Regular Council Meeting
October 16, 2000
7:00 p.m.

The regular meeting of the Elkton Town Council was held October 16, 2000 at 7:00 p.m. in the council chambers with the Mayor Millard L. Dearing presiding. The roll call was as follows:

PRESENT

B.B. Horne
C. H. Murphy
M. O'Neill
T. Pence
W. E. Printz
L. Sigafoose

Burns Earle, Attorney, Robert Marshall, Chief of Police, Kenny Flick Director of Public Works and Julia Smith, Treasurer/Clerk were also present.

Mrs. Horne offered the Invocation.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

CITIZENS COMMENTS

Lindsey Correa - Senior at Spotswood High School - Ms. Correa spoke regarding 2001 Mock General Assembly at SHS and passed out packets about the organization. Ms. Correa reported that the council has supported the program for the past several years and requested donation of $500. The council fulfilled the request and she thanked them for their generous donation.

Mildred Shifflett - 112 Spotswood Avenue - Ms. Shifflett reported that the members of the council and others need to speak directly into the microphone. Ms. Shifflett also reported that the streets of Elkton are deplorable and are a mess. She thinks that they make Elkton look bad. She requested something be done. She thanked Mr. Conley for moving the mob off of the streets.

Cathy Murphy - Speaking for Scott and Martha Plum (410 Rockingham St.) who could not be there. Ms. Murphy read their to all concerned letter regarding parking along the sidewalks of the homes. Mr. and Mrs. Plum also would like to be apprized of the cat and dog ordinances because of another problem regarding noise. Mayor Dearing acknowledged the encroachment problem and addressed Mr. Flick. Mr. Flick said he had talked with the Plums and told them to talk with Chief Marshall. Mayor Dearing said that the issue may go to committee.

Bill McDonald - 204 Spotswood Ave. - Mr. McDonald requested to speak after the meeting and had no comment at the time.

Hazel Crider - Elkwood - Ms. Crider thanked everyone for their support of the Neighborhood Watch. She also reported that she had a key to the building, which shows how much support they are receiving.

Lucky Sigafoose - Mr. Sigafoose reported that he fixed bicycles for underprivilged children and asked if anyone would make a cake, pie or anything to use for a bake sale. Also he would accept anything used to restore the bicycles.

Minutes

Councilwoman B. Horne moved, seconded by Councilwoman C.H. Murphy and carried to approve the minutes of the Regular Council Meeting held September 18, 2000.

YEAS: M. O'Neill, T. Pence, W. Printz, and L. Sigafoose.

The motion was carried (6-0)

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS

Chief of Police

Chief Marshall offered to answer questions on his monthly report. No questions were brought about. B. Horne stated that there was a decrease in the number of speeding tickets written from 40 to 12. Chief Marshall reported that one officer had been on vacation for three weeks and a newly hired officer is not certified to run radar.

Director of Public Works

L. Sigafoose questioned Mr. Flick's report. Mr. Flick reported that the drainage issue at the gas station was being looked into and could be fixed in the future. Also he commented on the sidewalks alongside Rockingham Street and the railroad tracks, which are going to be taken care of in the near future (before winter).

Mr. Flick stated that the signal light project at Pizza Hut was finished. Mr. Flick reported that the other light project has not yet began due to the Fall Festival, but will the following Monday.

Treasurer

Julia Smith reported the finance report.
Councilwoman B. Horne moved, second by M. O'Neill to approve the September 2000 finance report as presented.

YEAS: C. H. Murphy, T. Pence, W. Printz, and L. Sigafoose.

The motion was carried (6-0)

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Electric

Councilman Sigafoose said that the pole at Lawson's Garage was being moved.

Finance

Councilwoman Horne said later there will be discussion on the publishing of the deliquent real estate tax. Also she said they will be looking into a Procurement Policy which is not necessary for under 3,500 populations.

Mayor Dearing said that the legal expenses have increased during fiscal year. Mayor takes full responsibility and have asked council and Mr. Miller to look into poorly written policies. He also reported that the council is taking a active position toward the annexation issue, which has been waiting for 20 years.

Mayor Dearing reported that the delinquent taxes issue was being looked into. He said that people who have not paid taxes will be taken to court and are trying hard to fix the problems of the town.

Nathan Miller said that the council has asked a lot of questions. He said that they are sensitive to the budget, citizens and issues of paying too much. He expressed his appreciation to the town for being a client and accepted responsibility. He handed out a list of nondetailed 20 items, which were given to him to look into, back to the council. He also reported that the issues of the town needed to be moved forward. He concluded by stating their firm tries to be efficient and to get things done.

Personnel

Councilwoman Murphy reported that the committee met Tuesday, October 10 and reviewed 3 new policies. C. Murphy read a statement submitted by M. O'Neill, which stated that as soon as possible a full time town manager be employed. C. Murphy requested that the council accept the retirement of Gerald Monger. Monger requested that the town pay for his insurance until December 31, 2000.

The council accepted Mr. Monger's retirement and for his health insurance to be covered until December. Also she requested to a pass resolution to express appreciation for his 25 years of service and wish him the best.

Councilwoman C. Murphy moved, second by L. Sigafoose to accept the retirement of Gerald Monger.

YEAS: B. Horne, M. O'Neill, T. Pence, and W. Printz.

The motion was carried (6-0)

Public Health & Safety

Mayor Dearing stated he had nothing at the time.

Streets and Sidewalks

Councilman Printz stated that he met with Don Komara and Jeff Lineberry with VDOT about provide state finances for various issues. He asked to moved the Rockingham Street project to Spotswood Ave. He reported looking into the more immediate issues about the Chevron Station and issues regarding sidewalks. He thanked the council for their support and commented on the importance of communication with state officials.

Other projects, Printz reported as concerns are the school bus exit on Terrace Ave and he said the committee was looking into the encroachment issue. He also said that the council was very hard-working. He discussed the telephone issue and the cellular-tower issue which are being looked into. He proposed the honor plaque idea at Eddie Cave's property and discussed the possible community center project. Lastly he mentioned that the property needed to be cleaned up and he reported looking into the train traffic issue.

Water and Sewer

Councilman Sigafoose had nothing to report at the time.

Recreation

Councilman Pence brought up the concern about paying Cindy Merica $500 to run the basketball league, where she was told by Lynn Meadows that she did not need to attend any games. Pence reported that someone needed to be at the games early to set up clock and also to state afterward to clean up.

Mayor Dearing brought that Councilman Pence was the council representative of the commission and should bring his concern to committee. Dearing also reported that he had not signed any contract regarding recreation. He said that the commission has not gotten a firm policy on how to handle contracts and thus the recreation signs their own contracts. He reported the contracts are on hold.

Mayor Dearing reported a concern about the finances of the department. Regarding the fact that funding comes from the town, and 60% of the participants are from out of town. Mayor Dearing added that an advertisement was needed for recreation vacancy.

Councilman T. Pence moved, second by W. Printz to accept Eddie Cave for a four year term on the Recreation Commission.

Planning Commission

Councilman O'Neill reported that the code books for the town have been received.

NEW BUSINESS

L. Sigafoose requested that the parks close at night.

Mayor Dearing stated that all parks are closed at dark and are reopened at sunrise. He also stated that when there are activities are going on, there will be an extension on the closing time.

Personal Policies

Holidays 1.6 Effective January 1, 2001 *See Attachments

Councilwoman C. Murphy moved, second Councilwoman B. Horne
Motion carried (6-0)

Annual Leave 1.7 *See Attachments

Councilwoman C. Murphy moved, second Councilman T. Pence
Motion carried (6-0)

Sick 1.8 Amendment that 2 sick days can be used for personal use
*See Attachments

Councilwoman C. Murphy moved, second Councilwoman B. Horne
Motion carried (6-0)

Family Medical Leave 1.9 Withdraw motion and second
*See Attachments

Councilwoman C. Murphy moved, second Councilman M. O'Neill
Motion carried (6-0)

SIGNATURE AUTHORITY

Councilwoman B. Horne moved, second Councilwoman C. H. Murphy carried to approve Kenny Flick and Gedie Armentrout as signature authority.

YEAS: M. O'Neill, T. Pence, W. E. Printz and L. Sigafoose.

Motion carried (6-0)

PUBLISH DELINQUENT REAL ESTATE TAX LIST

Councilwoman B. Horne moved, second Councilwoman C. H. Murphy carried to publish the list of delinquent real estate taxes for the years of 1998-99.

YEAS: M. O'Neill, T. Pence, W. E. Printz and L. Sigafoose.

Motion carried (6-0)

AUTHORIZATION OF PURCHASING CHIPPER

Councilwoman B. Horne moved, second by Councilman W. E. Printz and carried to approve the purchasing of a new chipper from supply funds.

YEAS: C. H. Murphy, M. O'Neill, T. Pence, and L. Sigafoose.

Motion carried (6-0)

REFUSE CONTRACT

Councilman W. Printz moved, second by Councilman T. Pence and carried to approve new contract with Green Earth Recycling. Recycling will be picked up every other week beginning on November 10. The three year contract effective November 3 will be $5998.00.

YEAS: B. Horne, C. H. Murphy, M. O'Neill, and L. Sigafoose.

Motion carried (6-0)

WATER REQUEST AND WELL DRILLING COMPANY

Councilman L. Sigafoose moved, second by Councilman M. O'Neill and carried to grant water permit for Foster's Well & Pump Co. Inc. drilling. There will not be a sewer charge for those with water connections.

YEAS: B. Horne, C. H. Murphy, T. Pence, and W. E. Printz.

Motion carried (6-0)

As there was no further business the meeting was adjourned.

MAYOR: _____
M. Lee Dearing, Mayor

RECORDER:_____
Julia M. Smith, Clerk