REGULAR
COUNCIL MEETING
May 13, 1985

The regular meeting of the Elkton Town Council was held May 13, 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 and Gerald Monger, Superintendent were also present.

Councilwoman L. C. Life moved, seconded by Councilman H. A. Leet and carried to approve the minutes of the regular meeting April 15, 1985 and the special meeting May 8, 1985 with the following corrections to the April 15, 1985 minutes: add after paragraph 7 on page 2 the motion by Councilman Leet, seconded by Councilman Holt and carried to go from Executive Session back into Regular Session and to correct the wording in paragraph 2, page 3 to 'to make some proposed changes to the agreement with the county for the extension of sewer lines and when these changes are made it will be approved or disapproved, whichever the case is, and then it will be submitted to the Mayor for his signature'.

Mr. Monger reported that the Senior Citizens have asked if the town would donate a State flag for the cemetary.

Councilman B. B. Holt moved, seconded by Councilman H. W. Leap to purchase a State flag for the cemetary.

Councilwoman L. C. Life moved, seconded by Councilman H. A. Leet to amend the motion to read, 'purchase three State flags, one for the cemetary, one for the triangle and one to have for reserve'. The motion carried as amended.

Councilman S. P. H. Flick moved, seconded by Councilman B. B. Holt and carried to approve the Finance Report for the months of February and March.

Councilwoman Life reported that she has been approached by Mrs. Sapp about doing some sidewalk repairs at the Presbyterian Church which would be on "B" and Ashby. Councilwoman Life had asked if they would be willing to go 50-50 and Mrs. Sapp had said yes. Mr. Monger has checked the sidewalk, done some measuring and in contacting Mrs. Sapp she indicated she is interested in repairs but Mr. Monger and Councilwoman Life both feel repairs are out of order. The price to replace the sidewalks would be approximately $2000.00 and Mrs. Sapp has indicated she will go back to the church board to see if they are willing to pay half.

Councilwoman Life reported that they are working on plans for the Elementary School and the storm sewers are not complete.

Councilman Leet reported that the report has been submitted to the State Water Control Board as requested, and in accordance to what council had agreed to, but have not heard anything from them.

Councilman Leet reported that our attorney, as requested, has made some changes in the proposed contract with the county, the committee has looked it over, approved it and the Mayor has signed it. It has been sent to the county and it looks as if they will want to have a meeting with some council representatives.

Councilman Leet reported that they have had a request from a number of people that water used for watering, like gardens and general watering, be exempt from the sewer charge as it is not going through the sewer. The committee studied for quite awhile and have come up with what they feel to be a feasible plan. A person wanting this exemption would request this at the beginning of the season, probably by June 1st. Water used for the month of May would be used as the base for this. The exemption would be for

the months of June, July and August. At the end of August the water usage would be looked at and a reduction would be given on the September bill and if necessary the October bill to provide relief from the sewer charge. The water charge would be as usual. The sewer bill would be reduced so that it would be no higher than the May bill. If he did not use any more gallons than he did in May there would be no reduction.

There was some discussion as to what other towns do and whether to wait to make the adjustment in September and October or to adjust the sewer bill each month in June, July, and August.

Councilman Holt stated he could find no reasonable and accurate way to determine how much water people use is going to be used for watering and how much is going into the sewer. He felt that until someone could show him that this is that great a problem, he is not inclined to support this. He felt water would be used for abuses that you could classify as frivolous, filling swimming pools, washing cars, and others. He suggested council get an idea of what this is going to cost before taking any action.

Councilwoman Life stated she felt she needed to clarify that this request had been brought up in committee before she got a swimming pool and since she does not have a garden she does not plan to apply for the exemption. She reported that she has received about a half dozen calls from people with gardens who hope council will go ahead with this suggestion.

Councilman Davis suggested that if we decide to do it to pass it for one year only to see how it works.

Mr. Monger asked if the sewer bill would run less than the May bill and a person requested the exemption, would they still be charged the May amount for sewer. Mayor Dean and Councilman Davis stated they felt it would be whatever the May bill was.

Councilwoman L. C. Life moved, seconded by Councilman R. E. Davis that we try this new charge for water and sewer for one year only, to run through the months of June, July, and August, the sewer bill not to exceed the month of May billing, and at the request of an individual. Residents must apply by June 1. The method of billing will be left to the discretion of the Treasurer's Office. The vote was recorded as follows:

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

Councilman Holt presented a letter from the Planning Commission regarding a proposal by Christopher F. Davis to purchase 25 feet of land from I. L. Flory, Jr. to increase the size of his land. The Planning Commission's recommendation is that 25 feet of Lot 126 be re-subdivided so that Mr. Flory may sell to Mr. Davis. Councilman Holt stated this could be done without having to go through all the planning, etc., if the purpose is just to transfer one piece of property to the other. Council was asked to consider this and if they would like to take action they could do so later in the meeting.

Councilman Holt reported that the Planning Commission is also concerned about dogs. There is a particular section in the town code concerning animals in town but Councilman Holt felt the section does not apply to dogs. There does seem to be some need to come up with some standards and specifications regarding sanitation, etc. regarding dogs. The Planning Commission will be working on this and hope to have something to bring to council in the near future.

Councilman Holt reported that Mr. Monger has received a letter from the trainmaster with the Norfolk and Western in Shenandoah. Norfolk & Southern has offered to buy Conrail. The Department of Transportation has recommended that this be permitted. It has to go through Congress. The town is asked to send a resolution to our members of Congress supporting this. Councilman Holt recommended council not pass a resolution.

Councilman B. B. Holt moved, seconded by H. A. Leet and carried to appoint the following viewers to study the request by I. J. Conley to close and unopened, dedicated street and an unopened, dedicated alley in the Liberty Heights Subdivision: Calvin Shaffer. G. W. Berry, Ishmael Baugher and Christopher Davis.

Councilman B. B. Holt moved, seconded by Councilman H. W. Leap and carried that council approve the Planning Commission's recommendation that twenty-five (25) feet of Lot 126 be re-subdivided so that Mr. Flory may sell to Mr. Davis as found under The Charter and Code of Ordinances, Article A, Sec. 6-2-3, (33). This property is located on Rockingham Street, Elkton, Virginia 22827, and the twenty-five (25) feet in question adjoins the West side of Lot No. 1 of the Flory Corporation plat, dated March 18, 1948.

Mayor Dean gave council the opportunity to ask any questions they would like on the police report.

Councilman B. B. Holt moved, seconded by Councilman H. A. Leet and carried to go into Executive Session to discuss police department personnel.

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

Councilman B. B. Holt moved, seconded by Councilman H. A. Leet and carried to appoint Warren Pence as Acting Chief of Police and to advertise for a Chief of Police and Patrolman.

Mayor Dean reported that Officer Petefish has accepted a position with the Stanley Police Department. His last day with the Town will be May 24th.

Mayor Dean reported that the Rockingham County Municipal League will meet in the council chambers Wednesday, May 15th.

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