REGULAR
COUNCIL MEETING
September 16, 1985

The regular meeting of the Elkton Town Council was held September 16, 1985 at 8:00 P.M. in the council chambers with the Mayor Charles E. Dean presiding. The following council members were present: R. E. Davis, S. P. H. Flick, B. B. Holt, H. W. Leap, H. A. Leet and L. C. Life. Dale Davenport, Attorney, Betty Engle, Assistant Clerk, Warren Pence, Chief of Police, and Gerald Monger, Town Superintent were also present.

There were some citizens present regarding the poor television reception from Commonwealth Cablevision and what action council plans to take. There was also a petition presented with over a hundred names. Those speaking were Lawrence Shifflett, Alan Thompson, Fred Davis, William Madren and Vicki Willson and some of the problems discussed were how the quality has deteriorated since they have expanded. Subscribers are unable to reach them by telephone and when they do, very slow response to complaints and to new connections. They feel they are now getting less for more money since for the past three weeks it has been interrupted or out 75% of the time. There was also some discussion of a CB antenna on Hill Avenue causing reception problems. Action was deferred until later in the meeting.

Councilwoman Life moved, seconded by Councilman Holt and carried to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting, August 19, 1985.

Chief Pence reported that the newest police cruiser has been repaired and is back in operation, and the other one is operable, but still needs some minor repairs. He also explained that overtime was due to double coverage on weekends due to prescheduled events and also a few problems that had to be taken care of.

Councilwoman Life moved, seconded by Councilman Holt and carried to approve a request from Welty Hensley, Chairman of the Elkton Historical Society, that the town donate the electric used for the annual horseshow.

Councilwoman Life read a letter from Mr. and Mrs. Tim Haden, that the Street Committee view and make recommendations for repairing and beautifying the sidewalks in front of the former buildings known as Hensley Sales and Service, Farm Bureau, and the Old Bank Building, and would like to suggest that you give consideration to improvements of shrubbery such as sidewalks in downtown Harrisonburg have as a start toward improving the image of Elkton.

Councilwoman Life said this would go before the committee but she was sure there would not be any money available until 1986, if then. Councilman Holt suggested maybe the Garden Club would be interested in working with them.

Mr. Monger reported that all maintenance money from the State would be used on just maintenance and no capital improvements, and they were giving them a year to get to it. Mr. Monger also said the sidewalks Mr. Haden was referring to could not come out of the street funds, and if the town did participate in this, the money would have to come out of another fund.

Councilwoman Life reported the alley between Spotswood Trail and Wirt Avenue and Shenandoah Avenue and 5th. Street has been graded and paved, and this was done in order to alleviate the water draining from the street into the sewer line at the car wash, also the sidewalk has been completed at the Presbyterian Church and the sidewalk is under construction from Stuart Avenue to Hill Avenue on B Street.

Councilman Holt moved, seconded by Councilwoman Life and carried that the attorney write a letter to Commonwealth Cablevision requesting the service improve by the next regular council meeting or further action will be taken due to the many complaints from the subscribers.

Councilman Holt moved, seconded by Councilman Leap that the council approve on the Second Reading an interest free loan of $2,000.00 to the Elkton Recreation Department to be paid back when monies become available. The vote was recorded as follows:

Davis	- yea	Leap	- yea
Flick	- yea	Leet	- yea
Holt	- yea	Life	- yea

Councilman Holt also reported that there had been talk within the Recreation Commission about making the operation of this commission a function of the Town Government. This would make the town in control of what is being done as far as recreation is concerned, and another advantage is the recreation would have to come up with a budget that would have to be approved by council each year. The attorney was asked to check into whatever steps would be necessary. Mr. Holt stated that even if this was considered he would not want to implement this until the next fiscal year.

Councilman Holt also reported that Merck & Company had donated $2,500.00 to the Elkton Historical Society.

Councilman Leet reported that the buildings for the fluoridation are ready and only need to get the equipment in and functioning. Also the sewer lines are in for the new apartment building and only need the inverts in the manholes and to pressure check the lines.

Councilman Leet also was concerned about the state having bills coming up at the next session in regard to the state controlling the water for the whole state, in terms that if it is passed as is proposed, they could take water right out of the valley to the east side of the state, and people in the valley would have no say in this matter. There is to be a hearing on October 4th. in Harrisonburg and he encouraged representation at this meeting.

Councilman Leet also announced that he and Mr. Monger are pursuing some grant money that is available for help with sewer treatment plants and to correct problems with sewer lines. This money is quite limited, and he feels there is little chance in the town getting this grant. Mr. Monger said that if people would respond in giving an estimated income without giving names this would help so much in acquiring these grants.

Tim Hulings of the County Board of Supervisors was available to answer questions on the 911 system. This is an emergency number that is used throughout the country. A computer pin points the exact location of an emergency call. This would take two years to implement at a cost of at least $0.39 a household and once it goes into effect it would cost $0.89 monthly. The Board of Supervisors will not go ahead if there are major oppositions. If the people feel this is a good thing that has some merit then they might go ahead. A public hearing is scheduled for Wednesday, October 9th. at 8:00 P.M. at the Rockingham County Courthouse, and a Continental representative will be present.

Councilman Leet moved, seconded by Councilwoman Life and carried to go into Executive Session to discuss legal matters.

Councilman Leet moved, seconded by Councilwoman Life and carried to go back into Regular Session.

Councilman Leet moved, seconded by Councilman Holt to approve the sewage contract with the County subject to some small clerical corrections. The vote was recorded as follows:

Davis	- yea	Leap	- yea
Flick	- yea	Leet	- yea
Holt	- yea	Life	- yea

As there was no further business the meeting adjourned.

MAYOR: Charles E. Dean
Charles E. Dean, Mayor

RECORDER: Betty H. Engle
Betty H. Engle,
Assistant Clerk