

**TOWN OF ELKTON  
BUDGET RETREAT  
April 1, 2024**

The Elkton Town Council held a budget retreat on April 1, 2024 at 5:30 p.m., in the Council Chambers of the Elkton Area Community Center, located at 20593 Blue and Gold Drive, Elkton, Virginia, with Mayor Joshua J. Gooden presiding.

**Present:** Mayor Joshua J. Gooden, Vice-Mayor Rick Workman (arrived 5:43), Council Member Jan Hensley, Council Member Virginia Fulginiti, Council Member Louis Heidel, Council Member Rachel Michael, and Council Aaron Napotnik.

**Also Present:** Town Manager Greg Lunsford, Public Works Director Gaither Hurt, Community Development Director Delores Hammer, Treasurer Donna Curry, and Clerk of Council Denise Monger.

**BUDGET RETREAT**

Mayor Gooden called the meeting to order and the Clerk was asked to call the roll.

**ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

**Council member Michael moved, seconded by Council member Heidel, and carried to adopt the agenda as presented.**

**YEAS: J. Hensley, V. Fulginiti, R. Michael, A. Napotnik, and L. Heidel**

**NAYS: None**

**VOTE: (5 – 0 voice vote) Motion carried**

**FY 24/25 BUDGET PRESENTATION**

Greg Lunsford, Town Manager, discussed the proposed FY 24/25 Budget. He thanked the finance committee, Treasurer Curry and departments for their hard work and efforts during the budget process. The timeframe to adopt the budget was scheduled to be completed one month earlier than last year. The budget was in the preliminary stage, but the goal was to have it finalized by the next meeting in April.

Mr. Lunsford stated that the budget for the Town was complicated. The enterprise funds were listed as follows: Water, Sewer, and Electric. Additional departments were Police, Parks and Recreation, Cemetery, Town Council, and Planning Commission. The budget was positive and nearly all of the substantial increases were intentional contingency funds set-aside in General Government, Electric, Water, Wastewater, and Public Works as well as an increase to the Town's purchase of electric power which was outside of the Town's control. Other than the contingencies and purchase of electric power, all of the operational, capital, and salaries for FY25 Budget had decreased.

Mr. Lunsford highlighted other aspects of the budget as follows:

- No increase to taxes, electric, or sewer.
- \$1.50 increase to the water user base rate (from \$14.06 to \$15.56).
- \$1.00 increase to water hauler rates (from \$8.00 to \$9.00).
- No additional personnel other than for vacancies or anticipated vacancies.
- No new vehicles or heavy machinery purchases.

Mr. Lunsford stated that the proposed budget was very conservative. There were some very large projects that the Town was working on.

Council member Hensley who served as the Finance Chairperson, stated that Council had a fiduciary responsibility to the citizens and businesses in Elkton and each of them took that job very seriously. She noted there were still some unknown details such as fossil fuel charges, if any. Her priority was the drinking water project and to have the Town put as much cash into that project as possible to lower the burden on citizens and keep water rates under control. She noted that an appropriations budget process would be reinstated so that any type of major expenditure that

exceeded what the past budget was would come before Council. She briefly discussed additional budgets and plans to be reviewed, personnel issues, and a review of health insurance.

Council member Heidel stated that the water project was one of the most important. Hopefully the Town could obtain more funding in order to have less of an impact on the Town, the budget and the citizens. The Town was looking at some low interest loans. He appreciated the hard work of all involved.

Mayor Gooden thanked Mr. Lunsford, Treasurer Curry and staff for their hard work in preparing the budget. He noted that it was the most streamlined budget he had seen.

**CLOSED SESSION**

**Council member Hensley moved, seconded by Council member Michael that Council go from Regular Session into Closed Session pursuant to Virginia Code § 2.2-3711.A.1 for, “Discussion, consideration, or interviews of prospective candidates for employment; assignment, appointment, promotion, performance, demotion, salaries, disciplining, or resignation of specific public officers, appointees, or employees of any public body.”**

**YEAS: R. Workman, J. Hensley, V. Fulginiti, R. Michael, A. Napotnik, and L. Heidel**

**NAYS: None**

**VOTE: (6 – 0 voice vote) Motion carried**

**OPEN SESSION/MOTION TO CERTIFY CLOSED MEETING**

**Council member Michael moved, seconded Council member Fulginiti, that Council go from Closed Session back into Regular Session and Council certify pursuant to Virginia Code § 2.2-3712(D), that to the best of each member’s knowledge, as recognized by each Council member’s knowledge, as recognized by each Council member’s affirmative vote, that only such business matters lawfully exempted from Open Meeting requirements under Virginia Code § 2.2-3711, as were identified in the motion by which the Closed Meeting was convened were heard, discussed, or considered in the Closed Meeting by Council, and that the vote of each individual member of Council be taken by roll call and recorded and included in the minutes of the meeting of the Town Council.**

**YEAS: R. Workman, J. Hensley, V. Fulginiti, R. Michael, A. Napotnik, and L. Heidel**

**NAYS: None**

**VOTE: (6 – 0 voice vote) Motion carried**

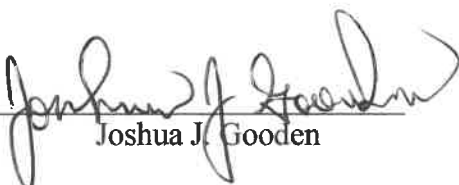
**MOTION TO ADJOURN**

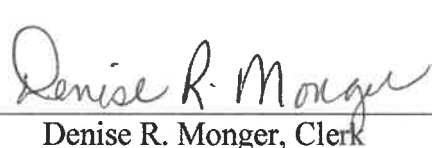
**Council member Fulginiti moved, seconded by Council member Michael, and carried to adjourn the meeting.**

**YEAS: R. Workman, J. Hensley, V. Fulginiti, R. Michael, A. Napotnik, and L. Heidel**

**NAYS: None**

**VOTE: (6 – 0 voice vote) Motion carried**

Mayor:   
Joshua J. Gooden

Recorder:   
Denise R. Monger, Clerk