REGULAR
COUNCIL MEETING
July 20, 1987

The regular meeting of the Elkton Town Council was held July 20, 1987 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.

Mr. and Mrs. Randal Dean were present to report that they have the opportunity to sell their home to two school teachers who want to operate a bed and breakfast. She asked council what needs to be done to allow for this type of operation.

Mr. Davenport stated he did not feel there was any provision for this in the zoning ordinance so it would require going through the proper procedures to have the zoning changed. Mayor Dean stated this would probably be referred to the Planning Commission.

Garland Sheets and Donnie Davis were present representing the Elkton Volunteer Fire Company. Mr. Sheets asked that the council approve an out of town sewer hookup to the fire company's proposed activity building which they plan to build.

Council discussed with them future plans for the use of this building. Mr. Sheets stated that eventually they hope to move their equipment out to this area also but that is a long way down the road. They do plan to rent out the activity building to other groups but 90% of the use of the building will be by the fire company.

Councilman Davis asked if any progress has been made on the fire company's request to put in a permanent barbecue pit. Councilman Snow stated that the Ruritan Club had been working on this before the fire company made their request. They were suppose to contact the fire company to discuss with them the possibility of a joint venture.

Councilwoman L. C. Life moved, seconded by Councilman R. L. Snow and carried to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting June 15, 1987, the Public Hearing June 25, 1987 and the Special Meetings July 2, 1987 and July 6, 1987 as presented with an addition to Page 4, full paragraph 2 of the June 15th. meeting. The words "in road numbers" will be inserted after mix up.

Mr. Monger reported that the fluoride project has been delayed again due to pipe being the wrong size. The street paving is about finished. They will probably do some more paving after the first of October. The highway department did allow us an extension on our 1986-87 street monies due to the pavers being delayed because of a fire at their plant.

Councilwoman Life asked about the status of the old freight station. Mr. Monger stated he has sent a letter to Norfolk-Southern telling them that any further correspondence regarding this should be sent to EPIC.

Councilman Leap asked if we have heard anything regarding the insurance on the scout hut. Mr. Monger reported that they are still waiting on the scouts regarding the contents. The town will probably receive about $16,000.00 on the building if we don't replace it.

Councilman Leap asked what the status is on the lights on the basketball court. Mr. Monger stated they have found some used lights and they have to get back with the people about them.

Councilman Leet reported that one of the tennis courts is

cracking. He also stated he felt the rocks around the fence of the tennis courts are getting onto the surface and could cause some damage to the courts. Mr. Monger stated that shortly after the contractors completed the courts there was some problems and they are suppose to come back and correct them.

Chief Pence reported that they are going to start looking at automobiles. He stated they have hired Dana Bailey as a dispatcher to replace Vicki Buracker.

Councilman Davis asked if the Public Safety Department has any arrangements for officers to periodically check the ball parks and he also stated there has been some complaints about dogs running loose.

Chief Pence stated they do check the parks and he asked that dog complaints be referred to the police department. They have charged some people recently.

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

Councilman R. L. Snow moved, seconded by Councilman B. B. Holt to set the tax rates for 1987 at $0.12 per $100.00 of assessed value on Real Estate and $0.46 per $100.00 of assessed value on Personal Property. The vote was recorded as follows:

Davis	- yea	Leet	- yea
Holt	- yea	Life	- yea
Leap	- yea	Snow	- yea

Councilwoman L. C. Life asked if Councilman Snow had discussed methods of collecting delinquent taxes with Mr. Davenport and he stated he had not done this as yet.

Councilman Snow reported that the Recreation Commission met and they would like to go ahead with installing bathrooms in the park. They are requesting that council give the insurance money from the scout hut to the Recreation Commission to be used on this project. One estimate on the bathrooms was approximately $24,000.00 but they feel they can build them cheaper than that.

Councilman R. L. Snow moved, seconded by Councilwoman L. C. Life that any monies received from insurance on the scout hut be appropriated to be used by the Recreation Commission as they see fit.

After some discussion, Councilwoman L. C. Life withdrew her second and Councilman R. L. Snow his motion.

Councilman B. B. Holt moved, seconded by Councilman H. W. Leap that insurance proceeds from the scout hut be used by the Recreation Commission to construct and equip a comfort station in the park. Any excess insurance money will be returned to council for disposition. The vote was recorded as follows:

Davis	- yea	Leet	- yea
Holt	- yea	Life	- yea
Leap	- yea	Snow	- yea

Councilman Leap reported that he has been in touch with Commonwealth Cablevision regarding an outside concern coming in to look over the cable system and things look positive at this point.

Councilman Davis reported that he hopes to have a meeting of the Personnel Committee this week to discuss some items. He stated he felt the explanation of the town's policy regarding requests for vacation pay rather than taking the time as stated in the June 15th. minutes needs further clarification. The Personnel Committee will discuss this and come back with a new policy statement.

Councilman Davis stated he felt council may want to consider placing town properties under one committee, possibly the Personnel Committee.

Councilwoman Life reported that the Streets and Sidewalks Committee needs to meet to discuss some items.

Councilwoman Life complimented Mr. Monger on the new dumpster at the Valley Lunch.

Councilwoman Life reported on a letter from W. J. Osborne, Resident Engineer, of the State Department of Transportation regarding our request for traffic lights at the intersection of Route 340 and Rockingham Street and the intersection of Route 340 and Route 1706 (Shenandoah Avenue). In regards to Route 340 and Route 1706 intersection, Mr. Osborne said they are requesting a review of this location by the Richmond Office to determine if federal safety improvement funds are available to provide left turn lanes and a fully actuated signal. In regards to the intersection of Route 340 and Rockingham Street, they are requesting the recommended "Crossroad" and "Watch for Turning Vehicles" signs be installed on Route 340.

Councilwoman Life reported that the heavy rain recently had caused a lot of drainage problems in the downtown area. A lot of mud washed down in front of the Valley Lunch. Mr. Monger has Mr. Evans of the highway department coming down to take a look at this problem.

Councilman Leet reported that quite a while back the Water and Sewer Committee had discussed our water and sewer connection fees. The ordinance was changed to allow fees to be set by council without having to change the ordinance each time fees are changed. In surveying the area, our fees were lower. The committee has a list of proposed new fees which they would like council to consider. Copies will be given to each council member for their consideration and this will be brought before council for action at the next meeting. Councilman Leet stated he would like to have his committee meet the same night the Streets and Sidewalks Committee meets.

Councilman Leet reported that we have not heard from the county on the water contract.

Councilman B. B. Holt moved, seconded by Councilwoman L. C. Life and carried that the request by Marguerite and Randal Dean that their area be rezoned to allow a bed and breakfast be referred to the Planning Commission for appropriate action.

Councilman Holt reported that the Planning Commission has sent the letter to the Rockingham County Planning Commission regarding what Elkton feels should be the growth area for Elkton in the Route 33 West Area. The Planning Commission based their conclusions upon a twenty year time frame. The area suggested would extend westward to a point slightly east of the intersection of U. S. 33 and a small unnamed stream which lies to the west of the Brubaker property. Virginia State 981 would provide the general limit to the south. To the north the boundary would generally follow the southeast bank of Quail Run. They also feel there will be a demand for sewer along Route 635, paralleling the Shenandoah River to the north of Business 33. Services up to Route 635's intersection with Route 636 would seem reasonable. They also stated that where highway and roads are used as boundaries, they would expect to provide services on both sides of the road. Mr. Monger has a copy of the letter in his office.

Councilman Holt stated that we have been talking about growth but no one has a real grasp as to how much growth we are experiencing. He would like to see the Town Treasurer and Town Superintendent come up with some data regarding changes and growth.

Councilman H. A. Leet moved, seconded by Councilman R. L. Snow and carried to grant an outside sewer connection to the Elkton Volunteer Fire Company.

Councilwoman Life questioned how the cruising ordinance is coming. There was no report at this time.

Mrs. Leap reported that we have received $3,000.00 from the State of Virginia's Fire Program Fund. This amount will be passed on to the Fire Company.

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