Regular Council Meeting
January 18, 1999
7:30 p.m.

The regular meeting of the Elkton Town Council was held January 18, 1999 at 7:30 p.m. in the council chambers with the Mayor Millard L. Dearing presiding. The roll call was as follows:

PRESENT

F. A. Bennett
R. C. Davis
C. E. Dean
B. B. Horne
W. E. Printz
R. L. Snow

Gerald Monger, Town Manager, Dale Davenport, Attorney, Robert Marshall, Chief of Police, Kenny Flick, Director of Public Works, and Julia Smith, Treasurer/Clerk were also present.

Councilman Bennett offered the Invocation.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

CITIZENS COMMENTS

LUCKY SIGAFOOSE. - 112 Rockingham Street - Mr. Sigafoose stated he has requested to be notified of any meetings held during the month. Mr. Sigafoose stated that there was a meeting on the 14th of January and he was notified. Mr. Sigafoose stated that he contacted Rick Carey and was told the meeting would be posted in the Valley Banner. Mr. Sigafoose stated that he checked the paper and the meeting was not published. Mr. Sigafoose told council that if there was a meeting held and he was not notified he would declare the meeting illegal. Mayor Dearing stated that in December during the council the meeting dates and times were announced.

Mildred Shifflett - 112 W. Spotswood Avenue - Mrs. Shifflett stated that she has lived in town for 45 years. Mrs. Shifflett stated that the town was discussing building a golf course when there was no community center, water problems, sewer problems and other things that needed the town's attention. Mrs. Shifflett stated that we do not need a two million dollar community center. Mrs. Shifflett stated that the police doors were being locked at night. Mrs. Shifflett was concerned if an emergency came up there was no way to get into the police department.

Marsha Deavers - EDRC

Mrs. Deavers was present to review the quarterly report for EDRC. A copy of this report was put in with council packets.

Councilwoman B. B. Horne moved, seconded by W. E. Printz and carried to approve the request by Nancy Fries for a special exception home occupation permit which will allow her to operate a hair salon at her residence at 508 N. Stuart Avenue abiding by all regulations.

YEAS: F. A. Bennett, R. C. Davis, C. E. Dean, B. B. Horne, W. E. Printz and R. L. Snow

The motion carried (6-0)

MINUTES

Councilman F. A. Bennett moved, seconded by Councilman R. L. Snow and carried to approve the minutes of the Regular Council Meeting held, December 21, 1998.

YEAS: F. A. Bennett, R. C. Davis, C.E. Dean, B.B. Horne, W. E. Printz and R. L. Snow

The motion was carried (6-0)

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS

Chief of Police

Chief Marshall offered to answer questions on his monthly report. Chief Marshall stated that there were no drug arrests for the month of December. Councilman Printz asked what decision had been made about locking the lobby door at night. Chief Marshall responded that the final decision was to leave the door locked and look at possibly getting a door bell. Councilman Printz addressed Mrs. Shifflett's concern over the lobby doors being locked. Councilman Printz stated that he has requested to bring some of the dispatchers back so citizens will have better accessability to the police.

Recreation

Mayor Dearing stated that we have hired Mr. Lynn Meadows to take over the parks and recreation. Mr. Meadows will not be required to attend council meetings. Councilman Snow reported that Councilman Printz had discussed the Little League field and Mr. Richard Mondale had asked that a walkway be put in at the park. Councilman Snow stated that these issues had been brought before the Recreation Commission. Councilman Snow stated that the Commission did discuss a new Little League field on the property down near Shen-Elk Plaza. The Commission was in favor of building a first class field but was not in favor of leasing the property to Little League or giving the property to Little League solely. Mr. Mondale's proposal for the walkway and steps at the park were discussed but there was no interest shown.

Director of Public Works

Mr. Flick offered to answer questions on his monthly report. Mayor Dearing stated that he would like to commend the maintenance crew for the fine job they did in keeping our streets as safe as possible during the ice storm we had.

Treasurer

Councilman R. L. Snow moved, seconded by Councilman W. E. Printz and carried to approve the December 1998 Finance Report as presented.

YEAS: F. A. Bennett, R . C. Davis, C. E. Dean, B. B. Horne, W. E. Printz, and R. L. Snow

The motion was carried.

Town Manager

Mr. Monger offered to answer questions on his monthly report. Councilman Printz asked if the building that was falling down in the alley way had been taken care of. Mr. Monger stated that he and Chief Marshall were going to make a tour of the town later in the week to check this problem and others.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Electric

Councilman R. C. Davis moved, seconded by F. A. Bennett and carried to approve Gerald Monger as the representative to VMEA.

YEAS: F. A. Bennett, R. C. Davis, C. E. Dean, B. B. Horne, W. E. Printz and R. L. Snow

The motion carried (6-0)

Councilman R. C. Davis moved, seconded by F. A. Bennett and carried to approve the First Reading of the contract with HEC.

YEAS: F. A. Bennett, R. C. Davis, C. E. Dean, B. B. Horne, W. E. Printz and R. L. Snow

The motion carried (6-0)

Mayor Dearing gave a brief explanation of what the contract will do for the town. Councilman Davis thanked Mr. Monger for the work he had done on the contract and stated a thank you to Mr. Mike York for not forgetting us. Mayor Dearing stated that the goal was to lower our rates 20% - 30% below VEPCO. Mayor Dearing stated he would like to thank former Councilman Dan Dail for the work he did on this contract while on the council.

Finance

Councilwoman Horne stated that the audit review will be held Thursday night January 21, 1999 at 6:00.

Personnel

Councilman Dean stated that we need a second reading on the new sick policy.

Public Health & Safety

Mayor Dearing stated that there was nothing to report on at this time.

Streets and Sidewalks

Councilman Printz stated that we are still looking at the North Street project and due to manpower issues we are looking at bidding this out to contractors. Councilman Printz stated that he would like for the Neighborhood Watch to be put on the agenda for Public Safety.

Water and Sewer

Councilman Bennett stated that there was nothing to report at this time.

Cemetery

Mayor Dearing stated that Lynn Meadows report on the cemetery was sent out with council packets.

OLD BUSINESS

Second Reading on Sick Leave Policy

Councilman C. E. Dean moved as a second reading, **seconded by Councilwoman B. B. Horne and carried to amend Section 6-3, Employee Sick Leave, as written by Dale Davenport.(Copy Attached)**

YEAS: F. A. Bennett, R. C. Davis, C. E. Dean, B. B. Horne, W. E. Printz and R. L. Snow

The motion carried (6-0)

Councilman Printz asked that it be brought up in Personnel to discuss pay to employees on tenure. Councilman Printz stated he would also like to see employees have a party or get together periodically.

Second Reading - BPOL Ordinance Amendment

Councilwoman B. B. Horne moved, seconded by R. L. Snow and carried to amend Section 7-1-23 to include paragraphs (g) and (f).

YEAS: F. A. Bennett, R. C. Davis, C. E. Dean, B. B. Horne, W. E. Printz and R. L. Snow

The motion carried (6-0)

Second Reading of Reappropriation of Funds for Treasurer's Office Remodeling

Councilwoman B. B. Horne moved, seconded by W. E. Printz and carried to reappropriate $6,000.00 from the county to remodel the Treasurer's Office.

YEAS: F. A. Bennett, R. C. Davis, C. E. Dean, B. B. Horne, W. E. Printz and R. L. Snow

The motion carried (6-0)

NEW BUSINESS

First Reading of Resolution on M. E. Kite Property

Councilwoman B. B. Horne motioned, second by W. E. Printz to the following resolution:

Resolved, that the Town of Elkton, Virginia, by and through its Mayor and other officers, is authorized to have issued on its behalf a promissory note in the maximum principal amount of $670,000 to the Trustees of the Mary Elizabeth Kite Charitable Remainder Trust, or order, for the purpose of financing the purchase by the Town of approximately 132 acres located in Rockingham County, Virginia, adjacent to and partly located within the Town, the terms of which promissory note shall expressly provide that upon the death of the Trust beneficiary the principal balance is to be forgiven and the promissory note shall be delivered to the Town of Elkton, thereby canceling its obligations thereunder.

YEAS: F. A. Bennett, R. C. Davis, C. E. Dean, B. B. Horne, W. E. Printz and R. L. Snow

The motion carried (6-0)

First Reading Ordinance Amendment to Increase Returned Check Charge to $30.00

Councilwoman B. B. Horne moved, second by R. C. Davis to amend Section 2-3-6 to read: In the event a check or draft for payment of taxes or other sums due to the town which is uttered, published or passed to the town or any of its departments of commissions, is returned by the payor's bank for insufficient funds or because there is no account or the account has been closed, then the payor shall be liable to the town for a fee of thirty dollars ($30.00) for each such check or draft.

YEAS: F. A. Bennett, R. C. Davis, C. E. Dean, B. B. Horne, W. E. Printz and R. L. Snow

The motion carried (6-0)

ATTORNEYS BUSINESS

Mr. Dale Davenport stated that he is working on a sexual harassment policy. Mr. Davenport hopes to have this ready next month. Mayor Dearing stated that at present this is not addressed in the town personnel handbook.

MAYORS BUSINESS

Mayor Dearing set committee meetings for February as follow:
February 3, 1999 - water, sewer, streets and sidewalks and electric
February 11, 1999 - Public Safety, finance and personnel

Councilman Printz reported that several citizens have been receiving calls for donations from an agency that supposedly represents the police. Councilman Printz wanted the public to know that the town is not calling for donations.

As there was no further business the meeting was adjourned.

MAYOR: M Lee Dearing
M. Lee Dearing, Mayor

RECORDER: Julia M. Smith
Julia M. Smith, Clerk