SPECIAL
COUNCIL MEETING
October 22, 1981

A special meeting of the Elkton Town Council was held October 22, 1981 at 7:30 P.M. in the council chambers with the Mayor Maurice W. Lough presiding. The following council members were present : V. L. Cook Jr., R. E. Davis, S. P. H. Flick, T. G. Hulings, L. C. Life and R. L. Snow. Norma Leap, Clerk, Gerald Monger, Superintendent, and Officer Weaver were also present.

Councilman R. L. Snow moved, seconded by Councilman R. E. Davis to go into Executive Session to discuss personnel. The vote was recorded as follows:

Cook	-	yea	Hulings	-	nay
Davis	-	yea	Life	-	nay
Flick	-	yea	Snow	-	yea

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Councilman R. L. Snow moved, seconded by Councilman V. L. Cook Jr. and carried to go from Executive Session back into Regular Session.

Councilman R. L. Snow moved, seconded by Councilman R. E. Davis that an expanded position, that of dispatcher-receptionist-clerk, be created to replace that of the present day-light, 8-4, dispatcher in the police department. This position is described in a new job description already written and advertised for in the Valley Banner. This position will be paid on the basis of Federal Minimum Wage if a new person is hired, but if one of the four present dispatchers is hired, her salary will not be diminished. The Council shall hire this person with recommendation by the Personnel Committee. The person shall serve at the pleasure of the council. A person on the present staff of dispatchers shall be dropped from the payroll if one of the present dispatchers is not hired and shall be considered part time help, at Federal Minimum Wage. The new position shall be supervised directly by the Chief of Police with consultation with the other two department heads on matters not directly relating to Police business. This position shall be filled as soon as possible so that the successful applicant can be trained when the move to the Jennings building is made. The job shall commence as soon as the applicants can be scanned and council will act on the hiring at the next regular council meeting. The vote was recorded as Follows:

Cook	-	yea	Hulings	-	yea
Davis	-	yea	Life	-	nay
Flick	-	yea	Snow	-	yea

Mr. John Edmondson presented a request for a permit to reface the old Sears Catalog store building. An over-hanging roof will be installed with an overhang infringing on town property approximately three feet thus requiring a permit from the town. He presented a drawing of what he proposes.

Councilman R. L. Snow moved, seconded by Councilman S. P. H. Flick and carried to approve a permit for Mr. Edmondson to infringe on town property as outlined on his drawing subject to approval by the State Highway Department.

Councilman T. G. Hulings moved, seconded by Councilman V. L. Cook Jr. to approve on Second Reading the authorization to order, and eventual payment upon delivery, a bucket truck for the electric department at a cost of $51,404.71.

Councilwoman Life stated she has some real reservations on this and some things she would like council to consider. She stated she knows we need a bucket truck for the safety of the town and the electrician but can we afford a brand new truck when there are other avenues open to us. How this would be financed is another concern. She also pointed out that there are other pieces of equipment wearing out and may soon have to be replaced. She presented some sales pamphlets of places that reconditioned equipment can be purchased and she feels we could probably get a bucket truck for perhaps half the cost. She asked council to forget the purchase of a new truck, have the finance committee consider how much and how a replacement truck can be financed and council authorize Gerald and Avery to purchase a reconditioned truck as soon as possible.

Councilman Cook pointed out that these bucket trucks you see advertised do not necessarily mean electric bucket truck and there is a difference. He stated that it would cost us approximately $28,000.00 to purchase a reconditioned truck which could maybe last fourteen or fifteen years and then we would have to be looking for another. The Electric Department is the bread and butter of the town and

he feels if we don't take care of our bread and butter we are wrong. He thought council would be wrong if we don't purchase a new truck.

Councilman Davis stated he feels council should give some thought to Councilwoman Life's suggestion. He feels it wouldn't hurt to spend thirty days to investigate all avenues before making a final decision and pointed out that at that time he may advocate buying a new truck after all avenues are investigated.

Councilman Hulings stated that these are the same questions the Electric Committee have dealt with and they concluded that the chance taken to find a used truck requires a lot of leg work and there is no guarantee how long it will last. With a new piece of equipment you have service from the manufacture and a warranty. Their recommendation is a new truck. He would not have too much objection to spending thirty days looking for used trucks except we need a truck now and delivery time is important to our maintenance crew.

Councilman Flick questioned if possibly we could approve the $51,404.71 and if we could find a truck cheaper than that we purchase it.

Councilman Snow questioned if the new truck would serve the higher poles on Shenandoah Avenue and was told it would.

Mr. Monger stated he had been questioned as to why they didn't go closer to buy a bucket truck. He presented another quotation from Baker Equipment in Richmond of $62,426.00. He also had received one from Power Equipment in Roanoke which was between the $51,404.71 and $62,426.00 but he didn't have the figure with him. He pointed out that this is why they didn't go closer to purchase a truck. He questioned two other town's and some other people who should know about this and their recommendations were don't buy a used bucket truck.

The vote was taken on the motion to purchase a new bucket truck and recorded as follows:

Cook	-	yea	Hulings	-	yea
Life	-	nay	Davis	-	nay
Snow	-	yea	Flick	-	yea

Councilman Flick presented the following First Reading on additional funds for auditing and legal fees:

> "Since we anticipate higher than usual costs of auditing, and since we have had unexpected court costs in the legal department, we will have to appropriate more money for legal and auditing fees. Therefore I would like for this to be considered a first reading on a motion to appropriate $2,000 dollars addition to the legal and auditing funds."

Councilman S. P. H. Flick moved, seconded by Councilwoman L. C. Life to approve on Second Reading the appropriation of $3,000.00 to purchase a used billing machine, supplies and programming. The vote was recorded as follows:

Cook	-	yea	Hulings	-	yea
Davis	-	yea	Life	-	yea
Flick	-	yea	Snow	-	yea

Mrs. Leap explained to council that it is necessary to pay all bills on the Sewer Project before we can submit our final payment request to E.P.A. We need to borrow $4,500.00 from the General Fund to have enough money to pay the final bill from the contractor which will be replaced when we receive the money due on our pay request.

Councilwoman L. C. Life moved, seconded by Councilman R. L. Snow and carried to transfer $4,500.00 from the General Fund to the Sanitary Sewer Project Account as a loan to be replaced when money is received from E.P.A.

As there was no further business, Councilwoman Life moved to adjourn.

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

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

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