Regular Council Meeting
March 20, 2000
7:30 p.m.

The regular meeting of the Elkton Town Council was held February 21, 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
W. E. Printz
R. L. Snow

ABSENT

B. B. Horne

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.

Councilman Bennett offered the Invocation.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

CITIZENS COMMENTS

Barbara Biddle Wirt Avenue - Ms. Biddle asked if speed bumps could be place along Wirt Avenue on signs stating Slow Children Playing. Ms. Biddle stated that there has been increased traffic along Wirt Avenue due to cruisers. Ms. Biddle stated that it sometimes takes as long as 10 minutes to get out of her driveway.

Mayor Dearing responded that VDOT owns the streets and that the Town can't do anything as far as speed bumps.

Hazel Crider - Ms. Crider stated that she has been waiting for a response on the traffic light at Stuart and Spotswood Avenue. Ms. Crider stated that Mr. Flick was to forward the information to the advisory committee when he received an answer from VDOT. Ms. Crider stated concern over the water pressure in Elkwood. Ms. Crider stated that this has been a problem for years and would like to know if council plans to take any action to correct the water pressure.

Mr. Flick responded that he has met with Jeff Lineberry from VDOT. Mr. Flick stated that the engineers are still doing a study. Mr. Lineberry did however feel that if turn signals were placed that only one would be installed. The signal would be placed on the northbound lane turning left onto Spotswood Avenue. Mr. Flick stated that Mr. Lineberry is willing to come to one of our meetings if necessary to answer any questions or concerns. Mr. Flick was instructed to ask Mr. Lineberry to attend the next meeting.

Mayor Dearing responded to Ms. Crider's concern over the water pressure stating that the town is looking at installing a booster pump that should correct this problem. Mr. Monger stated that it will cost approximately $200,000.00 to improve the water pressure to Elkwood.

Mildred Shifflett - Ms. Shifflett stated that the water pressure problem was not limited to Elkwood only. Ms. Shifflett stated that there are water pressure problems all over town and this needs to be corrected before we build a golf course.

Minutes

Councilman R. L. Snow moved, seconded by Councilman W. E. Printz and carried to approve the minutes of the Regular Council meeting held February 21, 2000.

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

The motion was carried (5-0)

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS

Chief of Police

Chief Marshall offered to answer questions on his monthly report. Mayor Dearing noted that only one speeding ticket was written in January and asked that council to give the Police Department guidance on the use of radar.

Director of Public Works

Mr. Flick offered to answer questions on his report. Councilman Printz asked if the council would get to review the ordinance changes before they went to final print. Mr. Monger responded that council would get to do a final review.

Treasurer

Mayor Dearing expressed concern over past due taxes. Mayor Dearing suggested advertising people's names in the newspaper that have not paid their taxes. Ms. Smith noted that the majority of the past due taxes are personal property and will be collected when people come to purchase decals. Ms. Smith stated that we are also receiving payments through the Set-Off Debt program with the State of Virginia. Mayor Dearing stated that he would have Councilwoman Horne address publishing the names of delinquent taxes at the next finance meeting.

Councilman W. E. Printz moved, seconded by Councilman R. L. Snow and carried to approve February 2000 Finance Report as presented.

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

Motion carried (5-0)

Town Manager

Mr. Monger offered to answer questions on his monthly report.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Electric

Councilman Davis stated that there was nothing at this time.

Finance

Councilwoman Horne was not present.

Personnel

Councilman Dean stated that there was nothing at this time.

Public Health & Safety

Mayor Dearing asked to pass a resolution to keep the Town of Elkton cleaner.

Streets and Sidewalks

Councilman Printz was not present at this time.

Water and Sewer

Councilman Bennett stated that there was nothing at this time.

Cemetery

Mayor Dearing stated that the council needs to decide what to do with the $91,000.00 the cemetery owes the town.

Recreation

Councilman Snow stated that there was nothing at this time.

Planning Commission

Councilwoman Horne was not present. Mayor Dearing expressed concern over the Planning Commission not meeting and asked Mr. Monger to discuss this with the Chairman.

EDRC

Councilman Printz stated that EDRC has had several meetings. Councilman Printz stated that EDRC was more participation on the ISTEA Grant. Councilman Printz stated that EDRC is looking at cleaning up sidewalks and would like to put flower boxes on the sidewalks. The action plan and budget committee has met. EDRC is planning a Car Show June 3, 2000. Councilman Printz stated that EDRC is looking at the Technology Zone which is a wireless service that the Town may be chosen to participate.

NEW BUSINESS

Mayor Dearing expressed concern over East Rockingham Health Center. Mayor Dearing stated that several people have been turned away. Mayor Dearing stated that the Center is not being used for what we had wanted. Mayor Dearing stated that a letter is being sent to address our concerns.

Street Width of Shenandoah Avenue

Mr. Monger stated in 1975, 1976 there was a survey done down where Sports R Fun is located. The surveyor used a 70-foot wide street. Somewhere along the line they took 10 feet off of Shenandoah Avenue. A hearing was held and it was decided that the building was out on the street. Mr. Monger stated that he found the stakes on the property and everything lined up about 10 feet to the west of the surveyor's report. Mr. Monger asked that a letter needs to be written to Mr. Jellum that we agree that the street is 60 feet wide not 70 feet wide.

Councilman C. E. Dean moved, seconded by Councilman W. E. Printz and carried to approve Mr. Monger or Mr. Davenport to write a letter agreeing that Shenandoah Avenue is only 60 feet wide. (Copy attached)

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

Motion carried (5-0)

Utility Tax

Councilman Davis addressed the public and council about the utility tax that will be effective July 1, 2000. Councilman Davis explained that the state is imposing this tax on the town for the electric usage. Councilman Davis stated that this tax will be passed on to the customer.

Councilman R. C. Davis moved, seconded by C. E. Dean and carried to approve that the Town of Elkton imposes a tax of $1.55 per 1,000 KWH effective July 1, 2000.

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

Motion carried (5-0)

EPIC Request to Close Streets for Autumn Days

Councilman C. E. Dean moved, seconded by R. L. Snow and carried to approve to close the street in front of Elkton Elementary School on October 21 and October 22, 2000 and to close off the street in front of the fire department and library for the annual car show on the afternoon of October 22, 2000.

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

Motion carried (5-0)

BZA Appointments

Councilman R. L. Snow moved, seconded by C. E. Dean to approve the recommendations for the Board of Zoning Appeals, TomWeyrick to be reappointed for a five-year term, Leroy Leap, Chairman, Tom Weyrick, Vice Chairman, Anthony Lawson, Secretary and Joe Flick as alternate.

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

Motion carried (5-0)

Sewer Connection Fee Increase(First Reading)

Councilman F. A Bennett moved, seconded by C. E. Dean to approve and carried to accept the increases on the connection fees and that anyone already living in town will have

the opportunity to hook on between July 1, 2000 through June 30, 2001 at the present rate. After that time they will be required to pay the new rate. All rates will be effective July 1, 2000. (Copy of rates attached)

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

Motion carried (5-0)

Resolution on Encroachments

Councilman C. E. Dean moved, seconded by W. E. Printz to adopt the Resolution on Encroachment. (See copy attached)

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

Motion carried (5-0)

Committee dates were set as follows:

Electric, Personnel and Streets and Sidewalks - Thursday, April 13, 2000 at 6:00 p.m.
Finance, Public Safety, and Water and Sewer - Friday, April 14, 2000 at 6:00 p.m.

Closed Session

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

Councilman R. L. Snow 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, W. E. Printz, R. L. Snow

Motion carried (5-0)

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