Regular Council Meeting
January 17, 2000
7:30 p.m.

The regular meeting of the Elkton Town Council was held January 17, 2000 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, Kenneth Flick, Director of Public Works and Julia Smith, Treasurer/Clerk were also present.

Councilwoman Horne offered the Invocation.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

CITIZENS COMMENTS

Janet Eppard - Washington Street - Ms. Eppard asked why it took three calls before an officer responded to the accident that occurred on her street. Ms. Eppard stated that a building was on fire and people injured.

Mayor Dearing responded by telling Ms. Eppard that Chief Marshall would respond to her about her concern.

Mildred Shifflett - Ms. Shifflett stated that she is repeatedly awaken around 1:00 - 3:00 A.M. by a car with loud mufflers on it. Ms. Shifflett asked if the car is street legal. Chief Marshall asked that Ms. Shifflett meet with him after the meeting to give him a description of the vehicle. Chief Marshall stated that if it is the car he is thinking about it is street legal.

Hazel Crider - Ms. Crider stated that she serves on the advisory committee. Ms. Crider stated that every month the advisory committee sends a copy of its concerns to the council and is not getting any feedback. Ms. Crider stated that some on their concerns is the light at Spotswood and Stuart, blind spots all over town and people trying to pull out of Big L Tire. Mayor Dearing stated that the light at Spotswood and Stuart has been sent to committee and asked Mr. Flick to respond.

Tara Davis and Keith Moored - Spotswood High School - Ms. Davis and Mr. Moored were present to request sponsorship to the Model General Assembly.

Wayne Printz - Councilman Printz stated that we have lost a dear person in our community, Mr. Bill Hitt, Sr. Councilman Printz stated what a wonderful person, father, grandfather and friend we have lost. A moment of silence was observed.

Mayor Dearing acknowledged Mr. Gerald Monger for 25 years of dedication to the Town of Elkton.

Minutes

Councilman C. E. Dean moved, seconded by Councilman R. L. Snow and carried to approve the minutes of the Public Hearing held December 20, 1999.

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)

Councilman R. C. Davis moved, seconded by Councilwoman B. B. Horne and carried to approve the minutes of the Regular Council meeting held December 20, 1999.

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.

Director of Public Works

Mr. Flick offered to answer questions on his report. Mr. Flick stated he will be addressing the stoplight concern with VDOT when he meets with them in February. Mr. Flick stated that VDOT will be here Thursday at 10:00 A. M.

Treasurer

Councilwoman R. L. Snow moved, seconded by Councilwoman B. B. Horne and carried to approve December 1999 Finance Report as presented.

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

Motion carried (6-0)

Town Manager

Mr. Monger offered to answer questions on his monthly report. Councilman Snow asked if Mr. Monger has heard anything else from the railroad about the walkway on the downtown track. Mr. Monger stated that he has not contacted them at this time. Mr. Monger stated that before anything is done at the railroad we may need to move some poles.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Electric

Councilman Davis stated that there was nothing at this time.

Finance

Councilwoman Horne stated that Mr. Russell Breeden met with the committee, at their last meeting, to present a plan for the golf course. Councilwoman Horne stated that a meeting will be held to discuss the golf course. Mayor Dearing reviewed golf course plans and topics that have been discussed in reference to the golf course. Mayor Dearing asked that the finance committee look at reimbursing Councilman Printz on legal fees that he incurred six years ago.

Personnel

Councilman Dean stated that there was nothing at this time.

Public Health & Safety

Mayor Dearing stated that we are looking at a lot of ordinances that are on the books that need to be rewritten. Mayor Dearing stated that the Police Department will be looking at cars without tags, cars on town easements, etc. Mayor Dearing stated that in reference to the Advisory Committees concern about blind spots the Chief of Police will get with Mr. Flick and address these areas.

Streets and Sidewalks

Councilman Printz stated that the large ditch beside Edsel Shelton's house will be brought up at the next committee meeting. Councilman Printz stated that parking issues were discussed and removal of a pole on Chris Lawson's property. Councilman Printz stated that about six months ago he wrote a letter to the DMV with concerns with the new DMV being on the other side of Harrisonburg. Councilman Printz stated that his letter has been forwarded to Richmond and he hopes to hear something soon as to whether they will put a mobile unit at this end of the county.

Water and Sewer

Councilman Bennett stated that there was nothing at this time.

Cemetery

Mayor Dearing stated that Mr. Meadows has sent out letters to all owners of cemetery lots on perpetual care. Mayor Dearing stated that effective 2001 perpetual care will increase from $2.00 per year to $20.00 per year. Mayor Dearing stated that owners are also being offered lifetime perpetual care.

Recreation

Councilman R. L. Snow moved, seconded by Councilwoman B. B. Horne and carried to approve Tammy Lucas as a member of the Recreation Commission.

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

Motion carried (6-0)

Councilman Snow reported that there is still one vacancy on the Recreation Commission. Councilman Snow stated that Mr. Michael Hensley, with HUD, met with the Recreation Center group and has identified three grant sources we may qualify for. Mayor Dearing stated that issue concerning the key to the recreation center on B Street was researched and anyone needing a key would have to pick up the key from the Police Department during normal business hours.

Planning Commission

Councilwoman stated that there was nothing at this time, there was no meeting and there are still two vacancies.

EDRC

Councilman Printz stated that there has been a request that the council formally support EDRC and the Historical Society in acquiring a grant for $10,000.00 for work to be done on the Miller-Kite House.

Councilman W. E. Printz moved, seconded by Councilman F. A. Bennett and carried to send a letter of support for EDRC and the Historical Society for a grant of $10,000.00 to be used on the Miller-Kite House.

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

Motion carried (6-0)

Councilman Printz reported that there will be a car show on June 3, 2000 sponsored by EDRC.

Marsha Deavers reviewed her report that was enclosed with council packets.

OLD BUSINESS

Second Reading for appropriation for ISTEA

Councilwoman B. B. Horne moved, seconded by Councilman C. E. Dean and carried as a second reading to appropriate $375,000.00 for the ISTEA project.

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

Motion carried (6-0)

Second Reading - Appropriation Monger Hill

Councilman F. A. Bennett moved, second by R. L. Snow and carried to approve the second reading to appropriate $3,000.00 for a line to be run across Monger Hill Road. (Specifics of the easement are attached to minutes)

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

NAYS: W. E. Printz

Motion carried (5-1)

NEW BUSINESS

Resolution 125 - Cafeteria Plan

Councilwoman B. B. Horne moved to adopt the following resolution, seconded by W. E. Printz and carried.

RESOLVED, that the Town of Elkton, Virginia approves the adoption of the Town of Elkton, Virginia Flexible Benefits Plan, a copy of which shall be maintained in the permanent records of the Town, to permit the payment of health insurance premiums by employees from pre-tax income; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town Treasurer is authorized to take all actions necessary or convenient for the implementation of the Plan.

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

Motion carried (6-0)

Appropriation of $500.00 for the Model General Assembly

Councilman W. E. Printz moved, seconded by R. C. Davis and carried to approve the appropriation of $500.00 for the Model General Assembly.

YEAS: R. C. Davis, C. E. Dean, W. E. Printz and R. L. Snow

NAYS: F. A. Bennett, B. B. Horne

Motion carried (4-2)

Cost of Living and Merit Increases

Councilwoman B. B. Horne moved, seconded by W. E. Printz and carried to approve to give the Town employees a 2 ½ % cost of living increase plus a merit increase of 0 - 3% based on the employees performance rating with the increases to be effective July 1, 2000.

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

Motion carried (6-0)

Mr. Monger reported that we received the critique from General Code Publishers. Mayor Dearing stated that we may have to have additional meetings to meet the March 14, 2000 deadline to complete this project.

Mayor Dearing asked council to state the top priority for Mr. Monger to be working on since there are several ongoing projects at this time. The council was unanimous that annexation should be top priority at this time.

Mayor Dearing set committee dates for Tuesday, February 15, 2000 and Thursday, February 17, 2000 at 6:00 P.M.

Councilman Snow asked that a date be set to discuss the golf course. The meeting was scheduled for Tuesday, January 25, 2000 at 6:00 P.M.

Closed Session

Councilwoman B. B. Horne moved, seconded by Councilman R. L. Snow and carried that council go into Closed Session for the purpose of discussion of pending personnel issues.

Councilwoman B. B. Horne moved to go from Closed Session back into Regular Session and that each member, to the best of his knowledge, certifies that only public business matters lawfully exempted from an open meeting requirement under Chapter 21 of Title 2.1 of the Code of Virginia were heard, discussed or considered. The motion was duly seconded.

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

Motion carried (6-0)

As there was no further business the meeting was adjourned.

MAYOR: _____
M. Lee Dearing, Mayor

RECORDER: _____
Julia M. Smith, Clerk