

## REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING OCTOBER 11, 2011

The Edinburg Town Council met in regular session on October 11, 2011. Mayor Harshman called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. All Council Members were present. Visitors included: Town Police Chief, Michael Clem, Town Maintenance Supervisor, Ron Ross, District 3 County Supervisor, Mr. David Ferguson, Mr. & Mrs. Bill Boone, Boy Scout Troop # 88 and parents and Ms. Sally Voth from the Northern Virginia Daily.

A motion was made by Councilman Beachy and seconded by Councilman Dellinger to approve the minutes of the September 13, 2011 meeting. Motion carried.

The Treasurer's report was reviewed. 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.

Mr. Harshman asked Council if District 3 Supervisor David Ferguson's presentation on the planned remodeling of the Edinburg School could be moved up on the agenda. Council agreed.

Mr. Ferguson reported that the Edinburg School Renovation Project was first looked at about 2 ½ years ago. Mr. Ferguson also reported that transporting students to Northern Virginia for their special needs costs between \$60,000 and \$80,000 per student. This comes to \$700,000 to \$1 million a year to provide instructional care for these students. Mr. Ferguson reported that estimated renovation costs are approximately \$5-6 million. Mr. Ferguson also reported that the proposed uses for the 22,000 square foot renovation include the following: students with emotional disabilities, students with autism, alternative education, career and technical education, the Senior Center and Department of Parks and Recreation programs and activities. The Department of Parks and Recreation offices will be moved to the Government Center in Woodstock. Councilman Beachy stated that his major concern about the Project is keeping the façade of the school as is. He also had some concerns about parking for the school. Councilman Beachy also stated that he thinks this is a fantastic project and that it is needed. Councilman Hite asked Mr. Ferguson how many parking spaces were needed for the school. Mr. Ferguson stated that he didn't know yet. Mr. Ferguson also stated that he would come back on a periodic basis to let the Town Council know what is happening with the project. Councilman Hite stated that there is plenty of room between the Little League fence and the building for parking. He would also like the façade of the building to be similar to what it is now. Councilman Wood asked Mr. Ferguson if the Board had considered getting more funding from other districts. Mr. Ferguson reported that the Board hopes that there will be an increase in the number of non-County special needs students over time. He also reported that State and Federal tax credits will be used for the project. Mr. Harshman asked if the Board has been working with tax credits from the beginning. Mr. Ferguson stated "yes". Mr. Harshman wanted to know if the building would use parking requirements for the Town or if State parking regulations would be used. Mr. Ferguson stated that he didn't know and that the Board has only voted on engineering funds in the amount of \$200,000 thus far. Mr. Ferguson stated again that he will come back with regular updates for the Town Council. Mr. Ferguson reported that construction on the building would not start until spring 2014.

The Water and Sewer Committee Chairman, Councilwoman Minnick called attention to Ron Ross's Maintenance Department report. Mr. Harshman reported that the Town received a notice of violation from the Health Department for failing to report the chlorine residual with the September 12, 2011 water report. Prior to receiving the notice Mr. Harshman received an email from the Health Department explaining why the Town was getting the notice. Mr. Harshman reported that all water customers must be notified of the notice of violation by November 2012. Mr. Harshman asked Council if this could be put in the next newsletter, which will go out next month. Council agreed. Mr. Harshman also reported that there will be a change in the lab testing that is now done in-house at the Wastewater Treatment Plant. Starting January 2012, the Town

must use a certified lab for required testing. At this point, EEMA feels that purchasing the required equipment and taking the steps to be certified might be too expensive. Mr. Harshman reported that if the Town needs to use an outside lab on a permanent basis, it will cost \$1,045 per month.

The Street Committee had no report. Mr. Harshman reported that the Town was able to get the asphalt grindings from the paving that VDOT was doing on Stony Creek Boulevard. The Maintenance Department will be able to use the grindings on the alleyways in Town and the Mill parking lot.

The Ordinance Committee had no report.

The Personnel Committee had no report.

The Finance Committee had no report.

Health & Safety Committee Chairman, Councilman Wood called attention to Chief Clem's report and reminded everyone about the Neighborhood Watch meeting on Wednesday, October 26<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m.

The Property Committee had no report. Mr. Harshman reported that Stanley Getz donated his 1990 Ford Ranger pickup truck to the Town for the Maintenance Department to use. The truck only has 38,000 miles on it and it will replace the pickup that the Town received from EEMA a few years ago.

The Cemetery Committee had no report.

The Park Committee had no report.

The Insurance Committee had no report.

Mr. Harshman reported that he attended the September Travel Council meeting. Director, Natalie Wills reported that website visitors have leveled off after the Yard Crawl. The County is still receiving a lot of inquiries as we move into fall, as well as a great response to the Civil War Wounded brochure that was produced for the Civil War sesquicentennial. Mr. Harshman reported that Ms. Wills also showed the group the finished brochures on the County Hotel and Bed & Breakfast Guides. These brochures are now available at the Town Office. Mr. Harshman also reported that the County Chamber Advisory Committee is working on a promotion for November called 11/11/11 and businesses countywide will be asked to give 11% discounts to honor veterans.

Mr. Harshman also reported that the Mill was a great success during the Ole Time Festival. John Paul Strain and the people from the Gallery were very pleased with sales of his painting, "Saving the Edinburg Mill" and stated that they would like to come back to the Festival next year. Mr. Harshman also reported that another potential tenant for the restaurant in the Mill approached him over the weekend and he also reported that the Art Show went well and \$10,000 in art was sold during the 1 ½ days of the event. The Mill Project will get 25% of the proceeds. Mr. Harshman reported that he was able to give a number of tours of the Museum and over \$600 in donations were received, as well as selling another brick for the Memory Walk. Mr. Harshman reported that the Edinburg Heritage Foundation has raised almost all of the funds needed for the highway signs advertising the Mill and the Mill Museum.

Mr. Harshman reported that the ARB did not meet this month, but ARB Chairman Heather Bowers is working on a draft letter to the Shenandoah County Building Department requesting an inspection of 404 North Main Street.

Mr. Harshman reported that the Planning Commission did not meet last month.

There were no zoning permits issued last month.

There was no Town Attorney report.

Mr. Bill Boone, who lives next door to the Edinburg School, stated that he thought someone from Edinburg should be on the Edinburg School Renovation Project committee and that he would be willing to be on the committee. Mr. Boone was also concerned about traffic flow and wanted to know if the County was doing a study on that. Mr. Harshman stated that the Town has not been invited to join the committee. Mr. Boone stated that he thinks everybody in Town should get the plans for the school and that there needs to be some control over what the Board is doing. Mr. Harshman stated that this was the first time the Council has ever had a discussion about the Edinburg School. Mr. Boone stated that he went along with the survey crew when they did a survey of the school and that he requested a copy of the survey, but has not received one yet. Mr. Boone also thinks the figures for the project are questionable.

Councilman Wood reminded the Council of the Town & County Dinner tomorrow evening at 6:00 p.m. at Fort Valley Nursery.

Mr. Harshman reminded everyone that Councilwoman Minnick is up for re-election and to come out and vote on November 8<sup>th</sup>.

With no further business, a motion was made by Councilman Wood and seconded by Councilman Beachy to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

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Mayor

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Clerk