can be replaced.

Mayor Harshman reported that the fence around the pool has been repaired. Mayor Harshman also reported that he had sent the Council an email about park and pool fees and pool passes to the Council which needed to be discussed. Councilman Beachy asked how the punch card would work for pool passes. Councilwoman Wymer-Hollar stated that she likes having a card with the names and family members on it. Councilwoman Wymer-Hollar reported that she spoke to the Woodstock Pool Manager who told her that they tried punch cards, but they were a nightmare and she really didn't like the punch card idea anyway. Councilwoman Wymer-Hollar also reported that the pool rates, pool passes and the pool party rates have not been raised for years. After some discussion, Mayor Harshman asked Councilwoman Wymer-Hollar to put together what she thinks the Town should do and she stated that she would put something together for the rates.

Mayor Harshman reported that the Ole Time Festival will be sponsoring two concerts at the park this summer, the first one is on June 21st and the second one on August 2nd. Mayor Harshman was asked if the Town could possibly donate any funds towards the Party in the Park. Mayor Harshman stated that the Edinburg Heritage Foundation will be donating \$500 and he asked the Council to consider

donating \$500 towards the concert series. A motion was made by Councilwoman Wymer-Hollar and seconded by Councilman Beachy to approve a \$500 donation towards the Party in the Park concert series. Motion carried.

Mayor Harshman reported that the Town Treasurer and Town Clerk asked if the security deposit for the rental of the park shelters could be eliminated. Mayor Harshman reported that the Town is currently collecting a \$20 or \$30 deposit in addition to the rental rates and this deposit is returned after the rental if the shelter is left in good shape. Mayor Harshman reported that there have only been one or two incidents when the deposit was needed. Mayor Harshman also brought up raising the shelter rental fees for the large shelter from \$55 to \$60 and the other two shelters from \$40 to \$45. After some discussion, the Council agreed to eliminate the shelter deposits and to raise the shelter rental fees.

The Insurance Committee had no report. Mayor Harshman stated that the General Insurance and Worker's Compensation renewals finally came in and he reported that the General Insurance was a little higher and the Worker's Compensation came in a little lower.

The Health and Safety Committee had no report.

Mayor Harshman stated that he provided the Council with some information on the Rail with Trail and how it really doesn't fit with the Shenandoah Valley Battlefields Foundation's efforts or mandates. Mayor Harshman reported that the Trail Partnership will be having their annual meeting on June 12th in Strasburg.

Mayor Harshman stated that he was out of town for the April Tourism Council meeting and there will not be a meeting in May. Mayor Harshman reported that Mrs. Jenna French has reported that she believes all her department's budget requests for 2025 have been approved. Mrs. French also said that the new Destination Guides are expected to arrive any day and will be distributed to everyone that needs them.

Mayor Harshman reported that the tourism office brought some of the people from the PR firm that is working with the County to the Mill last Tuesday. Mayor Harshman reported that Mr. Hank Zimmerman was also at the Mill taking photographs for a new website that is being created to represent all the historic sites and museums in the County.

Mayor Harshman reported that visitation at the Mill was up 3% compared to March and April last year. Mayor Harshman reported that the Mill continues to see more folks coming in from I-81 because of the Visitor Center signs and many of them are taking the time to explore the Museum as well as visiting the gift shops. Mayor Harshman reported that the Mill is getting great comments in the visitor's book and many of them are saying that they will be back.

Mayor Harshman reported that the ShenGo Bus Service is doing well and they now have three new buses in service. Mayor Harshman also reported that there was a 26% increase for the first quarter of 2024.

The Architectural Review Board did not meet.

The Planning Commission did not meet.

There was one Zoning Permit issued:

1. Kai Gingerich
106 N. Main St.
Converting house into two apartments

There was no report from the Town Attorney.

Mayor Harshman reported that the grading and seeding at the WWTP has been completed, all the required paving that was part of the upgrade has been completed and the additional paving that is needed will be discussed later. Mayor Harshman also reported that the new plant continues to be operating well.

Mayor Harshman reported that WGK Construction still needs to straighten the fence at the rear of the property which was pushed over while they were working. Mayor Harshman reported that they also need to correct a problem with one of the key locks on the control building and get a powered louver to work properly.

Mayor Harshman also reported that WGK will be scheduling the repair of the 6" Tee in the aeration basin with Inboden.

Mayor Harshman reported that the Town still has not heard from the DEQ as to whether all the requirements of the Consent Order have been satisfied.

Mayor Harshman reported that after the reimbursement for the \$27,776.55 interest only payment on the 2023-A Bond, USDA has told the Town that there is \$126,207.80 left in contingency funds. Mr. Karl Schaeffer and Mayor Harshman believe that there will be more than that, but at this point that is what the Town is working with. Mayor Harshman reported that the Town has until December 31, 2024 to spend the funds and the Town has received tentative approval for every project that has been submitted and a number of them will be discussed later this evening. Mayor Harshman reported that the roof for the sludge beds is already done, but the Town has not requested reimbursement yet, which will leave \$32,710.16 to spend after what is looked at tonight.

Mayor Harshman asked the Council to consider a Resolution to amend the Budget for the fiscal year 2023-2024. Mayor Harshman read the Resolution. A motion was made by Councilman Wood and seconded by Councilman Beachy to adopt the Resolution to amend the Budget for the fiscal year 2023-2024. Motion carried. Recorded vote as follows: Wymer-Hollar - aye, Dellinger - absent, Baird - aye, Beachy - aye, Reistetter - aye, Wood - aye, Harshman - aye.

Mayor Harshman asked the Council if they had anything they wanted to discuss about the proposed Budget for the Year beginning July 1, 2024 and ending June 30, 2025. There was no discussion, so the mayor will prepare the Ordinance and the Budget will be approved at the June meeting.

Mayor Harshman asked the Council to consider a Resolution to establish the percentage of Personal Property Tax Relief for qualifying vehicles during the 2024 tax year. Mayor Harshman reported that the percentage of tax relief for the 2024 tax year is 18% and he read the title and the enacting sections of the Resolution. A motion was made by Councilman Beachy and seconded by Councilman Wood to adopt the Resolution to establish the percentage of Personal Property Tax Relief for qualifying vehicles during the 2024 tax year. Motion carried. Recorded vote as follows: Wymer-Hollar - aye, Dellinger - absent, Baird - aye, Beachy - aye, Reistetter - aye, Wood - aye, Harshman - aye.

Mayor Harshman asked the Council to consider a bid proposal to upgrade the electric service at the Town's elevated water tank and installation of the new electric service to the pump station building for the 200,000-gallon tank. Mayor Harshman explained that this is part of the completion of the water pump station and bringing the 200,000-gallon tank online. Mayor Harshman reported that the price is \$4,500 and if the Council agrees, this will be funded directly from the budget under water improvements rather than including it in the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funded part of the total project.

Mayor Harshman stated that he is getting nervous that the Cave Spring line replacement is going to come in higher than expected and he wants to keep as much of the ARPA funding available in case anything needs to be shifted around. Mayor Harshman reported that the Town has the funds to pay for this work and by doing so it keeps the bidding process simpler and should help speed up the completion of the pump station if the electric is to the building when the contractor starts installing everything else. A motion was made by Councilman Baird and seconded by Councilman Wood to

approve the bid proposal to upgrade the electric service to the Town's elevated water tank and installation of the new electric service to the pump station building for the 200,000-gallon tank using town funds. Motion carried.

Mayor Harshman asked the Council to consider a proposal to repair and replace paving in and around the Edinburg Wastewater Treatment Plant to be paid with excess contingency funds from the plant upgrade project. Mayor Harshman reported that RNJ Asphalt Paving will be doing the work, which includes any required milling, installing leveling asphalt layer, 2" asphalt overlay for all existing paved surfaces and 3" on all existing unpaved areas such as where the access road was widened. Mayor Harshman reported that it will be approximately 2,200 square yards at a cost of \$48,750. A motion was made by Councilman Wood and seconded by Councilman Beachy to approve the proposal from RNJ Asphalt Paving for \$48,750 to repair and replace paving in and around the Edinburg Wastewater Treatment Plan to be paid with excess contingency funds from the plant upgrade project. Motion carried.

Mayor Harshman asked the Council to consider a proposal to install a backup generator at the Edinburg Manor Lift Station to be paid with excess contingency funds from the Wastewater Plant Upgrade Project. Mayor Harshman reported that there is a backup generator at the Massanutten View Lift Station, but a sewer pump must be taken to Edinburg Manor when there is a power outage. Mayor Harshman reported that the Town requested bids for this and has received two so far and a third one is expected from Shallow Creek Electric.

Mayor Harshman reported that Ortt's Electric's quote is for an air cooled 26 KW air-cooled generator including the installation of the propane tank and gas line to the unit is \$19,050. Mayor Harshman checked with Holtzman Propane on the cost for a tank and lines, which is \$1,955. Mayor Harshman reported that Ortt's is also proposing an oil heated cold weather kit, a 7-year extended warranty and a mobile link cellular monitoring system.

Mayor Harshman reported that the Power Connection has proposed the same 26 KW air-cooled unit at a cost of \$15,580, but the Town will need to take care of the propane tank and line installation and they did not include the oil heater, extended warranty or the mobile monitoring system. Mayor Harshman reported that they also quoted a liquid cooled 32 KW generator at \$34,125 which is more of a generator than is probably needed but it is the smallest liquid cooled unit that is offered.

Mayor Harshman reported that Ortt's and the Power Connection are both proposing to place the air-cooled generator inside the existing pavilion that is next to the lift station, but the 32 KW liquid cooled unit is too large for placing in the pavilion and will require a concrete pad. Mayor Harshman reported that the Power Connection does the annual service on all the Town's generators, but either one will work.

Mayor Harshman reported that he received emails from the 3rd company, Shallow Creek Electric, saying that their proposed unit will not fit in the pavilion and will require the removal of at least two of the trees that are located on the site. Mayor Harshman stated that a motion will need to be made to move forward or a motion could also be made letting Mr. Ross and Mayor Harshman make the final decision. A motion was made by Councilman Wood and seconded by Councilman Beachy approving of Mr. Ross and Mayor Harshman making the final decision on the proposals to install a backup generator at the Edinburg Manor Lift station to be paid with excess contingency funds from the Wastewater Plant Upgrade Project. Motion carried.

Mayor Harshman asked the Council to consider a proposal to construct footers and a 5-foot-high knee wall for two storage sheds using the fiberglass covers from the old RBC units from the old WWTP using contingency funds. Mayor Harshman reported that the Town Crew will be installing the footers at a cost of \$2,248 for concrete for both buildings. Mayor Harshman reported that the Town looked into a poured concrete knee wall and one out of concrete block and the block wall was the best value at a cost of \$13,700 for both buildings for a total cost of \$15,948. A motion was made by Councilman Wood and seconded by Councilman Beachy to approve the proposal to construct footers and a 5-foot-

high knee wall for two storage sheds using the fiberglass covers from the old RBC units from the old WWTP using contingency funds. Motion carried.

Mayor Harshman stated that the Town gives the Edinburg Volunteer Fire Department a donation of \$4,000 every year and they have asked if the Town could possibly donate more in support of a new truck purchase. Mayor Harshman is proposing an additional \$6,000 donation and reported that the Town has the funds to do this in the budget's contingency funds for this year. A motion was made by Councilwoman Reistetter and seconded by Councilman Beachy to donate an additional \$6,000 to the Edinburg Volunteer Fire Department in support of a new truck purchase. Motion carried.

Councilman Wood stated that he had a good time at the Town & County Dinner in New Market.

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

Daniel J. Harshman, Mayor

Mary L. Lowerre, Town Clerk