Council Work Session
May 9, 2016
3:30 p.m.

PRESENT	ABSENT
Wayne Printz, Mayor	Jay Dean, Vice Mayor
Margaretta Isom, Council Member	
Harry Armbruster, Council Member	
Jeffrey Jones, Council Member	
Joshua Gooden, Council Member	
Gerry Comer, Council Member	

PRESENT	ABSENT
Aaron Hammer, Chief of Police	Denise Monger, Clerk of Council
Troy Shifflett, Public Works Director	
Clairen Sipe, Town Treasurer	
Diane Johnson, Recreation Director	
Charlotte Shifflett, Zoning Administrator	

COUNCIL WORK SESSION

Special Events/Grant Proposal Writer's Report, Allison Morris

- Mrs. Morris would like to see part of the Town designated as historical. She noted that Shenandoah was designated as a historical railroad Town; therefore, Elkton could be identified as such. Aubrey Von Lindern of the Virginia Department of Historic Resources previously gave a presentation, but needed more time to inform Council of all aspects of historical designations. She had surveyed an area of Town and was convinced there would be benefits to being identified as historic. Council needed more input before proceeding forward. Council member Isom supported the downtown area as being designated historical.

Submitted Grants:

- USDA Department of Drinking Water $35,000.00 Planning Grant for the replacement of the water storage tank.
- Merck-Neighbor of Choice $50,000.00 Floodplain & Riverbank Restoration Grant w/ FERCC, INC.
- Target - Bulls Eye & Blue Funding for two police bikes.
- Drone Advocates for Public Safety (DAPS) grant submitted for surveillance of illegal activity (all allocated funds distributed). Will be contacted when future funding becomes available.
- Virginia Game & Inland Fisheries $100,000 for Floodplain & River Bank Restoration Grant – pending.
- Office of Justice Programs for bulletproof vests – pending.
- The Town of Bridgewater received three police cars last year from the Office of the Attorney General-Virginia Association of Police Chiefs. The Elkton Police Department was not a member of VAPC. It was recommended they enroll and become more open to funding opportunities.

Events:

- **Paint the Town Purple -** April 20, 2016 – received very well, but was under-attended. The event had been held at 1:00 p.m. for the past five years. It was suggested that the event be held in the evening next year.
- **Fireball Dash & Splash** - July 2, 2016 - race aspect, food trucks and music arranged. Working on marketing.

Future Opportunities:

- **Scenic River Designation** from the Department of Conservation Recreation-working in partnership with Rockingham County to obtain the designation which would give Elkton a marketing boost in tourism.
- **Historic Designation**

- **Lowe's**
- **The Home Depot**
- Weekend camping suggested along the riverfront.

Community Center Administrator's Report, Mark Pederson

Events:

- **SENIOR HEALTH FITNESS DAY** scheduled for May 25, 2016.
- National Health Fitness Day sponsored by Humana and others / time would be 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
- Lecture would be held in the large meeting room in the morning with lunch being provided by the Rockingham Seniors Administration.
- Event would be free to the public.
- Mr. Pederson hopes this would an annual event.
- **FAMILY FUN NIGHT** is June 11, 2016 / event still in the planning stages.
- New outdoor movie theater would be in operation and show a free movie.
- Food would be for sale: hotdogs, hamburgers, soft drinks, and popcorn.
- Outdoor family games would be offered prior to the start of the movie.
- Face painting and balloon animal's possible fun activities.
- Advertisement would be published in the Valley Banner in advance of the event.

Recreation Director's Report, Diane Johnson

- Mrs. Johnson noted that she was short of funds regarding a line item in the budget that was used to purchase medals and tee shirts.
- Jennifer Morse, an employee at the center, brother passed away. The Town sends their condolences to Jennifer and her family.
- Mrs. Johnson's sister was recuperating from quadruple heart bypass surgery and was doing well.

Public Works Director's Report, Troy Shifflett

- Public Works Department maintenance crew gathering water valve and fire hydrant locations to record latitude and longitudes for submission / communicating with Gary McCollum.
- Procedure delayed by the rain and bulk pick-ups being scheduled for three days.
- Working with Meaghan at DEQ to get permitting for the wastewater treatment plant / may involve an engineer / meeting scheduled May 10, 2016 at 1:30 p.m.
- An unrecorded manhole was found and identified as #14A / ran 120 ft. of sewer line from manhole 14A to manhole #15 / old line was a 10" line and full of roots.
- In the process of obtaining additional quotes for pricing the tennis courts / received a quote for $18,200.00 / courts have cement which would be removed, graded, and new cement poured.
- Meeting with J. W. Gordon to mark 500 trees being donated from Pham Chopra for the river bank restoration project.
- Beginning the process of obtaining easements for installation of the new water/sewer lines on Newtown Rd., Mt. Pleasant Rd., and N. Eastside H/Way.
- Prints submitted by Scott Sellers of Engineering Solutions needed to be revised / engineering study needed to be implemented along N. Eastside H/Way.
- Mr. Chopra verbally agreed to provide an easement behind the houses adjacent to his property on the east side of Newtown Rd.
- Council member Isom wanted to know if the easements were going behind the dwellings. Mr. Shifflett informed her they would, but the easements would be on Mr. Chopra's property / residents had their septic systems in their backyards.
- Town needs to determine if connection fees would be at the old rate.
- Inquiry if the homeowners would be able to finance the full amount of the connection fee.

- The promise was made to annexed residents to install lines to their properties in 2005 which was eleven years ago.
- Mandatory hook-ups / time limit to connect discussed.
- Discount for early connections could be an incentive.
- The current cost of a sewer connection fee was $5,200.
- Survey letters were mailed to approximately 34 residents / many had not responded / letter did not list the connection fees.
- Treasurer Sipe noted that a financial plan was implemented and placed in the Code Book when the Pentecostal lines were installed. However, no one took advantage of the financing because they did not qualify. Reference Chap. 170-29.1
- Town Attorney Miller distributed a memo to Charlotte regarding connections using the old rate / Council to receive a copy.

Finance & Planning Commission (M. Isom)

- Several Pentecostal Hill residents complained regarding flooding problems in the area / water in their basements.
- Mr. Shifflett had a solution to control some of the flooding; however, the issue would not be completely resolved / church parking lot was expensive and might contribute to the problem / he would review a grid type system that might assist / material comes in 12" sq.
- Procedure would require sawing across the road, leveling it and re-paving / entire project would cost about $27,000, including labor and material / state money could be spent to correct the issues.
- Mr. Shifflett met with Lisa Perry, Rockingham County's Flood Management Coordinator.
- Mr. Shifflett emphasized that some of the issues existed before the annexation / several residents in the area were inundated by water during a heavy rains.

Electric & Recreation (J. Jones)

- Council member Jones stated that Opening Day was May 23, 2016 / Mr. Shifflett replied that his department was in the process of purchasing top soil / Town would haul to save delivery charges.

Chief of Police's Report (Aaron Hammer)

- Received a $500.00 grant.
- Update on the dog at large / in the process of making recommendations.

Streets and Sidewalks & Cemetery (G. Comer)

- River Bridge on Old Spotswood had water pooling issues / needed to be monitored / check to see if the drains were covered.
- Issue at Woodbridge Subdivision / resident could be running a car repair business out of his garage.
- Larry Lampe reported that Woodbridge Covenants only allowed three cars per residence / he spoke with the property owner and informed them of the covenants.
- Chief Hammer checked all parked vehicles at the location and all had current tags.
- Vehicles did not meet the criteria in state code for inoperable vehicles per Chief Hammer who had been to the residence on several occasions due to complaints.
- May 17, 2016 East Rockingham Business Council to host a round table discussion with Pham Chopra at noon in the Council Chambers of the Elkton Area Community Center located at 20593 Blue & Gold Drive.

- May 23, 2016 is Meet & Greet Day with Congressman Bob Goodlatte in the Council Chambers of the Elkton Area Community Center located at 20593 Blue & Gold Drive.
- Reports have been received of vehicles running the stop sign in Quail Run on Morning Dove Drive / Chief Hammer to monitor the complaint.

Economic & Community Development (J. Gooden)

- No additional report for ECDC.
- Site plans submitted by Little League / requested construction of a building to be located on the softball field in Stonewall Memorial Park.
- Proposed building would include restrooms, concession stand, and a press box.
- Building would be constructed on Town property and paid for by the Little League.
- Building would be maintained by the Town which would include cleaning public restrooms, and winterizing during the winter.
- Fundraisers and donations were ear-marked for the construction.
- Ben Graessle's Mother, Debbie Songer would be contributing to the project.

Public Health, Safety & Ordinances / Personnel / Community Center (H. Armbruster)

- Public safety concern regarding the stop light entering Food Lion shopping center / light malfunctioned and was "blinking red" / Officer Garner responded / section cleared with no issue / Chief Hammer may contact VDOT regarding the issue.
- Speeding on West Marshall Avenue / Chief Hammer to review.
- No public health report.
- Discussion took place regarding creating an ordinance that would make it mandatory to connect to the Town's sewer in annexed areas.
- Personnel policies to be discussed in the future.

Council member Isom read the following recommendation from the Planning Commission dated May 3, 2016:

Subdivision of Property

The property is owned by Dan & Alesia Talbot and is located on Park Avenue. Mr. Talbot advised members he will sustain from the vote but is willing to answer questions.

Tax Map Nos. 131B-(3) B with 0.619 acres and 131B3-(3) B1 with 0.400 acres are located in a flood way and may not be developed so they are being added to 131B3-(3) A and 131B3-(3) A1 respectively.

Cathy Morrison seconded by Roy Davis, made a recommendation to council to sub divide property, including a lot line revision, as shown on a plat by Newman Surveying dated April 20, 2016 {Job R131B3(3) Vacation of the lot line increases the size of Tax Map 131B3-(3) A from 2.549 acres to 2.886 acres.

Mayor Printz

- The steps were completed at the Elkton Area Community Center.
- Dogwood tree was planted in Stonewall Memorial Park in memory of Jerrick Hammer.
- An item would be placed on the agenda proposing that a tree of the same type could be planted in memory of someone / drawings needed to designate the areas where trees would be planted / parking a consideration.
- Mayor to schedule a meeting with Pham Chopra to discuss conditions at the wastewater treatment plant.

- Dr. Asa Talbot requested to place Masonic Logo on the sign located on South Eastside H/Way / Mayor requested Council member Gooden work on that item.
- Former Town Manager signed an agreement to have a SCADA system placed in the public works office / cost to access the system had a monthly fee / Council would check to see if the fee justified paying for the system.
- System required maintenance and upgrades.
- DEQ and/or water board recommended the Town move forward with the installation.
- Closed session – personnel.
- Fuel factor decrease discussed.
- Bond resolution for wastewater treatment plant public hearing.
- Financing option with banks.

Closed Session

Council member Isom moved to go into closed session under Virginia Code Section 2.2-3711.A.1 of the Code of Virginia, to discuss personnel and under 2.2-3711.A.7 legal matters and advice. No additional reasons were given for the record. Council member Jones duly seconded the motion.

YEAS: M. Isom, H. Armbruster, J. Jones, J. Dean, J. Gooden and G. Comer

NAYS: None

VOTE: (6 – 0 voice vote) Motion carried

No additional recordings were available for this meeting.

Mayor: _____
Wayne E. Printz

Recorder: _____
Denise R. Monger, Clerk