Regular Council Meeting
February 17, 2020
7:00 p.m.

The regular meeting of the Elkton Town Council was held on February 17, 2020 at 7:00 p.m., in the Council Chambers of the Elkton Area Community Center with Mayor Joshua J. Gooden presiding.

Present: Mayor Joshua J. Gooden, Vice-Mayor Randell Snow, Council Member Margaretta Isom, Council Member Louis Heidel, Council Member Jay Dean, and Council Member Steve America.

Absent: Council Member Heidi Zander.

Also Present: Town Attorney Nathan H. Miller, Chief of Police David Harris, Project Director Gaither Hurt, EACC Administrator Howard L. Taylor, II, Recreation Director Diane Johnson, Community Development Director Delores Hammer, Town Treasurer Clairen Sipe, and Deputy Clerk of Council Kimberly Shifflett.

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

Mayor Gooden called the meeting to order and Mrs. Shifflett was asked to call the roll. Council member Dean gave the Invocation. All present were asked to join Mayor Gooden in the Pledge of Allegiance.

HIRE TOWN MANAGER

Council member Dean moved, seconded by Council member Isom, to appoint Greg Lunsford to the town manager position with the agreed upon salary.

YEAS: M. Isom, L. Heidel, R. Snow, J. Dean, S. America

NAYS: None

VOTE: (5 – 0 voice vote) Motion carried

Mr. Lunsford stated it was an honor and privilege to be the named the new town manager. He was anxious to meet the Town Council, staff, businesses and residents and get to know everyone on a personal level. He planned to work hard to build relationships and looked forward to getting started next Monday.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

Wayne Printz, 336 W. Washington Avenue, spoke regarding the Jennings House estimate which came in at $940,000 without cost over runs of about 10%. He noted everyone was in support of the remodeling, Council had to be financially careful. In his opinion, it was not a good idea to use Davenport & Company to secure money. The Town was charged $15,000.00 plus benefits for their services.

Mr. Printz stated that the Town had a $15 million wastewater treatment plant which did not include over run construction costs of 10% more. He noted another $1.5 million dollars was needed. The Town was currently $120,000 over budget with expenses from salaries, Amazon purchases, hotel rentals, car rentals, food expense, and other things. He noted the current administration had raised real estate taxes, water and sewer fees, trash pickup and burial fees. The Town was headed for deep financial trouble, if the administration continued down the same path. He suggested citizens help reconstruct the Jennings property and apply for grants.

CONSENT AGENDA

Council member Dean moved, seconded by Council member America, and carried to approve the consent agenda as presented.

1/20/2020 Special Council Meeting
1/27/2020 Special Council Meeting

YEAS: M. Isom, L. Heidel, R. Snow, J. Dean, S. America

NAYS: None

VOTE: (5 – 0 voice vote) Motion carried

TOWN ATTORNEY'S REPORT

Town Attorney Miller spoke regarding the sewer plant/DEQ grant. He noted the Town was substantially off schedule for the plant, but after a meeting with DEQ, those issues were resolved. He noted that written confirmation on the amount of grant was forthcoming.

CHIEF OF POLICE'S REPORT

- Spoke with MDT leasing company and a bid would be emailed.
- Worked on getting quotes for new weapons.
- Officer Baker was working the case involving damage from vandalism to the Jennings House.
- Officer Campbell and Officer Myers performed a traffic stop that assisted in retrieving stolen equipment. The investigation helped surrounding jurisdictions solve several cases and led to a stolen trailer from B&W being recovered.
- Officer Mandy Robles to start work tomorrow. She was a dedicated officer and would be an asset to the police department.
- Spoke with George McDaniel regarding the need for more lighting in his subdivision. There had been several incidents of vandalism. Council member Dean stated that Mr. McDaniel was responsible for lights since he was the developer.
- Council member America would like officers to attend the public safety meeting.

PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- Troy Shifflett was absent from the meeting.
- Gaither Hurt reported there were 100 work orders completed.
- Elliott Construction completed the pole installation last Thursday. The pole on Washington & 6th Street would be done next week.
- Pins were set for the wastewater treatment plant.
- Sidewalk project continued.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- Cemetery report was in the packet.
- Board of Zoning Appeals met on January 29, 2020. The following appointments were made at the meeting: Joseph Hammer, Chairperson; Ken Monger, Vice Chairperson; and Bobby Lawson, Secretary.

EACC ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

- Trips/program dates for the year were completed. Additional information was available at the front desk.
- DMV was at the center on February 7, 2020.
- February 26th - Mammography Van scheduled to be at the center.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Treasurer Sipe read her report as presented in the packet. She noted a Finance Committee meeting was scheduled for Thursday at 1:00 p.m.

NEW BUSINESS

Columbarium Presentation

Council member America moved, seconded by Vice-Mayor Snow, to approve the Cemetery Advisory Commissions' recommendation to proceed with the submitted plan, location and turn-key quote from W. A. Hartman Memorials for a 144 niche double-sided curved wall for $55,700. The remaining balance of $15,200 would go into next years' budget.

YEAS: M. Isom, L. Heidel, R. Snow, J. Dean, S. America

NAYS: None

VOTE: (5 - 0 roll call vote) Motion carried

Renew Special Exemption Permit for Lise Beaudette at 196 West Spotswood Avenue

Council member Isom, seconded by Council member Dean, moved to renew a Special Exception Permit that had expired for a rear apartment on the first floor of the property.

YEAS: M. Isom, L. Heidel, R. Snow, J. Dean, S. America

NAYS: None

VOTE: (5 - 0 voice vote) Motion carried

Subdivide Lot Located on West Summit Avenue Known as Tax Map No 131 B3 (5) B8 L3 Owned by JKKT Investments, LLC

Council member Isom moved, seconded by Vic- Mayor Snow, to approve the request from Thomas Schroeder of JKKT Investments, LLC, to subdivide a lot located on West Summit Avenue.

YEAS: M. Isom, L. Heidel, R. Snow, J. Dean, S. America

NAYS: None

VOTE: (5 - 0 voice vote) Motion carried

Transmission Work to Vehicle

Vice-Mayor Snow moved, seconded by Council member America, to approve installation of a new Jasper transmission with a 100,000 mile warranty for $3,157.48 by Hometown Garage. Funds would be split from electric, water and sewer.

YEAS: M. Isom, L. Heidel, R. Snow, J. Dean, S. America

NAYS: None

VOTE: (5 - 0 voice vote) Motion carried

COMMITTEES

Recreation (S. America)

Council member America reported the meeting was canceled.

Finance (R. Snow)

Vice-Mayor Snow reported the finance meeting was rescheduled to next Tuesday at the regular time when the new town manager could attend.

Planning Commission (M. Isom)

Council member Isom reported that the Planning Commission met on February 4, 2020. They discussed the subdivision for Mr. Schroeder and the special permit renewal for Lise Beaudette.

MAYOR'S BUSINESS

Mayor Gooden stated the sidewalk project was moving forward. He noted work was ongoing around-the-clock to try to get the project finished. Central Shenandoah Planning District Commission had been working to put together a plan for the sidewalks. Council would be seeing maps with projects that were being recommended by the CSPDS.

Meeting Adjourned

Council member Dean moved, seconded by Vice-Mayor Snow, and carried to adjourn the meeting.

YEAS: M. Isom, H. L. Heidel, R. Snow, J. Dean, S. America

NAYS: None

VOTE: (5 - 0 roll call vote) Motion carried

Mayor: Joshua N. Gooden

Joshua N. Gooden

Recorder: Denise R. Monger

Denise R. Monger, Clerk