REGULAR
COUNCIL MEETING
February 13, 1978

The regular meeting of the Elkton Town Council was held February 13, 1978 at 8:00 P.M. with the Mayor, Maurice W. Lough presiding. The following councilmen were present: C. E. Dean, R. R. Dean, H. D. Flory, B. B. Holt, H. W. Leap and R. J. Lough. Charles Lawhorne, Acting Chief, Norma Leap, Clerk, Gerald Monger, Superintendent and Bruce Wiles, Attorney were also present.

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

Mrs. Shirley O'Byrne was present asking why she had not received her taxes. She reported she had called two or three times and had not been able to get them. Mrs. Leap stated she now had the figures on the taxes and that if Mrs. O'Byrne wanted she would give them to her after the meeting or she could call tomorrow and get them.

Mr. William McGahey was present representing the Elkton Volunteer Fire Co. and Emergency Squad Inc. He presented an agreement in which the Fire Company requested the town furnish the Fire Company $1200.00 a year for fuel to operate their vehicles; the building to house their equipment and meeting room plus the additional space they had requested, all rent free; the town maintain the upkeep of the building at the town's expense; and the town furnish heat, lights, water and telephone without any expense to the Company. The Company agreed to continue furnishing fire protection and fire prevention as it had in the past. Mr. McGahey requested council to take action at this meeting as they felt the problem had continued long enough. A petition signed by 53 businesses and 386 citizens was presented stating that these citizens, tax payers and voting residents were satisfied with the exemplary fire protection provided by the Elkton Voluntary Fire Co. and Emergency Squad Inc. and that they are satisfied with the use of our tax dollars provided and used to support this protection.

Councilman Flory reported that it had been brought to his attention that there are two statues in the State Code regarding Fire Companies and Emergency Squads and felt possibly any agreement the town makes should possibly be handled by an ordinance.

Mayor Lough ask why would an ordinance be needed now when it has never been mentioned before.

Councilman Flory stated he was unaware of the statues before and felt this should be referred to the Ordinance Committee due to the unclarity of the situation.

Councilman H. D. Flory moved, seconded by Councilman B. B. Holt to refer the agreement to the Ordinance Committee for further study. The vote was recorded as follows:

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

Councilman Charles Dean and Henry Leap both indicated before the vote that they felt council owed the Fire Company the honor of acting on their request. Councilman Randal Dean said he felt something should have been done long ago and would be willing to come every day until things could be ironed out.

Welby Showalter of Wharton, Aldhizer & Weaver was present to present a petition by Annie F. Cover applying to the Town Council for vacation of an alley adjoining her property and requesting the Council to appoint viewers to view the alley and report back in writing to Council whether in their opinion, any, and if any, what, inconvenience would result from discontinuing the same. Mrs. Cover is attempting to sell her property but has been defeated in her efforts because of the open alley going through the property.

Mayor Lough informed Mr. Showalter that matters of this nature are usually referred to the Planning Commission and they return their recommendations to council.

Councilman R. J. Lough moved, seconded by Councilman C. E. Dean that the Elkton Planning Commission be appointed as viewers. The vote was recorded as follows:

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

Councilman R. J. Lough moved, seconded by Councilman B. B. Holt to amend the motion to appoint the Elkton Planning Commission as viewers by naming the following five members as the viewers:

B. W. Gooden
G. W. Berry
Gerald Monger
Barry Ream
Calvin Shaffer

The vote was recorded as follows:

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

The minutes of the regular meeting, January 9, 1978 and special meeting February 1, 1978 were approved as presented.

Councilman Holt announced the resignation of Charles W. Hammer, Chief of Police, effective February 10, 1978 at 12:00 noon.

Councilman B. B. Holt moved, seconded by Councilman R. J. Lough and carried to accept the resignation of Charles W. Hammer as Chief of Police for the town effective Friday, February 10, 1978 at 12:00 noon.

Councilman Holt reported he feels there is fine potential for a Chief of Police in Charles Lawhorne. Lt. Lawhorne will continue as Acting Chief for the present time. The Public Safety Committee will meet within the next few days and come back with recommendations to the council.

Councilman Holt reported that a letter has been received from Judge Robinson in answer to the towns letter regarding the magistrate situation. In the letter he had suggested a possible partial solution and Councilman Holt, Acting Chief Charles Lawhorne and Attorney Bruce Wiles will be meeting with Judge Robinson to discuss the situation.

Councilman Ditman Flory reported that he has been in contact with Gary Nickerson of Arthur Beard Associates who have been doing our engineering work on the new sewerage treatment plant. It seems the funds for distribution to the various localities have been cut and it will now be another year before the town will receive the funds for our new sewerage treatment plant.

Councilman Henry Leap reported that fuel adjustment costs for February will be $.01990 per kwh.

Councilman Randal Dean questioned the Mayor as to why he had stopped Superintendent Monger from doing any work on Terrace Avenue and "A" Street. These were streets suggested for repair after the inspection of streets by the Highway Department under the Highway Upkeep Program.

Mayor Lough stated he did not stop work on these streets and if Mr. Monger says he did, he must have misunderstood the Mayor.

Superintendent Monger says he understood the Mayor as telling him not to do the work and probably has the date posted at his office.

Councilman Randal Dean stated that as Chairman of the Street Committee he feels he should have been made aware of this situation.

Councilman Charles Dean presented a First Reading to amend Section 26-16 of the Code of the Town of Elkton, Va.: "Schedule for Collection of Garbage, etc.", Item (c).

Councilman R. J. Lough moved, seconded by Councilman R. R. Dean to approve the Finance Report for January. 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 Lough requested permission to finish his explanation which he had started to give earlier regarding the reasons why the town started purchasing

gasoline from a local station rather than have their own tanks. As he had stated earlier it was never indicated that the Fire Company alone was abusing the use of the town tanks but the town was abusing the uses of the tanks. The council at that time decided it would be more economical to purchase from a local source and furnish the Fire Company $100.00 a month to purchase their own gasoline.

Councilman Lough presented the following recommendations for the Revenue Sharing Budget in the amount of $18,821.00 for the period October 1, 1977 through September 30, 1978.

1.	Funds set aside toward purchase of new garbage truck	$5000.00
2.	Landfill operation	2500.00
3.	Space Heater	321.00
4.	Water pipe and fittings	2500.00
5.	Public Safety - Fire Department	1200.00
6.	Police Car	1500.00
7.	Communication Terminal	2170.00
8.	Tractor, Accessories, etc.	1630.00
9.	Recreation	2000.00

A Public Hearing on the Revenue Sharing Budget will be held March 13, 1978 at 7:30 P.M.

Councilman Lough reported there is an increase in the town's insurance. He has contacted Mr. Cover and plans to have him meet with the Finance Committee regarding the insurance.

Mr. Monger reported that a Pizza Hut is considering building on the corner of Route 340 and Blue and Gold Drive. Mr. Monger stated he could not issue them a permit as this land is in the flood zone and council would have to act on this request for a permit. This matter was turned over to the Planning Commission and Mr. Wiles was ask also to check into this.

Mayor Lough reported on a letter he had received from the Harrisonburg-Rockingham County Independence Bicentennial Commission. On April 29th and 30th. there will be a celebration of the bicentennial of Rockingham County. Singers Glen has been chosen as the site for the event. They are requesting that all area municipalities take part in this celebration by presenting a display depicting their town's history as part of the growth of Rockingham County.

Councilman Flory suggested the Mayor contact the town's Bicentennial Committee to see if they will work on this project. Council agreed this would be a good group to have in charge of this project.

Mayor Lough read a letter from Bill Hitt in which he stated he was submitting his resignation from the Elkton Planning Commission due to other personal duties and irregular working hours. The Mayor ask council to consider a replacement for Mr. Hitt and bring their recommendations back at the next regular meeting.

Mayor Lough reported that C. J. Davis' term on the Board of Zoning Appeals expires March 1, 1978. Mr. Davis has indicated he will accept another term on the board.

Councilman B. B. Holt moved, seconded by Councilman H. W. Leap and carried that Calvin Jackson Davis be recommended for another term on the Board of Zoning Appeals.

Councilman Flory stated he felt council should express their thanks to Mr. Monger and his crew for the fine job they did during the period we had snow.

The Ordinance Committee will meet with the Fire Company Wednesday night at 8:00 P.M.

The County Municipal Meeting will be held in Broadway Wednesday February 15, 1978 at 7:30 P.M.

As there was no further business, Councilman R. J. Lough moved to adjourn.

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

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