REGULAR
COUNCIL MEETING
March 18, 1985

The regular meeting of the Elkton Town Council was held March 18, 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, Norma Leap, Clerk, Jeffrey Nadeau, Chief of Police and Gerald Monger, Superintendent were also present.

Councilman Holt introduced Becki Earhart, a staff member from the Central Shenandoah Planning District. Councilman Holt stated that this year there are some funds available in the form of Block Grants for Community Development and that Elkton might be eligible for some of these funds. Mrs. Sally Haden brought this to Councilman Holt's attention and as a consequence they asked Mrs. Earhart to come down and talk briefly on what the potential is.

Mrs. Earhart briefly explained the program and the funds available. She pointed out several types of grants, two of which the town might consider. There is a Planning Grant and a Community Improvement Grant. She suggested that with the limited time before the deadline for applications, the town might want to consider a Planning Grant which would be in preparation for applying a year from now for a Community Improvement Grant.

Mrs. Haden stated she hoped the council would consider going for the Planning Grant.

Councilman H. A. Leet moved, seconded by Councilwoman L. C. Life and carried to approve the minutes of the regular meeting February 11, 1985.

Mr. Monger reported that they have done some T. V. work in the sewer lines and have spotted some problems. He also reported that the lights are now on in Elkwood and that the woodwork has been refinished in the council chambers. There is a possible problem with termites in the building and they are in the process of checking this out.

Councilman S. P. H. Flick moved, seconded by Councilman H. W. Leap and carried to approve the Finance Report for the month of February.

Councilman S. P. H. Flick moved, seconded by Councilman B. B. Holt to approve on Second Reading the appropriation of $32,000.00 to be added to the General Government budget to cover the parking lot and courts project. The vote was recorded as follows:

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

Councilman Flick reported that the report on "freebies" had been distributed. The total cost through February for "freebies" is $25,000.00.

Councilwoman L. C. Life moved, seconded by Councilman B. B. Holt and carried to approve the following resolution:

Be it resolved that the Elkton Town Council at its regular council meeting March 18, 1985 requests the Virginia Department of Highways to add the following mileage of additional streets to the Street Maintenance Program:

Barkman St.	From "F" St. to Old Corp. limit R/W Width 60', Hard Surface Width 18', Length 0.03, Lane Mile 0.06

Virginia Ave.	From North Rd. to Old Corp. limit, R/W Width, 30', Hard Surface Width 16.5', Length 0.05, Lane Mile 0.10, Remarks Annexed - Prior State Road System
Lee Ave.	From "F" St. to "G" St., R/W Width 70', Hard Surface Width 20.7', Length 0.09, Lane Mile 0.18
North St.	From Rt. 340 to Old Corp. limit, R/W Width 30', Hard Surface Width 18', Length 0.02, Lane Mile 0.04, Remarks Annexed - Prior State Road System
Marshall Ave.	From 7th. St. to .05 Mi. East, R/W Width 70', Hard Surface Width 18', Length 0.05, Lane Mile 0.10
TOTALS	Length = 0.24 Lane Mile = 0.48

Councilwoman Life reported that she was unable to attend the last Recreation Commission meeting but plans to attend the meeting this Wednesday. They have brought the idea of making the Recreation Commission a department of the town to the attention of the commission for their consideration. She also reported that Mr. Monger has done some elevation at the Elementary School and will be working up some cost estimates for the work needed at that location. In other areas, she reported that Mr. Monger is looking into slurry treatment for the paving which needs to be done this summer and the Street Committee will be checking into the possibility of special meters for people who want to water their lawns and gardens during the summer.

Councilman Leap asked if the drains for surface water have been completed as yet and was informed that they have not been completed.

Councilwoman Life reported she has also been receiving some calls from citizens concerned about trash pickup in the alleys.

Councilman Leet requested that Mr. Davenport report on his findings regarding the possibility of restricting traffic in alleys.

Mr. Davenport reported that he has not found any distinction between streets and alleys which allow municipalities to regulate the use of them. It appears that municipalities cannot restrict public use of streets and alleys except under it's police powers for public safety reasons. You can make traffic regulations for streets and alleys but he did not feel we could close alleys to vehicular traffic.

Councilman Leet felt that as Mr. Davenport stated we can regulate for safety reasons, we should be able to handle our alley problems with regulations.

Mayor Dean pointed out that there is still a problem with the alley between Hill and Ashby as people are running through there at high speed on motorcycles and in cars, sometimes at all hours of the night. They are not only tearing up the alley but disturbing the people living there. The adjoining property owners are still interested in buying the alley if the town would agree to close it.

Councilwoman Life stated she has been receiving calls from the other side. She also pointed out that she had received very favorable comments when council voted not to close this alley.

Councilman Holt stated that they had been reluctant to close the alley at the last meeting and had preferred to restrict it to vehicular traffic but did not know if they had the authorization to do so. Council voted to leave the alley open with the understanding that if there were abuses of the use of the alley council would take another look at the situation and reconsider

the request to close the alley. Councilman Holt personally felt due to the fact that there is considerable doubt that council could close the alley to vehicular traffic, that the closing of the alley should be taken back to the viewers and have them take another look at this. However, as there is some feeling by some members of the council that this may be premature, he is willing to wait until the next council meeting and perhaps in the meantime the attorney can come up with ways council can regulate rather than close or perhaps the people who are allegedly abusing the use of the alley will stop. Council was in agreement to wait until next meeting.

Councilman Flick asked if there had been any further communications with the county on the proposed extension of our sewer lines to the area across the river.

Mayor Dean stated he had talked with our representative on the Board of Supervisors and they definitely will have something ready for us by the next meeting.

Councilman Leap reported that Chief Nadeau has given him some information regarding a retirement plan for law enforcement officers. He had not received it in time to look it over, but will do so and report back to council at the next meeting.

Councilman Holt stated he had been approached by someone regarding the water drainage problem on Rockingham Street and Spotswood Avenue. He had told the person that it was his understanding that this was a high priority project this year. He would like to know if he had misinformed this person.

Councilwoman Life asked Mr. Monger to bring council up to date on this. Mr. Monger stated that they have been waiting on Michael Bros. to get their apartment complex designed so we can see which way they can go with the drainage and they just received the plans last week. This is still a high priority project.

Councilman B. B. Holt moved, seconded by Councilwoman L. C. Life and carried to direct the Town Superintendent to pursue the application for a Planning Grant.

Councilman Holt reported that in regard to the potential need for a day care center in the immediate area, he nor Councilwoman Life had received any calls stating that anyone would like to see this service provided. However, this item was left in as one of the items which went to the county from the Citizens Advisory Committee as other areas in the eastern part of the county felt it was an item of concern.

Councilman Holt reported that the response to our concern for protection of our water supply was not spectacular and he was not encouraged. The county is looking at the overall problem but there is no concrete answer and he does not foresee any change in the zoning ordinances concerned to provide the protection that we feel is needed. Public health ordinances do provide some protection and Mr. Davenport pointed out that the Code of Virginia does provide for some protection.

Councilwoman Life suggested a letter from council be sent to the Board of Supervisors expressing our views on the importance of some type of protection for the water supply throughout the county and also that each council member call our representative on the board. Council was in agreement with this suggestion. Councilman Leap suggested that the citizens should come forth also and express their views.

Mayor Dean gave council members the opportunity to ask any questions they might have on the monthly police report.

Councilwoman Life questioned the overtime and Chief Nadeau stated he had an officer in school three days and one off sick. They had done some trading around to do away with some of the overtime but could not always do that.

Mayor Dean stated they have a proposal from J.K.J. Chevrolet who has the State contract this year for police cars. The price would be $10,600.00 base and with AM/FM radio, power door locks and a tilt steering wheel, it would cost $10,998.89. If we plan to order one this year we need to place the order before March 25th., it would be delivered in June and come out of next year's budget. There was a question as to whether anyone had checked with local dealers and no one had.

Councilman B. B. Holt moved, seconded by Councilman H. A. Leet to buy a police car from J.K.J. Chevrolet at $10,998.89 to come out of next year's budget, purchase subject to any ruling of illegalities the attorney might find.

There was some discussion regarding getting prices from local dealers.

Councilman B. B. Holt amended his motion and Councilman H. A. Leet his second to read that we purchase the automobile locally if we can purchase the equivalent automobile at an equal or lower price. The vote was recorded as follows:

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

Mr. Davenport reported that he is still getting copies of ordinances regarding regulating satellite dishes and checking on the federal legislation. He will keep council informed on this matter.

Mayor Dean requested council change the regular meeting for April from the 8th. to the 15th. as he will be out of town on that date and Councilman Davis has to work. Council was in agreement with the change.

As there was no further business, the meeting adjourned.

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

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