Committee Meetings
August 13, 2002

COUNCIL PRESENT
Mayor Printz
Vice Mayor Murphy
Council member Sigafoose
Council member Snow
Council member Dean
Council member Pence
Council member Workman

STAFF PRESENT
Faye Vickers, Treasurer
Richard Pullen, Chief of Police
Todd McCoy, Director of Public Works/Zoning Administrator
Richard Carey, Clerk of Council

Lewis Gay of Planergy International, a wholly owned subsidiary of Xcel Energy Inc., gave a presentation of Distributed Generation, a practice where small generating units are placed at or near end-user sites where they service specific customer requirements and/or provide support to electrical distribution systems. Elkton's peak usage history would be graphed and a system would be designed to operate during peak usage.

Annexation

Mayor Printz reviewed annexation and it was the consensus of Council that ShenValley Drywall and Roosters should be included in Phase 1. Council also wants to make sure all of Quail Run, developed and undeveloped, is included in Phase I. Monger Hill should remain in Phase II.

Hawke Security

Camera(s) were discussed for surveillance at Riverside Park and other areas of Town due to vandalism. Mayor Printz had an estimate of approximately $2,500.00 to $3,000.00. Arguments included invasion of privacy, destruction of the camera, and range of the camera. Motion lights and decoy cameras were discussed as alternatives. Council will place this issue on the agenda and, if appropriated for purchase, it will require two readings.

Investigative Funds

This is a line item in the Public Safety budget and Chief Pullen wants to offer a reward for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the perpetrator(s) who vandalized at Riverside Park. The limit was set at $200.00.

Park Gates

The majority of Council wants the gates at Riverside and Memorial Parks closed at dark. As Council member Pence stated, "When the lights go off the gates will close."

K-9

Chief Pullen reported that Neighborhood Watch has collected $3,300.00 for the purchase of a dog, with more pledged. Council member Pence expressed concern about the handler having children and how the dog would respond to them. Chief Pullen stated the handler in Shenandoah has 4 children, plus the dog was trained to respond to commands. He also stated a veterinarian in Luray would donate his time and services for the care of the dog and Food Lion would supply damaged bags of dog food. The dog would be insured through VML. The handler will be on call 24/7 and Chief Pullen has discussed this with Officer Conley.

Council member Murphy raised the following:

1. She did not like the way the issue came to Council. She considered it a pressure ploy by a group;
2. The 8 to 10 thousand dollars collected by Neighborhood Watch could go towards other Public Safety needs and we could borrow a dog on an as-needed basis;
3. A dog in the past proved to be a disaster;
4. Will be an added expense;
5. Will create personnel problems when a handler is named;
6. Pulling a car for the handler to use will create a jealousy among the officers;
7. She saw the negative outweighing the positive.

Chief Pullen stated if the handler approached him for a pay increase due to his/her specialized training, he would make it clear that was not part of the deal and he would not bring a request for a salary adjustment to Council. If something would happen to the handler, it would take 3 weeks to train a new handler. If the handler was on vacation we could use Massanutten's or Shenandoah's dog. Chief Pullen would like the handler to sign a 3 year contract and, if the contract was not fulfilled, the handler would reimburse the Town for the cost to train a new handler.

A poll of Council to continue with the K-9 process resulted as follows:

Council member Sigafoose - abstained

Council member Snow - if the Chief was 100% sold on the dog, he would support the Chief's decision

Council member Dean - yes

Council member Workman - would agree with the Chief's decision

Council member Murphy - not sold on the dog

Council member Pence - yes

The money collected by Neighborhood Watch will be turned over to the Chief and handled as designated money. A car will have to be equipped with a kennel and designated to the dog. Mayor Printz stated Officer Conley offered to transport the dog to and from work in his personal vehicle.

Dr. Trabosh

His offer regarding his property was included in the packets and Council was instructed to read it and make suggestions.

Mary Hutton

Mayor Printz gave the status of the Mary Hutton property clean-up. Council members Workman, Dean, Snow and Sigafoose said they would take another look at the property and offer suggestions on ways to clean it up.

Jeremy Berry

Council member Workman will make a recommendation regarding the property.

Sidewalk Obstruction Ordinance

The revised Sidewalk Ordinance was reviewed and clarification of the 42" clearance was discussed. It was agreed to place the Ordinance on the Council agenda for a First Reading.

Evidence Room

Mayor Printz discussed the status of the evidence room and the Drug Task Force. Sheriff

Farley agreed to address Council.

September 11 Memorial

Council member Workman reviewed the September 11 Event. Mayor Printz requested a $2,000.00 donation from Council.

Massanutten Regional Library

Mr. Hearne of Massanutten Regional Library will be contacted for clarification before $11,000.00 is transferred from the Women's Club account. It was Mayor Printz's understanding that $1,000.00 would go to the Library and the remaining $10,000.00 would revert to the Town. Council member Murphy offered that that was not what Mr. Hearne's letter stated.

Length of Meetings

Council member Pence stated that the Committee meetings were too long. Council member Snow suggested giving each Committee 15 minutes to present its business and the Mayor allotted 15 minutes for his business.

Personnel

Council member Murphy announced the hiring of James Moubray as Laborer I and Ted Brown as Assistant Water/Waste Water Operator. Based on Mr. Brown's qualifications and experience, Council member Murphy and Council member Snow agreed to a starting pay of $12.90 per hour, thereby creating an imbalance between Mr. Brown and Mr. Conley, who would earn $12.70 per hour based on the approved 3% across-the-board pay increases. It was agreed to raise Mr. Conley to $13.40 an hour in order to remain on scale.

Seasonal employee Bobby Eppard was supported by Lynn Meadows and Todd McCoy in his request for a dollar and hour raise plus employee shirts. The consensus of Council was to raise Mr. Eppard to $10.00 per hour.

Streets and Sidewalks

Council member Workman wants the public informed how projects are prioritized and where the money comes from for improvements to streets and sidewalks.

Water and Sewer

Council member Dean wants Council to consider a resolution to voluntarily conserve water due to drought conditions.

Council member Sigafoose would like to install 2 pressure tanks in Elkwood. Rev. Floyd guaranteed the tanks would resolve the low water pressure in Elkwood and he would be willing to install at a reduced rate to the Town. The request was tabled awaiting the water model.

Cemetery

Council agreed to wait until the Cemetery CDs become available in December, 02 to reimburse the Town for expenditures.

Park Authority

Council member Snow reviewed the minutes of the Park Authority meeting, at which time the bylaws were adopted

Committee Meetings

Council agreed to reset the time for Committee meetings to 6:00 P.M.

Meeting adjourned.

MAYOR: _____
Wayne E. Printz, Mayor

RECORDER: _____
Richard D. Carey, Clerk