Special
Committee Meeting
Charter Revisions
August 29, 2005

PRESENT
J. Dean
C. McDaniel
W. Printz
S. Sigafoose
R. Snow
P. Workman

STAFF
Nathan Miller
Dennis Donachy

ABSENT
T. Pence

A review of the proposed Charter revisions was the purpose of a Special Committee meeting held in Council Chambers on August 29, 2005.

A conciliatory mood filled the room when the first area of clarification and agreement was the Town government of the Town of Elkton operated as a Mayor/Council form of government. Council member McDaniel then identified three topics that had created dissention in the past: the Mayor's role as CEO, the Cemetery, and the date of Town elections.

A "burial place for the dead" was returned to the Charter and the election date was sent to referendum, leaving just the role of the Mayor as a "sticking point." Council member McDaniel stated "the Mayor's responsibilities are very vague in the Charter and they do not change with the revision."

Council member McDaniel read that a Town can elect to hire a Town Manager that would result in a Town Manager/Council form of government, to which Council member McDaniel said, "I like that." Attorney Miller stated Council authority is delegated to the Town Manager who reports to Council. Several Council members spoke up and said "that is what we are doing now."

Attorney Miller suggested that much of tonight's discussion would be better addressed in the Town Code as "operational" issues. Council member McDaniel believed the Town Manager should be charged with the day-to-day operations of the Town and the Mayor should be "the leader."

Vice Mayor Snow stated all seven people on Council were elected and all were "equal," except the Mayor does not normally have a vote. "We all have oversight responsibility of everything that goes on in this Town, as far as I'm concerned," stated Vice Mayor Snow, who wanted the term "CEO" better defined because, to him, that did not imply the Mayor could make all the decisions. He offered his interpretation of CEO as being the signatory for the Town. "He is the Chief Executive Officer in that he signs documents for the Town."

Mayor Printz disagreed with the deletion from the Charter of any reference to the Mayor "being over the police department" but, for the sake of unity, he was willing to concede. The powers of the Mayor, however, will be specified in the Administrative section of the Town Code.

The following "Mayor's Responsibilities/Relationship with Town Manager/Council" is a result of a meeting(s) attended by Mayor Printz and Council member McDaniel:

- The Town Manager reports to Council and the Mayor
- The Mayor is the CEO of the town and has the right to check all financial transactions, use of equipment and facilities to insure proper use

- The Town Manager to post schedule and communicate weekly with the Mayor
- The Mayor is the chief spokesperson for the town with all media. The Town Manager will share this responsibility.
- The Mayor and Council approve the Agenda on Committee night
- Mayor's Discretionary Fund, approved by Council
- The Town Manager cannot reappropriate funds in the budget without approval by Council
- Mayor's office with computer and phone

As there was no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Mayor: _____
Wayne E. Printz, Mayor

Recorder: _____
Richard D. Carey, Clerk