Regular
Council Meeting
September 16, 2002

The regular meeting of the Elkton Town Council was held Monday, September 16, 2002 in the Council Chambers with Mayor Wayne E. Printz Presiding. The following Council members were present:

PRESENT
Council member J. Dean
Vice Mayor C. Murphy
Council member T. Pence
Council member L. Sigafoose
Council member R. Snow
Council member P. Workman

Attorney J. Burns Earle, Faye Vickers, Treasurer, Todd McCoy, Director of Public Works/Zoning Administrator, Richard Pullen, Chief of Police, and Richard Carey, Clerk of Council, were also present.

Mayor Printz offered the Invocation.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

Elza Waybright, 108 Jackson Avenue, spoke in opposition to EPIC's proposed construction of a stairway down the hill to Memorial Park by stating the slope of the hill would pose a safety threat to mowers.

Dr. Jon Trabosh, 16704 Red Brush Road, addressed Council regarding annexation. Dr. Trabosh asked how many stages there were to annexation. He has received much contradictory information, either from personal conversations or newspaper articles. Mayor Printz stated that everything is currently on the table while negotiations continue among the Town attorneys and the County attorney. Elkton would certainly want the area to, and including, the East Rockingham Health Center, but politically, Mayor Printz thought that unlikely. Dr. Trabosh replied that the involvement of attorneys did not absolve the Town Council from their duty to Town residents. Attorney Earle made it clear that he could not negotiate anything other than Council's wishes and it would ultimately be Council's decision to accept or reject negotiated terms. Dr. Trabosh was perplexed why the County has never offered a clear explanation of its stance regarding certain areas which are not negotiable. If Town utilities service areas, as well as police, fire, and emergency respond to these same areas, then Elkton should be entitled to the tax base in those areas.

Hazel Crider, 114 Hillside, thanked Mayor Printz and Council member Workman for the outpouring of support and organization of the September 11th event, as well as Council member Snow for his service on the Park Authority.

Caroline Brill, 148 Sweetgum, thanked everyone involved in the very moving ceremony on September 11th. Mrs. Brill recognized the Town employees for their abilities, dedication, and performance.

Theodore Pence requested that Wirt Avenue be renamed Boardwalk. Mayor Printz said the request would be sent to the Streets and Sidewalks Committee.

Mildred Shifflett, 112 West Spotswood Avenue, stated we were headed in the right direction with annexation by using the minimum amount of people during the negotiation phase.

MINUTES

Vice Mayor Murphy moved, second by Council member Pence, and carried to

approve the Committee meeting minutes of August 13, 2002, the regular Council minutes of August 19, 2002, and the work session minutes of August 26, 2002.

YEAS: J. Dean, C. Murphy, T. Pence, L. Sigafoose, R. Snow, and P. Workman.

Motion carried (6 - 0 by voice vote)

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS

Chief of Police

There were no questions for Chief Pullen.

Director of Public Works/Zoning Administrator

Mayor Printz reviewed three important functions which occurred during the last month: the September 11th ceremony, the service conducted by Rev. Madren at the Municipal Building, and the annual Horse Show.

Council member Dean would like additional proposals if Council decides to install fencing around the Spring.

The water model from Blackwell Engineering for Elkwood has not been received by Mr. McCoy. Council member Snow suggested that Mayor Printz contact the President of the company and express our dissatisfaction with the lack of response from the company.

Treasurer

Mrs. Vickers reported an August, 2002 ledger balance of $309,721.01 and a Bond balance of $48,407.34.

Mrs. Vickers, per Council's instructions, transferred $150,000.00 into a five year, one-time penalty-free withdrawal CD at Bank of America at 3.6% interest.

Council member Snow moved, second by Council member Sigafoose, and carried to approve the Treasurer's report.

YEAS: J. Dean, C. Murphy, T. Pence, L. Sigafoose, R. Snow, and P. Workman.

Motion carried (6 - 0 by voice vote)

Electric

Council member Sigafoose is looking into brighter lighting in Town.

Finance

Nothing to report.

Personnel

Vice Mayor Murphy reported the Personnel Committee met and discussed a number of personnel issues. Interviews for police officer were conducted and she would present a recommendation under New Business.

Public Health, Public Safety, and Ordinances

Mayor Printz was disturbed by the use of improper language on the sidewalks by young people. He said the attorneys are looking at property maintenance ordinances in an effort to make them stronger.

Streets and Sidewalks

The sidewalk repairs at Odell's Grocery were completed per contract. Council member Workman stated it was questionable if there was a drainage problem, but Council will wait until it rains to make a decision.

Water and Sewer

Council member Dean deferred to New Business.

Recreation

Council member Pence stated that $690.00 would be spent from the Recreation supplies line item to purchase gym mats.

Council member Pence moved, second by Council member Workman, and carried to reappoint Eddie Cave to the Recreation Commission effective October 1, 2002 through September 30, 2004.

YEAS: J. Dean, C. Murphy, T. Pence, L. Sigafoose, R. Snow, and P. Workman.

Motion carried (6 - 0 by voice vote)

Council member Pence moved, second by Council member Dean, and carried to reappoint Sherry Hall to the Recreation Commission effective October 1, 2002 through September 30, 2004.

YEAS: J. Dean, C. Murphy, T. Pence, L. Sigafoose, R. Snow, and P. Workman.

Motion carried (6 - 0 by voice vote)

Council member Pence moved, second by Council member Snow, and carried to reappoint Kevin Stephens to the Recreation Commission effective October 1, 2002 through September 30, 2004.

YEAS: J. Dean, C. Murphy, T. Pence, L. Sigafoose, R. Snow, and P. Workman.

Motion carried (6 - 0 by voice vote)

Planning Commission

Did not meet.

Park Authority

Council member Snow brought a map, which is on discs, prepared by Triad Engineering. The map and RFP were sent to 4 different architects. October 7 is the deadline for preliminary designs.

Council member Workman stated that the manicuring planned for the Kite property is on hold, pending designs submitted by the architects.

NEW BUSINESS

Amend Chapter 3, Article III, of the Code of the Town of Elkton, Virginia - Second Reading

Council member Workman moved as a Second Reading, second by Council member Snow, and carried to adopt Amendment to Chapter 3, Article III, of the Code of the Town of Elkton, Virginia, Obstruction of Streets and Sidewalks, as presented. The term "Town Superintendent," as it appears in the Ordinance, is to be stricken and replaced with the term "Zoning Administrator."

YEAS: J. Dean, C. Murphy, T. Pence, L. Sigafoose, R. Snow, and P. Workman.

Motion carried (6 - 0 by voice vote)

Allocate $4,000.00 for purchase of surveillance camera(s) - Second Reading

Council member Pence moved as a Second Reading, second by Council member Snow, and carried to allocate $4,000.00 from the railroad money to purchase a surveillance camera(s).

YEAS: R. Snow, J. Dean, P. Workman, T. Pence
NAYS: C. Murphy
ABSTAIN: L. Sigafoose

Motion carried (4 -1- 1)

Mayor Printz has looked at camera systems available from Shentel and Hawke Security, among others. Council will be provided demonstrations of various cameras before a decision is made to purchase.

Council member Murphy reminded Council that $4,000.00 would pay a lot of overtime for foot patrol and increased surveillance.

Irrigation Meters

Council member Dean moved, second by Council member Sigafoose, and carried that the Town Council adopt a resolution that no irrigation meters be connected to the Town water system, both in and out of Town.

YEAS: J. Dean, C. Murphy, T. Pence, L. Sigafoose, R. Snow, and P. Workman.

Motion carried (6 - 0 by voice vote)

This does not apply to water which runs through a regular Town meter which also receives a sewer charge.

Irrigation Meter Rate Fee - First Reading

Council member Dean moved, second by Council member Pence, and carried that a new rate fee be applied to irrigation meters at $2.70 per thousand gallons used, both in and out of Town, effective on a second reading.
YEAS: J. Dean, C. Murphy, T. Pence, L. Sigafoose, R. Snow, and P. Workman.

Motion carried (6 - 0)

Hire Police Officer

Vice Mayor Murphy moved, second by Council member Snow, and carried to approve the appointment of Rodney Hensley as Police Officer effective September 30, 2002

at an annual salary of $23,794.00 a year.

YEAS: C. Murphy, T. Pence, L. Sigafoose, R. Snow, and P. Workman

ABSTAIN: J. Dean (related to Mr. Hensley)

K-9

Council member Dean moved, second by Council member Pence, and carried to authorize Neighborhood Watch to continue their efforts to provide a dog for the Elkton Police Department.

At the discretion of the Chief of Police, and with the approval of Council, it will be determined when the dog is purchased and who will be the handler.

YEAS: J. Dean, C. Murphy, T. Pence, L. Sigafoose, R. Snow, and P. Workman.

Motion carried (6 - 0)

Mayor Printz announced the October meeting will be on Monday, October 28, 2002 due to a conflict with the VML Conference, and the Committees will meet on October 15, 2002.

A work session was set for September 19, 2002 at 6:00 P.M.

Mayor Printz met with Mr. Combs of Adelphia Cable and discussed areas of subscriber dissatisfaction. Within reason, Adelphia will make subscriber billing adjustment for outages and poor reception. Mayor Printz made available a contact telephone number: 1-800-835-4949. Subscribers can receive up to $100.00 credit for poor service.

Elkton's Halloween Night Out will be October 31, 2002 from 5:00 P.M. until 8:00 P.M.

Mayor Printz sent the library issue back to Committee.

Council member Murphy moved, second by Council member Sigafoose, and carried to go into closed session under Virginia State Code 15.2-2907D to discuss annexation.

YEAS: J. Dean, C. Murphy, T. Pence, L. Sigafoose, R. Snow, and P. Workman.

Motion carried (6 - 0)

Council member Murphy moved to go from closed session back into regular session and that each member, to the best of his or her 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. Council member Sigafoose duly seconded the motion.

YEAS: J. Dean, C. Murphy, T. Pence, L. Sigafoose, R. Snow, and P. Workman.

Motion carried (6 - 0)

As there was no further business, the meeting adjourned.

MAYOR: _____
Wayne E. Printz, Mayor

RECORDER: Richard D. Carey
Richard D. Carey, Clerk