Committee Meetings
August 8, 2006

PRESENT
M. Dearing
M. Isom
D. Kite
M. O'Neill
T. Pence
W. Printz
S. Sigafoose

STAFF
Tom Miller
Marty Shifflett
Clairen Sipe
Rodney Hensley
Richard Carey

Finance

Council member O'Neill presented budget items:

1. Food Tax increased $70,000.00. At this point that is believed to be an over estimate of approximately $50,000.00.
2. $460,000.00 proffers from Elkwood Project included in budget "are not likely this year."
3. Although Council member O'Neill had never seen a cash balance forwarded to balance a budget, he let stand a $260,452.00 carry over in his analysis. In the end, he concluded the FY 06-07 budget was $446,300.00 in the red.

Vice Mayor Dearing stated the sitting Council did not prepare or adopt the current budget. Therefore, the budget must be amended to reflect the deficit.

Adopt CSCJTA Resolution

Council will read the information for resolution adoption at the Council meeting.

Rural Technical Committee- Central Shenandoah Planning District Commission

Officially appoint Vice Mayor Dearing as Elkton's representative.

Larry Shifflett-Out-of-Town Water Connections (2)

Granted a right-of-way to the Town. He has subdivided lots and requested 2 water connections. Mr. Shifflett will pay for 2 connections and all other associated costs.

Patrick Hensley

Another discussion regarding his rezoned lot. Attorney Miller suggested Mr. Hensley apply for a variance "and then let's take it from there."

Wilmer Morris

Paid two availability fees on Pentecostal Hill and sought reimbursement. Council denied request.

Donnie Mowbray

Mr. Mowbray requested Town payment for medals for Veterans Day. The request received favor from Council.

As for his sewer back-up problem, another connection is needed that is lower than 1 foot.

Marty will get samples of grease ordinances.

Sewer Connection at County Transfer Station

A compromise would be for the County to offer the Town no-charge for balk pick-up items.

Odell Crawford

Council member Isom researched Mr. Crawford's permits for the structure on Wirt Avenue. She offered the following observations and results:

1. Building Permit – states the structure is not in a flood zone.
2. Zoning Permit – the structure would have to face Wirt Avenue. She stated, "There is no way that you could get a 60 to 65 feet structure on a 50 feet lot." She believed that was why the structure was turned on the lot.
3. Another property showed the addition of 2 bedrooms and a living room. She was told Mr. Crawford's plan was to turn that into 3 apartments. Also stated to not be in a flood zone.
4. Zoning Permit shows a septic system for the structure at the "STOP" sign.

She could not conclude that the information provided on the permits and what was actually being constructed were the same. The 24 x 60 feet structure was to be a modular home placed on a single lot and honor all "applicable setbacks," The diagrams do not reflect what is actually being done.

Vice Mayor Dearing saw the flaw in the process as no step-by-step inspection after a permit had been issued.

B & W

There was a lengthy discussion regarding junkyards, the unappealing appearance of downtown, and issuing business licenses. Views were expressed as to what was acceptable. Empty houses and businesses may be taxed to such a degree that it would be more advantageous to the owners to repair them and occupy them, or to sell them. Proper letters will be issued once Mr. Miller determines the Town's recourse under current code. Some code may need to be rewritten to accomplish the various wishes of Council.

Greg Mowbray

Council declined to revisit their previously denied request for reimbursement for damages at his restaurant.

Norfolk Southern Railroad

Will be contacted again to lease Norfolk Southern property along 5th Street to serve as a Town parking lot.

Community Center

Grand Opening on August 17, 2006. Vice Mayor Dearing credited the Committee for a fine job but, drew the line with Committee members directing the work of Town staff. The Committee also wants to have their own 501-C3. Council member Kite stated the grant process would be easier for the writer if the Center had a designated 501-C3. Roles need to be defined, access, and fees are some topics that need to be discussed at a joint meeting with the Community Center Committee. Council member O'Neill was unsure if he would name a Community Center Committee with the existence of the Recreation Commission. Alleged comments made by members of the Community Center Committee will be discussed at the joint meeting. One particular comment made regarding the Town Treasurer was not "appreciated" by Council member O'Neill who stated the fact for the record.

Pole Truck

Placed on back burner.

Leaf Truck

Marty will look at a Holtzman truck for $3,000.00.

Destruction Order

Vice Mayor Dearing stated a crime may have been committed with one of the seized weapons in the police department. A ballistics test will be performed on all the guns and they will be destroyed. Council member Sigafoose will observe the destruction.

Junior Order

Requested 2 new poles and a transformer. Will cost approximately $2,400.00. Council member Isom and Marty will make a recommendation to Council.

Anderson Contract

Council may want to cancel contract.

Elkton Town Festival

Council member Isom presented the schedule of events.

Marty Shifflett

1. Has received property complaints.
2. Junior Order has removed one private pole. The request now is for one pole replaced or guide wires to straighten it. There are two lights that no longer work. Would like them removed so a new light can be installed. Mr. Shifflett stated another situation was there are wires from a transformer that don't pass through a meter.
3. Elkton Evangelical Methodist Church's request for reimbursement of a RotoRooter bill for $135.00 was denied.
4. Fire hydrant at Community Center will be installed Thursday.

Clairen Sipe

1. Resident on Pentecostal Hill has not paid trash bill for over two years. He owes over $250.00. Vice Mayor Dearing "pondered" it and said, "Place the lien."
2. Change Order for Sease and Community Center bills need to be signed:
    a. $2,000.00 to Blue Ridge Electric
    b. $9,177 to McDaniel Group
    c. $256,342.65 to Lantz
    d. $44,444.84 to ECR for kitchen equipment.
3. Made recommendation to shut the doors of a restaurant that still has not paid meals taxes.
4. Discussed monthly payments for an elderly couple who owe a $1,200.00 electric bill.

Vice Mayor Dearing

1. 10 panel drug test
2. Look at Bobby Gooden's attorney's fees

3. Town electricians will now read meters
4. Curtis Lawson – Vice Mayor Dearing, Council member Kite, and RanMar looked at the property and decided to run his sewer line out the back of his house. Mr. Lawson will pay for his portion and the Town will pay for the line running down the hill, approximately $1,980.00. The Turners can no longer mow a bank because it is too steep.

Personnel

Vice Mayor Dearing stated maintenance is below expectations and the streets are not being attended. He proposed two crews. One would install water lines, sewer lines, and sidewalks. He suggested Timmy Turner and two additional men for that crew. The other would be a ground crew under Tink Shifflett. It would be cost effective because we would not have to contract so much work.

Recreation

1. Sump pump installed
2. Softball field fence is 30 feet on Junior Order property. Will have to be moved. A girls' softball field can be constructed.

Blue Opal

Mr. Yates paid a $750.00 Adelphia high speed Internet connection. Council member Isom thought he may appear at the Council meeting.

Closed Session

Council member O'Neill moved, second by Council member Sigafoose, and carried to go into closed session under Virginia Code 2.2-3711 to discuss personnel issues and possible litigation.

YEAS: M. Dearing, M. Isom, D. Kite, M. O'Neill, T. Pence, and S. Sigafoose

Motion carried (6 – 0 roll call)

Council member O'Neill moved to go from closed session back into regular session and that each member, to the best of his or her knowledge, certified that only public business matters lawfully exempted from an open meeting requirement under Chapter 21 of Title 2.2 of the Code of Virginia were heard, discussed, or considered. Vice Mayor Dearing duly seconded the motion.

YEAS: M. Dearing, M. Isom, D. Kite, M. O'Neill, T. Pence, and S. Sigafoose

Motion carried (6 – 0 roll call)

As there was no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:05 P.M.

Mayor: _____
Wayne E. Printz

Recorder: _____
Richard D. Carey, Clerk