REGULAR
COUNCIL MEETING
December 14, 1970

The regular meeting of the Elkton Town Council was held December 14, 1970 at 8:00 P.M. in the Council Chambers with the Mayor, Edward F. Garber presiding. The following council members were present: Mr. R. E. Davis, Mr. R. G. Harman, Mr. E. O. Karow, Mr. W. H. McGahey, Mr. A. R. Thompson and Mr. H. A. Workman. Mr. David C. Liskey, Town Superintendent, Mr. Marvin C. Hillsman, Jr., Town Attorney, Mr. Lyle E. Williams, Chief of Police and Mrs. Norma R. Leap, Clerk were present.

Mr. A. R. Thompson opened the meeting with prayer.

Mr. G. J. Levandoski came before the council and commended the Town Recreation Commission on the fine work done on the basketball and tennis courts. Mr. Levandoski also presented the following letter from the Elkton Lions Club stating their position in regards to the Boy Scout building:

> This is written with reference to the Boy Scout building, which is located on Town property at the old "Memorial Park" location.
>
> Since this building is attached to the real estate and is, according to law, a part of the real estate, the building, we are advised, is the property of the Town of Elkton.
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> In the past there has been a general belief among the people of the Town of Elkton and the area that this building is the property of the Elkton Lions Club. This belief has been fostered by the continuing efforts of the Lions Club to support, financially and otherwise, scouting organizations interested in the use of the building. However, it is inaccurate to say that this building is the property of the Lions Club since it is located on Town property, and it is the purpose of the Elkton Lions Club, through this letter, to disavow any ownership interest in the building.
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> It is the intention of the Elkton Lions Club to continue to furnish moral and financial support and assistance to all groups interested in scouting and particularly those groups using the "scout hut" and it is, therefore, our sincere hope that it will be your pleasure to continue to allow the building to be used for such purposes.
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> It is requested that this letter be incorporated into the minutes of your meeting.

Mr. R. G. Harman moved, seconded by Mr. A. R. Thompson and carried to officially accept the Boy Scout building and the building be placed under the Elkton Recreation Commission and designated to be used for scouting.

Mr. and Mrs. Berkley Brooks inquired as to the progress being made on the Cable T.V. and if the company awarded the franchise was living up to the terms set up in the franchise. After much discussion, it was suggested that the Mayor write a letter in regards to this matter to American Tele-Systems Corporation.

Mr. Donnie Meadows reported on the progress made by the group from the high school working on pollution. There had been a School Clean Up and also a Town Clean Up. Mr. Meadows stated that even though the response had not been as great as they had hoped, they had still collected four truck loads of trash. He inquired as to whether trash cans were going to be placed around town and the council agreed that they would look into this. Mr. Meadows stated that they planned another clean up in the spring.

Mr. Harman commended this group for their efforts and the fact that they were interested enough to come into town and do this cleaning even though many of them did not live in town.

Mr. W. H. McGahey moved, seconded by Mr. E. O. Karow and carried to approve the minutes of the regular meeting November 9, 1970.

Mr. E. O. Karow moved, seconded by Mr. R. G. Harman and carried to approve the minutes of the special meeting November 30, 1970.

Mr. A. R. Thompson moved, seconded by Mr. W. H. McGahey and carried to approve the Finance Report.

Mr. Thompson reported that his committee had looked into the purchasing of a new copy machine and they were of the opinion that we should purchase a new machine rather than a rebuilt one.

Mr. A. R. Thompson moved, seconded by Mr. H. A. Workman and carried that we purchase a new copy machine from the 3M Company at a cost of $272.68.

Mr. Thompson also reported that the town had received an offer to purchase the old machine and wanted to know if the council wanted to sell this machine. The matter was turned over to the Finance Committee.

Mr. A. R. Thompson moved, seconded by Mr. W. H. McGahey to approve the First Reading to pay the remaining portion of the audit bill which is a balance of $989.00.

Mr. Harman expressed appreciation to Mr. Liskey and his men for the fine job they did on the tennis and basketball courts.

Mr. Harman reported that the Recreation Commission had a balance of $382.00 in their treasury at the first of September and that their major project this year would be a major overhaul of the Jr. Order Park. He stated that they had one outstanding bill to date and that was the electric bill totaling $197.80. He asked that the town consider donating this current to the Recreation Commission.

After some discussion in which Mr. Workman stated he felt these things should go through the Electric Committee first, Mr. Harman withdrew his request.

Mr. R. G. Harman moved, seconded by Mr. E. O. Karow and carried to transfer the $2000.00 set up for recreation in the budget to the Recreation Commission.

Mr. W. H. McGahey, on behalf of the Fire Company, invited the Mayor, Councilmen and their wives to the Covered Dish Supper held by the Fire Company Saturday night at 6:30 P.M. in the Fire Hall.

Mr. W. H. McGahey moved, seconded by Mr. E. O. Karow and carried to approve the purchase of a 3 in. water meter for the school and the school will reinburse the town.

There was a discussion on Mr. Irvin Dean's request for a water and sewer connection. This also led to a discussion on annexation. Mr. Hillsman explained that the only way Mr. Dean could be given a water and sewer connection would be to change the ordinance. Mr. McGahey suggested that the Water and Sewer Committee and the Ordinance Committee meet and discuss this problem before the next meeting. Mr. Harman also suggested that the Mayor appoint a committee to study annexation.

Mr. Liskey reported that he had been asked by the owner of one of the water trucks if the town would sell him water. The council felt that they could not do this.

Mr. Davis asked if there had been any information in regards to changing the signs at the intersection of Old 33 and Route 340. The following letter was read from Mr. W. J. Osborne, Resident Engineer for the Department of Highways:

> Reference is made to your letter of November 2, 1970 in which you requested that we reverse the stop signs at the intersection of Route 340 and Old Route 33 and that we turn off the lights at the corner of Spotswood Trail and Spotswood Avenue to see how this would affect traffic.
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> It has been agreed on by all concerned that the stop signs at the intersection of Route 340 and Old Route 33 should be reversed to better handle the revised traffic pattern. This work will be done as soon as possible but several arrangements have to be worked out and we will advise the Elkton Chief of Police of the date along with the local newspapers and radio stations so the public can be made aware of this change.
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> I have reviewed the situations at the intersection of Route 33 (Spotswood Trail) and Spotswood Avenue with Mr. J. L. Thomas, District Traffic Engineer, and we both agree that due to the amount of traffic still using this intersection and the angle on which traffic approaches old Route 33 from Spotswood Avenue that the traffic light should not be turned off at this time. However, some changes to the timing of the light may help the traffic flow in this area.

Please advise as to your comments on these two matters.

Mr. Karow suggested that the Mayor answer Mr. Osborne's letter and asked that a traffic flow study be made.

Mr. R. G. Harman moved, seconded by Mr. W. H. McGahey and carried to give Mr. Liskey permission to get prices on transformers and metering equipment for the new Elementary School.

Mr. W. H. McGahey moved, seconded by Mr. E. O. Karow and carried to approve the Second Reading to purchase a new dump truck from Myers Ford Company who were the low bidders at a cost of $5143.00 which includes a slight factory increase.

Mr. A. R. Thompson moved, seconded by Mr. H. A. Workman and carried to approve an extra $404.65 for the new furnace installed by Snyder Plumbing & Heating in the Police and Maintenance Departments.

Mr. E. O. Karow moved, seconded by Mr. W. H. McGahey and carried to enter into a contract with Biller 2-Way Radio for radio upkeep at $400.00 a year.

Mr. E. O. Karow moved, seconded by Mr. R. G. Harman and carried to hire Mr. Charles L. Freeman as a patrolman at $4800.00 a year and to approve an increase to $6000.00 after one year provided his work is satisfactory.

Mr. Workman suggested that the Mayor write another letter to the Highway Department in regard to widening Route 340 from Old 33 to Spotswood Avenue and that pictures again be included and he would offer to take the pictures. Mayor Garber reported that he had recently written in regards to this matter.

Mr. H. A. Workman presented the following resolution on behalf of the S.O.S. Organization and asked that the town adopt it and send a copy to the School Board:

> Be it resolved, that the Elkton Town Council in regular session go on record, and again express its opposition to the proposed merger, by which Elkton High School would be absorbed by Montevideo High School:
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> And further resolved that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Rockingham County School Board.

Mr. Harman questioned this and said he personally would like to wait for the report from the study group. Mr. Workman explained that this was merely a renewal of the council former stand that due to lack of information on the benefits of the proposed merger the Council go on record as opposing the merger.

Mr. H. A. Workman moved, seconded by Mr. R. E. Davis and carried to adopt the suggested resolution opposing the merger and a copy be sent to the School Board.

No action was taken to appoint someone to fill the vacancy due to Charles H. Smith's resignation from the Planning Commission as this was tabled until the January meeting.

Mayor Garber reported that he had several copies of the Reply Brief for the Norfolk and Western Railway Company case which they appealed to the Supreme Court of Appeals of Virginia.

Mayor Garber presented letters from Mrs. Sandridge's Third Grade students which they had written to the Town Council thanking them for the new Christmas lights.

The council suggested that Mayor Garber send a reply to the students.

A letter of resignation from Mr. Lyle Williams was read in which Mr. Williams expressed regret for leaving but was doing so in order to accept a more secure future for himself and his family. Mr. Williams thanked the Town Council for the confidence it had shown him and the Police Department during the time he served as Chief of Police, and especially thanked Mr. Karow.

Mr. E. O. Karow moved, seconded by Mr. R. G. Harman and carried to accept Mr. Lyle Williams' resignation as Chief of Police effective December 27, 1970 with regret.

Mr. A. R. Thompson moved, seconded by Mr. R. G. Harman and carried to give a $10.00 Christmas Bonus to all employees who have under six years of service and $15.00 to those with over six years service. Turkeys will be given to Mr. George Collier, Mr. H. T. Frey and Mr. Avis Burke.

Mr. Liskey reported that he had received a letter from Mr. Bartsch in regards to covering the Spring and Reservoir and that the letter stated they felt this should be considered of prime importance and not postponed. The Water and Sewer Committee will meet this month in regards to this matter.

Mr. A. R. Thompson moved, seconded by Mr. W. H. McGahey and carried to renew the two Certificates of Deposits due on December 22, 1970 for a period of six months.

As there was no further business, the meeting adjourned.

MAYOR: Edward F. Garber
Edward F. Garber, Mayor

RECORDER: Norma R. Leap
Norma R. Leap, Clerk