

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING APRIL 8, 2025

The Edinburg Town Council met in a regular session on Tuesday, April 8, 2025. Mayor Harshman called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. All the Councilmembers were present. Also present were Jim Hines, Capt. Glenn Ogle and Dep. Ryan Wetzel from the Shenandoah County Sheriff's Department.

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

A motion was made by Councilman B. Dellinger and seconded by Councilman Crisman to approve the minutes of the March 11, 2025 regular meeting. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Councilman Wood and seconded by Councilwoman Wymer-Hollar to approve the Treasurer's report and to pay all the bills as presented. Motion carried. Mayor Harshman stated that the \$10,000 payment to Bushong was their final bill to finish the grading and seeding at Cave Spring.

Mayor Harshman reported that Inboden will be doing the required PFAS testing for the Town.

Mayor Harshman reported that Patterson Construction billed the Town for all the equipment and materials that they have purchased for the Water Pump Station. The mayor also reported that they are still waiting on the SCADA control panels but might start on some of the piping in the coming month.

Mayor Harshman reported that the tar and chip work on Wiers Lane is scheduled for May.

Mayor Harshman reported that the Northern Shenandoah Valley Regional Commission (NSVRC) held a kickoff meeting to provide information on the Local & Regional Water Supply Planning Regulation requirements to develop a Regional Water Supply Plan for the Shenandoah River 2 Regional Planning Unit, which includes Edinburg. The mayor also reported that this meeting was an introduction to the planning process and history of regional water supply planning and the State has appropriated \$8,000 to fund this mandated plan that will take more than four years to do. The Plan must be submitted by October 10, 2029.

Mayor Harshman reported that the old chlorine contact tank at the Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) had to be pumped out. This was something that had been done prior to the Plant upgrade because of solids making their way to the tank and it was not expected to continue doing it after the upgrade and this tank is now basically a catch basin prior to discharging into Stony Creek.

Mayor Harshman also reported that with the new UV disinfection the water entering this tank is ready to be discharged, but it was discovered that the water stays in the tank long enough to be affected by the sunlight, which produces algae. He also reported that using a pressure washer and pump allowed the Town to vacuum it out of the tank and transfer it to the sludge drying beds and this process will probably be required every 6 months or so. The mayor stated that the Town is also going to look at ways that a roof can be put over the tank to protect it from the sun, which should eliminate the algae. The roof will need to be removable to allow access to the tank if needed.

Mayor Harshman reported that he and the Maintenance Department attended a tabletop exercise held by the County Emergency Management Team along with Virginia Emergency Management about how to handle a situation when the Town has a major water leak and the system loses all pressure. The mayor stated that the Town has had to deal with smaller scale situations like this in the past and has an emergency plan that covers most of what was discussed. He also reported that while he was looking through the Town's plan during the exercise, he discovered some items that need to be updated and some new things that will need to be added to the Plan.

The Street Committee had no report. Mayor Harshman reported that he still has not heard from

VDOT about doing the curb and gutter work on Main Street, but the Town still plans to proceed with the sidewalk work.

The Ordinance Committee had no report

The Personnel Committee had no report.

The Finance Committee had no report. Mayor Harshman reported that Robinson, Farmer & Cox has said that they expect to have the 2023-2024 audit completed by the end of April. The mayor also reported that he and the Town Treasurer met with Amanda Kerns from the NSVRC to go over the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding for the upcoming annual report. There is currently \$118,253.39 left for the Water Pump Station Project and \$68,870 left for painting the water tanks. As the mayor explained in the Budget notes, the ARPA funding for painting the tanks is paying the Tank Maintenance Contract until it runs out. It will also pay the rest of the 2024-2025 Budget payments, all the 2025-2026 payments and almost 5 months of the 2026-2027 payments.

The Property Committee had no report. Mayor Harshman reported that the Volvo Dump Truck is in for repairs and once the repairs are done, the Town is planning on selling it. He also reported that 2 of the smaller trucks are leaking oil from the head gaskets. The Town has not received the estimates for these repairs, but one garage stated that it is around 22 hours of labor to do the work on each truck and they don't know what they will find when the heads are removed. With that in mind, the Town is also going to get prices for replacing the engines with rebuilt ones that will come with a warranty. The mayor stated that these repairs will be within the Small Purchase Policy and he will discuss the options with the Finance Chairman, Councilman Wood.

Mayor Harshman reported that insurance has paid \$6,684.45 for the roof replacement on the Pump House at Well #2. He also reported that there hasn't been any progress made with removing the green sand filters from the building.

Mayor Harshman reported that he asked one of the contractors that gave the Town a quote for the exterior of the King Cola building to give him a list of materials for the job and once he has that, the mayor is planning on shopping for the materials with the Town purchasing them directly. He thinks that the Town will get a better price that way and will not have to pay any sales tax. The mayor also authorized the contractor to replace a main roof support that needs to be completed before anyone gets up on the roof to work on that section of the building. The cost for materials and labor to replace this is \$3,965.

The Cemetery Committee had no report.

The Park Committee had no report. Mayor Harshman reported that he still has not heard anything back from either of the tennis court companies he contacted about repainting and lining the courts. The mayor reported that he has been talking with a couple of people about trying to do some fundraising to offset the cost of repainting the courts, but there is a good chance that the Town will need to move forward with the work before they are able to raise very much. The tennis court work is in the 2025-2026 Budget and the Mayor has told the tennis court companies that the Town wants the work completed as soon as it can be scheduled. He also reported that Edinburg resident, Pat Craig, has been assisting the Town in doing signage with instructions on how to use the Disc Golf course and a map for the course. The mayor reported that new umbrellas and the tarp have been ordered for the pool. Councilwoman Wymer-Hollar asked the mayor if he knew anything about the chair lift at the pool, but he is not sure where it stands.

The Insurance Committee had no report. Mayor Harshman reported that the Town has not received the numbers for the general insurance or worker's compensation for 2025-2026 yet, but he included a 10% increase in the Budget, which has more than covered it in past years.

The Health and Safety Committee had no report. Capt. Ogle stated that as the weather gets warmer, they will be doing more patrolling at the park at night. Councilwoman Strong asked that the Deputies watch out for a juvenile on a motorized minibike that has been seen riding on the roads.

Mayor Harshman stated that he had a copy of the Phase One VDOT Assessment of Rails with Trails if anyone wanted to look at it. He also reported that there are several upcoming VDOT Public Input meetings for the unused rail corridor, the first one is this evening in Timberville, there is one in Front Royal on Thursday, April 10th and one in Woodstock on Tuesday, April 15th at Peter Muhlenberg Middle School. All the meetings will be from 5-7 p.m. and the mayor will be attending the meeting in Woodstock.

Mayor Harshman reported that the final meeting for the Crooked Run, Stony Creek and Pugh's Run Clean Up Study will be on April 9, 2025 at 5:30 p.m. in the Board Room at the County Office Building in Woodstock. The mayor stated that since the Town has 2 discharge permits that go into Stony Creek, he has been attending these meetings but there is nothing in the final report that changes the discharge permits.

Mayor Harshman reported that he attended the last Tourism Council meeting on March 18, 2025. The current Budget was discussed and everyone reported that the first quarter of the year was slow. The mayor also reported that Brenda Black will be retiring.

Mayor Harshman reported that the bus benches that were part of the grant with the Bus Service have been delivered and will be placed at Dollar General, the Mill, Rose Hill, the Post Office and N. Main St. near Edinburg Renaissance.

Mayor Harshman reported that Shenandoah County Heritage Day 2025 is on April 12th at the Virginia House at Shrine Mont from 11-3 and he will be there representing the Mill.

Mayor Harshman reminded everyone about the Town & County Dinner next Wednesday at the Toms Brook Fire Hall starting at 5:30 p.m.

The Architectural Review Board did not meet.

The Planning Commission did not meet.

There were no Zoning Permits issued.

There was no report from the Town Attorney.

Mayor Harshman asked the Council to consider the reappointment of Fred Gutnick to the Architectural Review Board for another 4-year term that expires on 4/30/29. A motion was made by Councilman B. Dellinger and seconded by Councilman Wood to reappoint Fred Gutnick to the Architectural Review Board for another 4-year term that expires on 4/30/29. Motion carried.

Mayor Harshman stated that there is usually an Autism Awareness Resolution in April, but the Town did not receive one this year, so there is no Resolution to consider.

Mayor Harshman reported that he provided a summary as well as detailed notes along with a copy of the Budget with amendments to the Council. After some discussion, the Council agreed with the proposed amendments and the mayor stated that he will do a Resolution to adopt the amended Budget, which can be adopted after the Public Hearing for the 2025-2026 Budget.

Mayor Harshman and the Town Council discussed the Budget and several options for water and sewer rates and decided to propose a \$0.50 increase to the monthly 3,000 gallon minimum in town water bills plus a \$0.75 increase for each 1,000 gallons over the minimum with out-of-town customers seeing a 50% higher increase and an increase of \$0.50 for trash service in town. The mayor and the Town Council also discussed the changes in the Virginia Minimum Wage that will be happening again on January 1, 2026 and with this in mind, they decided to propose a 2% increase for full-time employees on July 1, 2025 and a second 2% increase for full-time and a 1.5% increase for part-time employees is proposed for January 1, 2026.

Mayor Harshman reported that there are some problems with the new utility billing software and it is going to cost more to add the options that were thought to be included in the original amount. The mayor asked the Town Council if they thought that the Town should revisit other utility billing companies and the Council agreed to have him move forward with this.

Mayor Harshman reported that amended Budget shows an additional \$4,000 going to the Fire Department this Budget year and he asked the Town Council if they were in agreement with this. The Town Council agreed to donate an additional \$4,000 to the Fire Department.

Mayor Harshman stated that a Public Hearing will need to be scheduled next month for the amended 2024-2025 Budget and the proposed 2025-2026 Budget. The Council agreed that the Public Hearing be held before the Regular Council meeting on May 13th at 7:15 p.m. The mayor will schedule the Public Hearing.

With no further business, a motion was made by Councilman Wood and seconded by Councilman B. Dellinger to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 8:21 p.m.

Daniel J. Harshman, Mayor

Mary L. Lowerre, Town Clerk