REGULAR
COUNCIL MEETING
April 10, 1978

The regular meeting of the Elkton Town Council was held April 10, 1978 at 8:00 P.M. with the Mayor, Maurice W. Lough presiding. The following councilmen were present: Mr. C. E. Dean, Mr. R. R. Dean, Mr. H. D. Flory, Mr. B. B. Holt, Mr. H. W. Leap and Mr. R. J. Lough. Mr. Charles Lawhorne, Chief of Police, Norma R. Leap, Clerk, Mr. Gerald Monger, Superintendent and Mr. Bruce Wiles, Attorney were also present.

Councilman C. E. Dean opened the meeting with prayer.

Mr. Bill Carpenter was present representing the Elkton Combined PTA. This organization is gravely concerned with the display of pornographic materials in areas available to young children and request the council take measures to prevent this.

Councilman C. E. Dean reported that the ordinance committee is considering an ordinance to help eliminate this problem.

Mr. Wiles stated that he has been attempting to find out what cities have ordinances of this type and how they work. He has been in contact with Fairfax County and they are sending a copy of their ordinance.

Mr. Alan Thompson was present, along with a group of citizens from East Spotswood Avenue, regarding the drainage problem in their area. Mr. Thompson pointed out that whenever there is a very heavy rain that yards and basements are flooded from Lewis Avenue to Dr. Camden's office. These citizens ask that council do something to solve their problem. Councilman Flory pointed out that council has not been unconcerned about this problem and have tried to receive HUD funds to help with this project but have not been successful. He stated he would like to be able to tell these citizens that council was going to be able to drain their area but money at present is not available. Council stated they would continue to try for HUD funds.

Mr. William McGahey was present for the Fire Company. Mr. McGahey stated he has talked with Mr. Wiles and the Fire Company's Attorney, Mr. Blatt, who has drawn up an agreement and would like to get it signed so they could get the needed work started to enlarge their area.

Mr. Wayne Hensley was present regarding the town's insurance. He feels other insurance agencies should be given the opportunity to bid for this insurance. Mr. Joe Early was also present and felt also that the insurance should be put out on bids. Council agreed to consider this request.

The minutes of the Public Hearing March 13, 1978 and the regular meeting March 13, 1978 were approved as presented.

Mrs. J. C. Black, Chairman of the Flag Committee reported on the response they had received regarding a town flag. Ideas had been received from Mrs. Rosa Yager, Tanya Shifflett, Joey Gooden and Gerald Monger. Mrs. Black presented several diagrams for council to consider.

Mr. John Edmonson, Owner and Publisher of the Valley Banner presented a request to council to designate the Valley Banner "Legal Organ" for the Town of Elkton. Mr. Edmonson pointed out he felt this would save the town money by being committed to one newspaper and eliminating advertising in both papers. This was referred to the Ordinance Committee and Mr. Wiles.

Mr. Holt reported that the person he had in mind to fill the vacant position on the Planning Commission will not serve. They are trying to find a representative from the Chicken Hill area (Southwest section of town).

Council received a letter from the Planning Commission informing council of their actions and recommendations. The Planning Commission recommends that priority be given to completing grading and repairs from Terrace Avenue to the N & W Railroad from Spotswood Trail to as far as the lease goes. The purpose of this recommendation is to help the crowded parking situation. Mr. Monger reported he has contacted the N & W Railroad and is now waiting for their reply. Mr. Monger was given the go ahead on this project after he hears from the N & W Railroad.

The Planning Commission had also recommended that Madison Avenue be closed from Route 340 to Blue Bell, Inc. to allow Pizza Hut of Virginia a permit to build a Pizza Hut on that location. Mr. Wiles had checked into this and found the street has already been closed.

Councilman Flory reported on the progress of the Rockingham County Annexation Advisory Committee. The committee is trying to encourage the county and incorporated towns to work together and the Board of Supervisors and town officials to meet frequently for better cooperation between them.

Councilman Leap reported that the Fuel Adjustment Cost for April is $.01358 per kwh.

Councilman Leap stated he was out with the town forces during the ice storm and feels they should be commended for the fine job they did.

Councilman C. E. Dean moved, seconded by Councilman B. B. Holt and carried to give the Town Superintendent permission to use the town backhoe to dig out footings for dugouts at the High School baseball field.

First Readings on An Ordinance Amending the Subdivision Ordinance of the Town of Elkton, Rockingham County, Virginia, by defining certain terms, by providing for certain minimum standards for development, and by providing factors and conditions for Special Exceptions and An Ordinance amending the Zoning Ordinance of the Town of Elkton, Rockingham County, Virginia, by establishing flood plain districts, by defining certain terms, by requiring the issuance of permits for development, by providing for certain minimum standards for development, and by providing factors and conditions for special exceptions and variances to the terms of the ordinance. Mr. Wiles summerized the purposed amendments and they were referred to the Planning Commission. These amendments have to be passed and in the HUD Office ten days before June 15, 1978. A joint Public Hearing will be held May 8, 1978 at 7:30 P.M.

There has been a request made to develop a subdivision along North Street, Virginia Avenue and Clover Lane. The Plat had been turned over to Mr. Wiles to review. There was a discussion as to whether council has to approve the subdivision. Mr. Wiles said council only acts in cases where the request doesn't comply with the subdivision ordinance. There has been no indication as to whether the Planning Commission has approved the subdivision.

Councilman R. J. Lough moved, seconded by Councilman B. B. Holt and carried to approve the Finance Report for March.

Councilman R. J. Lough moved, seconded by Councilman R. R. Dean to approve on Second Reading the appropriation of $6,000.00 from the Elkwood Subdivision Account (to be replaced later) to pay Arthur Beard Engineers. The vote was recorded as follows:

C. Dean	-	yea	B. Holt	-	yea
R. Dean	-	yea	H. Leap	-	yea
D. Flory	-	yea	R. Lough	-	yea

Mrs. Leap was instructed not to pay this until instructed to do so.

Councilman Lough reported that the Police Department is in dire need of a new car to replace the black Plymouth.

Councilman R. J. Lough presented a First Reading to transfer $3,500.00 in the Revenue Sharing Account EP-9 appropriated for a Garbage Truck to increase the funds appropriated for a Police Car to $5,000.00.

Councilman Lough read a bid from James D. and Connie Sue Helmick in the amount of $500.00 for the old 1972 Plymouth.

Councilman R. J. Lough moved, seconded by Councilman B. B. Holt and carried to accept the bid of $500.00 for the old 1972 Plymouth.

Councilman R. J. Lough moved, seconded by Councilman H. D. Flory and carried to employ A. M. Pullen & Co. for the annual audit.

Councilman Lough reported on a letter from the Virginia Municipal League asking towns to take ads in the Virginia Town and City Convention Issue. Councilman Lough did not recommend taking an ad. No action was taken on the request.

Mr. Wiles reported that the section of the code regarding cities being allowed to set fees for applications for closing of alleys or streets does not include towns. Towns are allowed to set allowances for viewers only. He suggested that individual action be taken in each case rather than set up an ordinance. This was tabled for the present.

Councilman B. B. Holt moved, seconded by Councilman R. J. Lough to go into Executive Session to discuss Police Personnel Matters, possible hiring of a Police Officer, negotiation of contract for use of public property and acquisition of property for public use. The vote was recorded as follows:

C. Dean	-	yea	B. Holt	-	yea
R. Dean	-	yea	H. Leap	-	yea
D. Flory	-	yea	R. Lough	-	yea

Councilman B. B. Holt moved, seconded by Councilman H. W. Leap and carried to go from Executive Session back into Regular Session.

Councilman B. B. Holt moved, seconded by Councilman C. E. Dean to authorize the Mayor to sign the agreement with the Fire Company with the suggested changes and a copy be delivered to a representative of the Fire Company tonight. The vote was recorded as follows:

C. Dean	-	yea	B. Holt	-	yea
R. Dean	-	yea	H. Leap	-	yea
D. Flory	-	yea	R. Lough	-	yea

As there was no further business, Councilman B. B. Holt moved to adjourn.

MAYOR: M. W. Lough
Maurice W. Lough, Mayor

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