Regular Council Meeting
August 21, 2000
7:00 p.m.

The regular meeting of the Elkton Town Council was held August 21, 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.

Councilwoman Horne offered the Invocation.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Mayor Dearing opened the meeting acknowledging the new chairs and speaker system.

Mayor Dearing recognized the Little League Champs from the Elkton-Stanley team.
The 2000 State Champs are:

Manager	Dave Loker	
Coaches	A. C. Jenkins	
	Mike Meredith	
Players	Jeremy Morris	Jeremy Turner
	Timothy Meredith	T. T. Smelser
	Buck Jenkins	Nick Weakley
	Nathan Turner	Tony Lam
	Kevin Loker	Jason Mitchell
	Cole Smith	Matt Mowbray
	Josh Turner	

These young men won the State Championship, Eastern Region Championship and placed fourth in the Southern Sectional Tournament.

The Mayor announced that the new code books are in and thanked everyone for their work to get this project completed. Mayor Dearing stated that the Field Days parade was a big success this year and turnout was excellent.

Mayor Dearing extended the Town's thanks to EPIC for the donation of the table and bench in the second floor hallway and the benches placed outside the Municipal Building.

CITIZENS COMMENTS

Joan Sigafoose - 112 E. Rockingham Street - Ms. Sigafoose stated that there was a poor showing of the council in the Field Days Parade. Ms. Sigafoose asked that next year there be a float with all council members participating.

Dixie Roberson - E. Washington Avenue - Ms. Roberson stated that on August 2, 2000 she spoke with Mr. Kenny Flick about hooking up to the town water system. Mr. Flick informed her that the council was not allowing anyone else in the Washington Avenue area to hook on at this time.

Mayor Dearing responded to Ms. Roberson and stated that there is a water pressure problem in this area. Mayor Dearing agreed to send this back to the committee for further discussion.

Kenneth Kite - Mr. Kite stated that he was being hit double with the fees the council wants to impose for out of town users. Mr. Kite stated that his business and his home are located out of town and both are hooked up to town water and sewer. Mr. Kite stated that for businesses he would like to see the fee linked to the usage. Mr. Kite stated that his usage is very small compared to other businesses and feels he should not have to pay the same user fee as the larger consumers.

Hazel Crider - Elkwood - Ms. Crider asked why the phone system has not been changed. Ms. Crider stated that at the last meeting the council decided to put the phones back on direct dial. Ms. Crider also questioned the turn signals VDOT was supposed to be installing on Stuart Avenue. Ms. Crider stated that the parade was super nice. Ms. Crider extended her thanks to Councilman Pence and Councilman Printz for helping the Neighborhood Watch with their parade entry. Ms. Crider stated that it would be nice if the town entered a float in the parade next year. Ms. Crider stated that if town employees did not have the time to help with the float citizens would volunteer.

Mildred Shifflett - Ms. Shifflett asked what time the town offices closed. Ms. Shifflett asked if the new user fee for out of town customers was a flat $10.00 or $10.00 per utility. Ms. Shifflett stated that she had heard town water and sewer rates were going to be increased.

In response to Ms. Shifflett the Mayor stated that the town offices were open until 5:00 p.m. Monday - Friday. The user fee is per utility. There are no plans at this time to increase water and/or sewer rates.

Jeff Dean - Clark Avenue - Mr. Dean expressed concern over the no parking signs near his house. Mr. Dean stated that these signs are not put where they are needed. Mr. Dean stated that he has to wade through water to get to his house since the town did work on the road on Clark Avenue.

Minutes

Councilwoman C. H. Murphy moved, seconded by Councilman W. E. Printz and carried to approve the minutes of the Regular Council Meeting held July 17, 2000.

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

The motion was carried (6-0)

Councilwoman B. B. Horne moved, seconded by Councilman W. E. Printz and carried to approve the minutes of the Special Council meeting held July 27, 2000.

YEAS: B. B. Horne, C. H. Murphy, M. O'Neill, T. Pence, W. E. 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.

Director of Public Works

Mr. Flick was not present. Mayor Dearing stated that the Shelton project was started today.

Treasurer

Councilwoman C. H. Murphy moved, second by W. E. Printz to approve the June 2000 finance report as presented.

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

The motion was carried (6-0)

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Electric

Nothing to report at this time.

Finance

Councilwoman Horne stated that there was nothing at this time.

Personnel

Councilwoman Murphy reported that the committee approved some new personnel policies. Councilwoman Murphy stated that the decision on the phones has been delayed until some personnel changes can be made.

Public Health & Safety

Mayor Dearing stated there an ad has been placed in the Valley Banner to remove all cars from town easements by September 15, 2000.

Streets and Sidewalks

Councilman Printz stated that there are 10 - 12 projects that are being looked at. Councilman Printz stated that he has contacted the county over Spotswood Trail sidewalks and hopes to get them repaired.

Water and Sewer

Mayor Dearing reported that the council was prepared to vote on the out of town user fees tonight. However, due to questions over a contract with the county this issue will have to be reviewed and brought back to the committee.

Cemetery

Mayor Dearing stated that the cemetery is being cleaned up by Lynn Meadows and Mr. Merica. Mayor Dearing stated the quality of care will improve.

Recreation

Councilman Pence stated that the Recreation Commission voted in new officers. Councilman Pence stated that a $2000.00 donation has been received for the Seniors program. Councilman Pence reported that the scoreboard in the park was struck by lightening and the repair bill will be around $700.00. Councilman Pence reported that Burger King and Shen Valley Drywall donated a four-wheeler to the recreation department. Councilman Pence announced that Neighborhood Watch will now meet on the first Monday of every month.

Planning Commission

Councilman Sigafoose stated that the Planning Commission has recommended the reappointment of Mr. Bill Holt.

NEW BUSINESS

EPIC

Larry Baugher, spokesperson for EPIC, requested the closing of Spotswood Avenue from Warren Avenue to Hill Avenue for the Autumn Days Car Show on October 22, 2000 from 9:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m..

Mayor Dearing stated that this would go to the committee and be voted on next month.

DONATION OF POLICE CAR

Councilman W. E. Printz moved, second Councilman L. Sigafoose carried to donate the oldest police car to the Elkton Emergency Squad with the Squad being responsible for removal of all town seals.

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

Motion carried (6-0)

SOUTH RIVER PIPELINE PROJECT

Councilman W. E. Printz moved, second by Councilman M. O'Neill and carried to adamantly oppose the pipeline project from Harrisonburg.

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

Motion carried (6-0)

EPA - AIR QUALITY

Mayor Dearing reported that he attended the Air Quality seminar on Skyline Drive. Mayor Dearing reported that on the first day of summer a gag order was put on the EPA to keep them from reporting the air quality report. Mayor Dearing asked that council take action to notify the legislators that the Town of Elkton is opposed to the gag order.

Councilman W. E. Printz moved, second by Councilwoman C. H. Murphy to send a letter to the legislators in Richmond stating that the Town of Elkton opposes the gag order imposed on the EPA.

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

Motion carried (6-0)

PERSONNEL POLICY AMENDMENTS

Councilwoman C. H. Murphy moved, second by Councilman W. E. Printz and carried to approve the new policy titled Classification and Compensation to become effective immediately.

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

Motion carried (6-0)

Councilwoman C. H. Murphy moved, second by Councilman W. E. Printz and carried to approve the new policy titled Vacancies and Ads to become effective immediately.

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

Motion carried (6-0)

Councilwoman C. H. Murphy moved, second by Councilman W. E. Printz and carried to approve the new policy titled Position Interviews and Selections to become effective immediately.

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

Motion carried (6-0)

Councilwoman C. H. Murphy moved, second by Councilman W. E. Printz and carried to approve the new policy titled Exit Interviews to become effective immediately.

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

Motion carried (6-0)

Councilwoman C. H. Murphy moved, second by Councilman W. E. Printz and carried to approve the new policy titled Pagers to become effective immediately.

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

Motion carried (6-0)

Councilman W. E. Printz moved, second by Councilman M. O'Neill and carried to approve the new Safety Policy to become effective immediately.

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

Motion carried (6-0)

Councilman Sigafoose stated that there are no signs posted in town stating directions to the Police Department. Mayor Dearing asked Councilman Sigafoose to bring this concern to the Public Safety Committee Meeting.

Councilwoman C. H. Murphy moved, seconded by B. B. Horne and carried to accept the resignation of Officer Gregory Orebaugh.

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

Motion carried (6-0)

Councilman L. Sigafoose moved to reappoint Mr. Bill Holt to the Planning Commission for a four-year term.

The motion failed due to lack of a second.

Councilman O'Neill presented a letter to Streets and Sidewalks Committee in reference to the Rockingham Street Project. Councilman Printz stated that this would be discussed at the next committee meeting. Mayor Dearing asked that the cost to replace the sewer and water lines on Rockingham Street be assessed.

MAYORS BUSINESS

Mayor Dearing stated that there will be a committee formed to solicit people to build a golf course or other facility on the town property purchased from Ms. Kite. Mayor Dearing stated his views on the golf course.

Mayor Dearing presented a Mission Statement and Organizational Values.

EPIC

Councilman W. E. Printz moved, seconded by T. O. Pence and carried to close Spotswood Avenue from Warren to Hill Avenue on October 22, 2000 from 9:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. for the car show.

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

Motion carried (6-0)

Councilman Printz reported that the DMV was pleased with attendance and revenue during their first visit to Elkton. The DMV will be returning in September.

Councilman Printz stated that he would like the town to put on a fireworks display on the fourth of July next year.

Closed Session

Councilwoman B. B. Horne moved, seconded by Councilman W. E. Printz and carried that council go into Closed Session for the purpose of discussing pending litigation, four personnel issues and the Planning Commission vacancy.

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

Motion carried (6-0)

PERMANENT PART-TIME POSITION

Councilwoman C. H. Murphy moved, seconded by Councilman W. E. Printz and carried to approve a permanent part-time position (Clerk II) for 36 hours per week.

YEAS: **B. B. Horne, C. H. Murphy, M. O'Neill, T. Pence, W. E. Printz and L. Sigafoose.**

Motion carried (6-0)

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Sewer/water, Electric, Personnel	Tuesday, September 12, 2000 6:00pm
Finance, Public Safety, Streets/Sidewalks	Thursday, September 14, 2000 6:00pm

Council decided to take no action on the Planning Commission vacancy and the Clerk III vacancy. Council announced that they would be talking to Mr. Monger about his retirement.

As there was no further business the meeting was adjourned.

MAYOR: M Lee D
M. Lee Dearing, Mayor

RECORDER:_____
Julia M. Smith, Clerk