PUBLIC HEARING
June 19, 1980

A Public Hearing was held Thursday, June 19, 1980 at 7:30 P.M. in the council chambers, for the purpose of concerned citizens to express their views on council issuing a permit for Mrs. Freda Tschiniak to operate a Home for Adults on W. Spotswood Trail formerly known as The Upper Room Church, with the Mayor Charles E. Dean presiding. The following council members were present: R. R. Dean, S. P. H. Flick, H. D. Flory, B. B. Holt, L. C. Life and C. A. Schumacher. Charles Lawhorne, Chief of Police, R. Bruce Wiles, Attorney and Betty H. Engle were also present.

Mr. Harry M. Reid, Jr. of 610 W. Spotswood Trail read a letter that was received from the Water Control Board by Congressman J. Kenneth Robinson whom Mr. Reid had gotten in touch with in 1979 about the sewer problem in the west end of town. The letter stated that after talking to the town manager, found that this was quite an old problem, but there is not enough money available at this time.

Mr. Reid further stated he had seen raw sewage in that area, and could not even flush their lavatories, but had to use chemicals and use a button to flush commodes. He would like for council to consider this before putting something like this in their end of town, and he opposes it 100%.

Ruth Pritchett stated she has been speaking against the home and will continue to do so in that particular spot. She is concerned about the traffic and noise in the area as she feels this would affect their safety and rest due to these conditions. Also she feels this will devalue their property, and feels people in that area do not ask for much and take what they can get. Miss Pritchett also was concerned that you could live in this town all your life and people know you and know what you are and do not beg for something to be done all the time, and someone can move in, and live here for a couple of years and ask for a permit to open a home, at a place that is not suitable for it, ask for an alley to be closed, and that is another reason she is against it. Miss Pritchett asked if she could asked Mrs. Tschiniak a couple of questions and was told by the mayor that since this was a public hearing that she would not have to answer them unless she would like to. Miss Pritchett stated that Mrs. Tschiniak corrected her the other night when she asked if she was not in violation as to the number that she has had in her home at one time, and she said they were boarders.

Others who stated they were opposed to the home were Juanita Stanley, Elizabeth Comer, Edith Walton and Charles Stanley.

Geneva Baugher stated that three days ago her brother-in-law and sister-in-law were both taken to the hospital, her brother-in-law, Bob House, cannot come home anymore and his wife Mable House would like very much for this home to be open in Elkton, so she can place her husband in this home and visit him every day, and Mrs. Baugher stated she is in favor of this home.

Mr. Lonnie Shifflett also stated he is in favor of this home.

Mr. Roger Ritchie, Mrs. Tschiniak's attorney spoke in her behalf. He felt that in regard to the sewage that since this has been used as a church, that there were times he was sure on Sundays and other times that the sewerage sustained considerable use, and did not feel you would be putting a burden on the sewerage system. Mr. Ritchie said the home has the tentative approval of the State Board that regulates homes such as this, and he feels Mrs. Tschiniak is offering to provide a facility here for the elderly to stay in their area, and make it better for them and their families, and feels she would be providing a good community service. Mr. Ritchie also felt that the changes she is making in the building would upgrade the area in terms of real estate value and would be more in harmony with the residential neighborhood than the church in the R-2 Zone. He also feels the people will be contained generally inside the building, and feels the noise would not be a problem and in no way would it grossly affect health or safety of the people living in the neighborhood by having the elderly there. And respectfully request the council to approve the Special Use Permit.

Since there was no one else wishing to speak, Mayor Dean declared the Public Hearing closed.

MAYOR: Charles E Dean
Charles E. Dean, Mayor

RECORDER: Betty H. Engle
Betty H. Engle, Asst. Clerk

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