

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING OCTOBER 10, 2017

The Edinburg Town Council met in a regular session on Tuesday, October 10, 2017. Mayor Harshman called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. All Council Members were present with the exception of Councilman Wood. Also present was Capt. Wes Dellinger from the Shenandoah County Sheriff's Department.

A motion was made by Councilman Beachy and seconded by Councilman Dellinger to approve the minutes of the September 12, 2017 regular meeting. Motion carried.

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

Mr. Harshman welcomed the new councilmember, Ms. Barbara Strong.

Mr. Harshman called attention to the EEMA report and to Mr. Ross's report. Mr. Harshman reported that he gave Councilwoman Strong a quick tour of the Town's facilities.

Mr. Harshman reported that there continue to be problems with filter #2 at the WTP and additional problems with filters 3 & 4. The electrical parts on filter #2 are obsolete and the electrician has been trying to find something to replace them that will work with the remaining part of the controls. Mr. Harshman has also asked Plant Operator, Ms. Alice Davis to get a price to totally replace the controls with whatever current parts there might be to perform the function. The electrician informed the Town today that he is waiting on prices from the supplier and that he will contact them again to speed things up. Mr. Harshman reported that it appeared that the issues with filters 3 & 4 might also be electrical in nature and the electrician felt that a leg of the three-phase power might be dropping out causing a voltage drop that shut things down.

Mr. Harshman reported that Dominion Power was called in and could not find a problem. They can place a voltage meter on the system to monitor the output if the problem continues. The electrician checked all of the connections and amperage on the units and breakers and other than some corrosion; he could not find a problem. We did wonder why a dropped leg on the three-phase would only affect two of the filters and not everything else in the Plant, so it might be an internal problem with the filters themselves. Ms. Davis reported today that they have noticed periods where all of the pumps slow down for a second and then speed back up, which might again point to an issue with the three-phase power. Mr. Harshman reported that the Town has reached out to Dominion Power again to request that they monitor the voltage at the Plant.

Mr. Harshman reported that these problems have resulted in losing ground on the tank levels. The Town has been monitoring the WTP during the night to make sure that there are no shutdowns that will cause even more drops in tank levels. The shutdowns that are occurring do not activate the call out system for the alarms, so we do not know if things have stopped without someone being there. Mr. Harshman reported that the shutdowns appear to be decreasing in number and the tanks are starting to gain.

Mr. Harshman contacted US Filter about getting their technician to come by while they are scheduled to be in Toms Brook this month, but this will not be possible and at this point, they do not have a date that they can make it.

Mr. Harshman reported that he met with Mr. Pete Lau from EEMA today to discuss some recent issues that he had contacted him about. Mr. Harshman stated that the EEMA contract is very vague and he has asked Mr. Lau to put together a list of what EEMA considers their duties are as the Town's contract operators. Mr. Harshman's hope is to get a better understanding of what both EEMA's and the Town's roles are in the current arrangement so there can be a much better relationship going forward.

Mr. Harshman reported that the Town is looking into setting up a pool pump and vacuum to use at the WWTP chlorine contact tank to remove solids from the bottom of the tank. If this works, we will pump into a trailer mounted tank that can be dumped back into the system at the head of the plant.

The Street Committee had no report. Mr. Harshman reported that he received a request from a resident on Jillian Court to put up "Slow Down, Children Playing" signs. Mr. Harshman will contact Maintenance Supervisor, Mr. Ron Ross to see if he has any of those signs at the shop that can be put up.

The Ordinance Committee had no report. Mr. Harshman reported that the Town has been looking into a problem with individuals who appear to have moved into a vacant building at 310 North Main Street. The property does not have electric, water or sewer service and the property owner said that he has not authorized anyone to live in the building. Mr. Harshman reported that it is his understanding that the deputies have removed these individuals and charged them with trespassing. Some questionable substances were also found on the premises that are being tested and might result in additional charges.

The Personnel Committee had no report. Town Treasurer, Ms. Michelle Heier gave the Council a memo regarding disconnecting services for non-payment. Ms. Heier has been having issues with the Maintenance Supervisor and turning off customers for non-payment. If Ms. Heier cuts off someone for non-payment late in the week, the Maintenance Supervisor seems to think that the water should be cut back on for the weekend, even if they haven't paid. Ms. Heier feels that this undermines her authority and thinks the water should stay off until the customer pays. The Council agreed with Ms. Heier and she should have the final word in cutting off delinquent customers.

The Finance Committee had no report.

The Property Committee had no report. Mr. Harshman reported that ice melt has been ordered and the Town is getting snow equipment ready.

The Cemetery Committee had no report. Mr. Harshman reported that Councilman Wood had mentioned something to him about possibly putting up some sort of mausoleum for cremations at the cemetery, since eventually; there will be no more room for burials. Town Treasurer, Ms. Michelle Heier saw one at a cemetery in Front Royal that she thought might work at the Town's cemetery. Ms. Heier asked where that one came from and they told her from Rinker & Frye. Ms. Heier contacted Rinker & Frye who gave her some pricing on the mausoleums: space for 24 would cost \$7,500; space for 32 would cost \$12,000 and space for 64 would cost \$15,000. The mausoleum(s) could be placed on the back road in the cemetery where the directory is located. The Council thought this would be a good idea to look into and Mr. Harshman stated that the Town will do more research on it.

There was no Park Committee report.

The Insurance Committee had no report.

Capt. Wes Dellinger provided the Council with a "Calls for Service" report for September and reported that he was not at the Ole Time Festival, but he heard that all went well. Councilwoman Strong asked Capt. Dellinger what would be classified as a "disturbance" on the Calls for Service report. Capt. Dellinger stated that things like someone yelling down the street or loud noises would be classified as a disturbance, but may get classified as something else later. Councilwoman Strong also asked if a barking or crying dog would be a disturbance as well. Capt. Dellinger stated that something like that would be an "animal call". Capt. Dellinger also reported that the deputies are back to giving tickets to residents without town decals.

Mr. Harshman reported that new mulch has been put down at the park. The Town received a matching \$1,000 grant from VML for the mulch and some of the mulch will also be used for the Rain Garden. The swings at the park were also replaced.

Mr. Harshman provided the Council with the minutes from the September Tourism Council meeting. Mr. Harshman reported that the travel writers on the Shenandoah County FAM Tour that he mentioned last month were not able to stop at the Mill or attend the Ole Time Festival.

Mr. Harshman reported that the “Rev Up Marketing” series and competition will be wrapping up tomorrow evening. The businesses will then be submitting their individual marketing plans for judging over the next couple of weeks.

Mr. Harshman reported that he attended the 75th Anniversary celebration of Vilda & Leroy Polk on Sunday and presented them with a certificate proclaiming October 24th as Vilda & Leroy Polk Day in Edinburg. Mr. Harshman also informed the Polks of the Town’s plan to waive their water charges for a 12-month period; which they were very appreciative of.

Mr. Harshman reported that the Town has contacted Ms. Tamarah Holmes with the Department of Housing & Community Development to discuss the review process and rating of the Town’s CDBG application. The Town has not heard anything back from her yet. Mr. Harshman reported that the DHCD uses a 1,000 point rating system of which a locality needs to receive at least 746 points to be awarded a grant. Edinburg scored 687 points; only 59 points from getting a grant award.

Mr. Harshman reported that the Town has reached out to VDOT about placing a speed trailer on Route 11. The speed trailer is currently being used in Maurertown and will be located in Edinburg as soon as they are finished with it.

Mr. Harshman reported that the attendance at the Mill and Museum has continued to surpass last year’s numbers and October has started out strong.

Mr. Harshman reported that the ARB and the Planning Commission met for a joint meeting on September 19th to review the site plan for the new Shentel parking lot.

The Zoning Administrator had no report.

Mr. Harshman reported that the Town received an email from the Town’s VML Attorney, Mr. Bob Mitchell stating that the Virginia Supreme Court denied Mr. Pollack’s request for a re-hearing. Mr. Harshman also reported that building has started in Edinburg Square, but no roadwork has been done yet.

Mr. Harshman asked the Council to consider the reappointment of Mr. Henry Shirkey to the Planning Commission. A motion was made by Councilman Dellinger and seconded by Councilman Beachy to approve the reappointment of Mr. Henry Shirkey to the Planning Commission. Motion carried.

Mr. Harshman and the Council discussed the results and recommendations of the Preliminary Engineering Report for the Wastewater Treatment Plant. They talked about the options of either upgrading the Town’s existing plant or connecting to the County’s Wastewater Treatment Plant at the old Aileen facility. This will be discussed further in the coming months.

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 8:23 p.m.

Daniel J. Harshman, Mayor

Mary L. Embrey, Town Clerk