

ELK RIDGE  
PLANNING COMMISSION  
JANUARY 5, 2023

**TIME AND PLACE OF MEETING**

A meeting of the Elk Ridge Planning Commission was held on Thursday January 5, 2023, at 7:00 p.m.

**ROLL CALL**

*Commissioners:* Maureen Bushman, Larry Lee, Melanie Paxton, Ron Gailey, Matthew Stewart

*Others:* Royce Swensen, *City Recorder*, Laura Oliver, *Deputy Recorder*, Mayor Haddock

*Public:* Steven Simmons

**7:00 pm OPENING ITEMS**

Opening Remarks was given by Melanie Paxton

Pledge of Allegiance led by Maureen Bushman

MAUREEN BUSHMAN MOTIONED TO APPROVE THE AGENDA RON GAILY SECONDED  
VOTE (5)      AYE (0)      NAY      All Approved

1. MAYOR HADDOCK

Maureen Bushman stated she has invited Mayor Haddock to speak about his vision for 2023.

Mayor Haddock stated he has been in office for a year. He ran for office because he wanted to keep the streets safer and over concerns of current projects. Everyone here has been in the city longer than he; Maureen has been in the city for many years and appreciates her efforts and all of the planning commission for all their hard work and effort. He thanked city office staff for all they do, and they don't get enough thanks and they carry the heaviest load. When he took office there were 3 vacancies and appreciates everyone for stepping up. Some of the projects this year have been finishing up Ocampo Drive and the city salt shed, and the generator in the lower pump house was installed. They are working on the PRV vaults (pressure reducing valves) which were initially put in too deep, and the booster station is almost complete. They have made a lot of progress on the SCADA system which maintains all the water systems and helps the city manage and make decisions regarding the water. Those are some of the things that have been accomplished this past year. Some of the things the mayor would like to do this coming year is the pavilion and parking lot in for the Elk Ridge Meadows Park. The city is thinking about making a swale out of the lower park and making it more accessible to the whole city, which it should be, and not just a neighborhood park. There is about 650 feet of water line on Elk Ridge Dr. the city would like to put in to complete the loop and fix the road. There are a lot of PRVs and water lines in the higher part of the city needing work to fix the water pressure. The water lines were put in 6 feet deep and were not put in sand years ago, which makes them break easier. The water pressure had to be turned down which affected sprinkler systems, this will be a long-term project. He would like to put an emergency plan in place and continue working on the trail system. He would like to make the sense of community stronger and make some improvements in the parks. The community is growing and watching fields develop is an emotionally charged issue. Comments can be negative, and it is easy to feel like they are directed at you but do not take it personally. All of the planning commission has been civil and great he appreciates that. He doesn't take credit for any of the items that have been completed; government is a team sport, and everyone works together to accomplish projects. He is not a dictator or a politician or a public speaker and believes in limited government and regulations and keeping taxes down.

Melanie Paxton asked what the number one priority is. Mayor Haddock stated the water, and water infrastructure. Roads and safety were number one coming into the office which they have made headway. Improving and creating the trail system is also a priority. If we all have the attitude of love and serve your neighbor many issues can be solved. He thanked the commission for all they do for the city. Matt Stewart thanked the mayor and that he has done a good job.

2. INTRODUCTION TO GENERAL PLAN

Maureen Bushman stated they are updating the General Plan this year. The General plan is what drives the city and will be there longer than they all will serve. The General Plan should be easy to read and the vision clear. The Planning Commission needs to look at the wording and how to accomplish the goals of the plan.

The Planning Commission needs to identify areas that need to be updated and where to find the facts in order to update it and a timeline of when to complete it. Matt Stewart stated the General Plan should remain flexible so that roads or trails can be moved when necessary. The wording of an item (road, trail) should be “in the general area”. The plan will fail if it is too rigid. The general plan is updated every five years, but the vision is long term. If the general plan had been more thoroughly thought out in the beginning Elk Ridge might look completely different today. Maureen Bushman stated originally there were bridle trails and the city building and school were all in one general area. Matt Stewart stated it's important to leave personal bias out and should focus on protecting property rights, the community, and the city. Ron Gaily stated there are maps that need updating; where does the commission find the data to update them and are the engineers that created them available to help in this. Maureen Bushman stated the maps were made by the city planner. Maureen Bushman stated the road study will be done in the spring when more accurate data can be collected. Since the road study has a cost attached the city council will need to do a budget amendment which is on the next agenda. The Planning Commission needs to connect with people and communities around us. Melanie Paxton stated she has information on people to collaborate with and types of funding the commission needs to connect with to better create and plan the trail systems. Trail systems will be an ongoing thing and the commission needs to contact them now in order to have the data in the spring. Matt Stewart was on the trail committee in Payson years ago and has a brother-in-law and friends on the current committee who have asked him to be part of it because of his involvement with Forebay. Matt Stewart will work with Melanie Paxton on connecting and collecting information on trails. Ron Gaily will research Payson and Salem's General Plan - Trail system sections. Maureen Bushman stated the current General Plan is well written and just needs a few tweaks. The demographics need to be updated from data from the city and the 2020 census. The maps need updated which Shay Stark the city Planner can help with. The city's history needs to be updated. The moderate-income housing needs updated but they need to watch legislation for changes. At the end of each section there is a Call-to-Action section which needs to be studied to determine if they are still applicable or need updating. Larry Lee stated a lot of discussion in the past year has been fire safety, evacuation and prevention and needs to be included in the general plan. Larry Lee will research and where to include the information for an emergency plan, and the general language to include. Matt Stewart stated Call to Action sections should be changed to something else such as Follow-up or Maintenance Plan instead of language that reads like the section is unfinished. Maureen Bushman stated all assignments will be reported on and discussed in the February meeting.

### 3. CITY SURVEY DISCUSSION

Ron Gaily presented the survey to city council and it was positively received. It is on the city website home page.

### 4. APPROVE MINUTES FOR DECEMBER 1, 2022

Maureen Bushman would like the memo from Shay Stark, regarding the Burton subdivision, included with the minutes.

MAUREEN BUSHMAN MOTIONED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FOR DECEMBER 1, 2022, WITH THE ADDITION OF A THE MEMO FROM THE CITY PLANNER, SHAY STARK FOR THE BURTON SUBDIVISION AMENDMENT MELANIE PAXTON SECONDED

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|------|---------|---------|--------------|
| VOTE | AYE (5) | NAY (0) | ALL APPROVED |
|------|---------|---------|--------------|

ADJOURNMENT - MATT STEWART MOTIONED TO ADJOURN MELANIE PAXTON SECONDED

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|------|---------|---------|--------------|
| VOTE | AYE (5) | NAY (0) | ALL APPROVED |
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Planning Commission Coordinator