REGULAR
COUNCIL MEETING
September 15, 1986

The regular meeting of the Elkton Town Council was held September 15, 1986 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, B. B. Holt, H. W. Leap, H. A. Leet, L. C. Life and R. L. Snow. Dale Davenport, Attorney, Norma Leap, Clerk, Gerald Monger, Superintendent and Warren Pence, Chief of Police were also present.

Councilman H. A. Leet moved, seconded by Councilwoman L. C. Life and carried to approve the minutes of the regular meeting August 18, 1986.

Mr. Monger reported that the county has approved to pay half of the "B" Street sidewalk and drainage project at the Elementary School but we are having trouble getting a contractor.

Chief Pence reviewed the monthly police report. He reported that he has been in contact with Mr. Diehl, principal of the Elkton Elementary School, regarding the playground equipment which has been placed along the west side of the school next to Terrace Avenue which is heavily used by local traffic and as a northern route for fire and rescue calls. Chief Pence feels a fence should be placed around the playground to protect the children from possible danger.

Mr. Monger stated council should approve any type of fence installation due to the possibility of creating blind spots.

Councilwoman Life asked Lou Ellen Kirkendall, President of the Elkton PTO, if she would like to comment on the fence.

Mrs. Kirkendall stated that the PTO is in the process of raising money to install a fence around this playground area and hopes to have the project completed by the end of September.

Councilman Snow questioned the 65 hours overtime for dispatchers. Chief Pence stated we have had one dispatcher sick and as we only have four dispatchers it requires overtime.

Councilman R. L. Snow moved, seconded by Councilman B. B. Holt and carried to approve the Finance Report for the month of August.

Councilman Snow reported that we have received the audit reports and he will be setting up a meeting with the auditors to review the audit.

Councilwoman Life reported that they are working on trying to get quotes from contractors on the "B" Street project. She also reported that she has a petition from thirteen residents requesting some work in an alley but she feels this should go through the Street Committee before bringing it to council.

Councilman Holt stated that it probably isn't politically smart to be trying to come up with a cat ordinance but he still feels it is necessary to try to do something to protect the interest of people who do not want other people's animals on their property. There has been much discussion since the last meeting and they have come up with a new ordinance which he feels will be more acceptable.

Councilman Holt presented for First Reading the following new ordinance amendment:

Resolution to Amend the Code of Ordinances
of the Town of Elkton, Virginia, by Adding a New
Section 9-1-27 as Article D of Title 9

ARTICLE D

Cats. Section 9-1-27. Unrestrained Cats on Private Property: It shall be unlawful for the owner of any cat to allow such cat to go upon or remain upon the lands, buildings or premises of another, or any part, portion or area thereof, after having been forbidden to do so, either orally or in writing, by the owner, lessee, custodian or other person lawfully in charge thereof.

Mr. Bobby Shifflett of 301 Summit Avenue was present and spoke in favor of a cat ordinance. He stated that there are about twenty-five cats which come into his yard using it as a litter box, tearing bark off his trees and digging up his garden.

Councilman Leet suggested council consider limiting the number of cats per household.

Mr. Fred Davis of 324 E. Rockingham Street was present and responded to a statement regarding cats possibly creating health problems. He pointed out that he has one cat, that it is very well taken care of , receives the necessary shots and medical care and is very healthy.

Councilman Leet reported that the smoke tests have been completed and they have approximately seventy-five letters ready to mail to households where violations were found.

Councilman Leet stated we need to be considering a sump pump ordinance. He also said the Water Committee has considered the request by Madalyn Meadows for town water and feels it is in line.

Councilman H. A. Leet moved, seconded by Councilman H. W. Leap and carried to permit Madalyn Meadows on Route 759 to hook on to the town water system at her cost.

Councilman H. A. Leet moved, seconded by Councilwoman L. C. Life and carried to go into Executive Session to discuss items which might include legal matters.

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

Mayor Dean stated it will be necessary to have a Public Hearing on the real estate tax increase. The Public Hearing was set for October 20, 1986 at 7:30 P.M. before the regular meeting.

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