REGULAR
COUNCIL MEETING
June 13, 1978

The regular meeting of the Elkton Town Council was held June 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, B. B. Holt and H. W. Leap. H. D. Flory and R. J. Lough were absent. Charles Lawhorne, Chief of Police, Norma Leap, Clerk, Gerald Monger, Superintendent and Bruce Wiles, Attorney were also present.

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

Mr. David Loker came before council on behalf of the residents of Elkwood. He wanted to bring to council's attention their need for street lights in Elkwood. This need had been presented to the Planning Commission and they had stated they would pass it on to council so he felt sure council was aware of this need and hoped something could be done in the near future. Mr. Loker stated he understood street signs have been purchased and are in process of being installed. The other problem the residents in this area have is regarding the back street that ends in a circle beyond Mr. Ward Suiter's home. People go up into this area all hours of the day and night. They throw out trash, use the rest room, etc. The ladies in the area are concerned about this traffic as many of the husband's work at night. Mr. Loker suggested a possible solution would be to block the road going back into this area. This problem was turned over to the Public Safety Department to see if they can find a solution.

Senator Nathan Miller came before council to speak on behalf of several citizen's who had contacted him in late February or March and were concerned about their electric rates and the matter in which they were being handled. He had presented copies of the letter and a petition to members of the council. Senator Miller was ask to contact the authorities in charge of the electric rates for the Town of Elkton. Senator Miller pointed out that the State Corporation Commission controls all of the electric rates with the exception of municipal electric systems and they are under the control of the town council. The letter had raised several questions. It ask about the fossil fuel adjustment clause, it ask about a system being set up whereby customers could pay base monthly payments based on twelve month current consumption and the possibility of showing the kwh rate on the bills. The letter also ask about the two refunds from Vepco, the last of which is still in litigation. He stated he did not want to mess in the town's business and felt sure the Electric Committee could handle this problem very well and answer these questions raised by these concerned consumers.

Senator Miller reminded council that in less than six months the General Assembly is going to convene and that speaking for himself, Delegates Bonnie Paul and Clinton Miller, he hopes that council will feel free to keep in touch with them. There will be legislation concerning municipalities and it is helpful for them to have local council's input.

Mayor Lough expressed his appreciation to Senator Miller for his cooperation and the help he has given to us in Richmond. Mayor Lough pointed out that the questions involving the refunds have been discussed in open meetings and published in the newspaper so the council will not go into this tonight except to say that the last refund is on deposit in the bank drawing interest and will be refunded to the consumer as soon as the litigation is settled. Mayor Lough turned the letter and petition over to the Electric Committee to handle.

Mr. Paul Simmons came before council requesting to hook on to town water. He lives in the Newtown area. Mr. Monger explained that the water pressure in this area is real low and would rather take some more pressure tests before making any commitments. Mayor Lough informed Mr. Simmons that it would be necessary to study this a little more and then get back with him.

The minutes of the May 8th., May 16th., May 30th. and June 7th. meetings were approved as presented.

Councilman Holt reported that he would need to go into Executive Session at the end of the Business Session to discuss the hiring of a police officer and the appointment of an auxiliary police officer.

Councilman B. B. Holt moved, seconded by Councilman H. W. Leap and carried to renominate G. W. Berry to serve another four year term on the Elkton Planning Commission beginning July 1, 1978.

Councilman H. W. Leap moved, seconded by Councilman R. R. Dean and carried to give Mr. Monger, Town Superintendent, the authority to connect Mr. Paul Simmons to the existing water line which passes his property, provided there is adequate pressure and no other complications.

Councilman R. R. Dean read a letter from W. J. Osborne, Resident Engineer of the State Highway Department concerning the widening of Route 340 to four lanes including curb and gutter and sidewalks from Route 33 Business through the intersection to Spotswood Avenue. The proposed project also includes a new bridge over Elk Run. The current schedule indicates advertising this project during the fall of 1979 subject to funding and other priorities. The letter indicates that State Highway Commission policy relative to improvements within the town requires participation by the town for construction of new sidewalks and a portion of the storm drains depending on the area being drained. They estimate the total cost of the new sidewalk to be approximately $7,820.00 with the town's share being approximately $3,910.00 plus 10% for engineering and contingency. This is a cost estimate and subject to variations. According to preliminary plans, they do not anticipate any participation by the town will be required for drainage. Mr. Osborne enclosed a sample resolution for consideration by the town council.

Councilman R. R. Dean moved, seconded by Councilman B. B. Holt to approve the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the Virginia Department of Highways and Transportation has proposed certain improvements on Route 340 in the Town of Elkton from the intersection of Route 33 to the north corporate limits, said improvements being designated as Route 340, Project 0340-082-101-PE101; and

WHEREAS, this project will provide a definite benefit to the Town of Elkton; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Elkton desires that certain improvements, such as new sidewalk and drainage improvements, be included in this project; and

WHEREAS, State Highway Commission Policy requires a contribution from the Town of Elkton for these improvements.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF ELKTON, VIRGINIA, at its regular meeting on this 13th. day of June 1978, that:

1. Elkton agrees to pay 50% of the cost of all new sidewalks installed.

2. Elkton agrees to pay its share of the cost of storm drains in accordance with State Highway Commission Policy adopted August 18, 1966.

3. Elkton agrees that parking will be prohibited at all times throughout the limits of the above described project.

The vote was recorded as follows:

C. Dean	- yea	B. Holt	- yea
R. Dean	- yea	H. Leap	- yea

Councilman C. E. Dean moved, seconded by Councilman H. W. Leap and carried to accept the Finance Report for May as presented.

Councilman C. E. Dean moved, seconded by Councilman B. B. Holt and carried to approve the First Reading to set the tax rate at 12¢ on each $100.00 of assessed value on Real Estate and leave the tax rate at 75¢ on each $100.00 of assessed value on Personal Property and items other than Real Estate.

Mr. Wiles pointed out that your tax levy cannot increase more than 8% without a public hearing. As council was not sure what the 12¢ rate would bring in, the Finance Committee was ask to have this information before the second reading was held.

A special council meeting was set for June 20, 1978 at 7:30 P.M.

There was a First Reading to appropriate the following additional funds in the various departments. It was explained to council that in all the departments, with the exception of the Electric Department, these additional appropriations will be transfers from other areas within the department's budget where there is a surplus, not an increase in the total budget.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT	
Wages	$ 2,600.00
Convention	514.01
Donations	120.21
Elections	518.60
Fuel Oil	1,000.00
Legal	600.00
Supplies	800.00
	$ 6,152.82

ELECTRIC DEPARTMENT	
Current	$75,800.00
Misc.	500.00
	$76,300.00

GARBAGE DEPARTMENT	
Truck Upkeep	$ 1,500.00

PUBLIC SAFETY	
Overtime	$ 3,000.00
Insurance	989.35
Jail Fees	300.00
Car Upkeep	250.00
Telephone	600.00
	$ 5,139.35

Mr. Wiles reported that in regards to the purchase of the land for the sewerage treatment plant and the buffer zone there appears to be some confusion as to the actual ownership of the land. He pointed out that the agreement which was signed in November would need to be amended before being presented to court.

Councilman C. E. Dean moved, seconded by Councilman R. R. Dean to give the Mayor authority to sign the amended agreement regarding the purchase of land. The vote was recorded as follows:

C. Dean - yea	B. Holt - yea
R. Dean - yea	H. Leap - yea

Mr. Wiles reported that he had received a call from the Flood Insurance Administrator and he has received the copies of the town's resolutions and the subdivision ordinance amendments and they are in good order.

Mrs. Leap reported that each year we are audited on our Highway Upkeep Grant monies and we were recently audited for the fiscal year 1976-77. A copy of a letter from the Audit Supervisor to Mr. J. G. Ripley, Urban Engineer has been received certifying that the town has expended for eligible street payment purposes, funds equal or in excess of the payments we have received.

Mayor Lough reminded council of the County Municipal League meeting in Dayton tomorrow night. He also reminded council and councilmen-elect that they are to ride in the Fireman's Parade Friday night.

The Virginia Municipal League will sponsor a workshop at Charlottesville, June 21-23 for newly elected officials.

Mayor Lough stated he has enjoyed being Mayor for the past two years and it has been educational and satisfying.

Councilman B. B. Holt moved, seconded by Councilman C. E. Dean to go into Executive Session to discuss the hiring of a police officer and the appointment of an auxiliary policeman. The vote was recorded as follows:

C. Dean - yea	B. Holt - yea
R. Dean - yea	H. Leap - yea

Councilman B. B. Holt moved, seconded by Councilman R. R. Dean and carried to go from Executive Session back into Regular Session.

Councilman B. B. Holt moved, seconded by Councilman C. E. Dean to hire Larry Harman as a Policeman at the Entrance Level effective July 1, 1978. The vote was recorded as follows:

C. Dean	- yea	B. Holt	- yea
R. Dean	- yea	H. Leap	- yea

Councilman B. B. Holt moved, seconded by Councilman C. E. Dean to appoint Herbert L. Sigafoose as an Auxiliary Police Officer effective immediately. The vote was recorded as follows:

C. Dean	- yea	B. Holt	- yea
R. Dean	- yea	H. Leap	- yea

Mayor Lough reported that on June 30, 1978 at 8:00 P.M. there will be a Swearing-In Ceremony for the Councilmen-elect and Mayor. He urged the public to attend this ceremony.

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

MAYOR: Maurice W. Lough, Mayor

RECORDER: Norma R. Leap, Clerk