REGULAR
COUNCIL MEETING
February 18, 1991

The regular meeting of the Elkton Town Council was held February 18, 1991 at 8:00 p.m. in the council chambers with the Mayor Charles E. Dean presiding. The following council members were present: J. R. Correa Jr., H. W. Leap, L. C. Life, W. E. Printz and R. L. Snow. Councilman R. B. Hutton was absent. Dale Davenport, Attorney, Norma Leap, Clerk, Gerald Monger, Superintendent and Warren Pence, Chief of Police were also present.

Heather Hensley and Chris Nester of Spotswood High School were present requesting a donation to be used to send students to the Model General Assembly. The cost is $200.00 per student.

Councilman R. L. Snow moved, seconded by Councilwoman L. C. Life and carried to give $200.00 to people going to the Model General Assembly.

Norma Leap, Clerk read a letter from The Elkton Downtown Revitalization Corporation addressed to the Mayor and Council requesting their assistance and that of Town Superintendent Monger and the Elkton Police Department in accomplishing the goals set for the corporation. The goals are: (1) to promote the economic revitalization of Elkton, (2) to foster improvement of its physical appearance, and (3) to enhance the town's positive image. The corporation stated that in this letter they specifically are focusing on the second stated objective which is to foster improvement of the town's physical appearance. They would like to work with the town in identifying problem areas, in increasing sightliness and public safety and in establishing a procedure which will ensure the enforcement of regulations in a timely and consistent manner.

Mayor Dean asked Councilwoman Life's committee to respond to this letter

Councilman Correa reported on the Town-wide Yard Sale which the Elkton Downtown Revitalization Corporation has discussed sponsoring. There will be one day designated and advertised for a town-wide yard sale. This would hopefully stimulate business in town. They have considered inviting groups to come in and set up food stands in the downtown area. They are asking that the parking lot on Terrace Avenue be vacated that day so that it will be available for groups to use for chicken barbecues, etc. There was some question regarding the safety issue in that area due to the emergency vehicles going in and out. Councilman Correa stated that nothing has been finalized at this point and they will look into the safety issue. They are thinking about April 27th as the date for this project.

Mayor Dean and the Council thought this was a good suggestion and that the EDRC should go ahead and plan on April 27th but that they need to work out the problems and the safety issues and get back with council.

Angie Weyrick and Kim Seal were present to request that council consider building a half-pipe skateboard area in Stonewall Memorial Park or any place that is convenient. They did a skateboard survey at Elkton Middle School on February 13th. 204 students participated in the survey. 104 own skateboards; of those 83% would use a half-pipe and an additional 14% said they would buy a skateboard if a half-pipe was built in Elkton.

Mayor Dean stated that an area for skateboards has been discussed several times but that the town attorney feels, after talking with our insurance company, that the town should not consider this as they would be placing themselves in the position of possibly facing a number of liability suits.

Mr. Davenport stated that the problem is not having a full time on-site attendant.

Councilman Snow stated that the Recreation Commission has discussed this several times and have come back to the liability area each time. They decided this was not feasible for a small town due to not having someone to monitor it. They suggested maybe this could be done by a private individual as a business.

There was some discussion regarding fencing and supervision. Several council members felt council should explore every possibility before making a decision.

Mayor Dean asked the Recreation Commission to make another study on the skateboard issue and to bring a recommendation back to council.

Mr. Greg Rion, President of the Elkton Emergency Squad, read the following letter from the Elkton Emergency Squad:

"Members of the Elkton Town Council:

In June of this year 1991, the Elkton Emergency Squad will be moving to a new location on Blue and Gold Drive. We are requesting at this time that the Town of Elkton provide electrical, water, and sewer services to this facility. In the past the cost of these services have been covered by the Town of Elkton for the Elkton Volunteer Fire Company. It would be greatly appreciated if our organization were also given the towns support in this matter. It is our feeling also, that since the Fire Co. and Squad will be operating as two separate organizations, that the $2,400 gas allocation given to the Fire Co. and Emergency Squad in the past should at this time be divided equally between the two companies."

Mayor Dean stated that the gas appropriation request will be presented to the Finance Committee, the water and sewer services to the Water & Sewer Committee and the electric to the Electric Committee for their study and recommendations.

Mr. Monger pointed out that even if council decides to give the Emergency Squad free services and connections, since the building is out of town, council will have to vote on giving the Emergency Squad permission to hook on to the town water and sewer system.

Mr. Monger reported that council need to set a Public Hearing for rezoning, subdivision of property and some wording changes in the zoning ordinance. The Public Hearing was set for March 18th at 7:00 p.m. This will be a joint Public Hearing with the Elkton Planning Commission.

Mr. Monger reported that the Rockingham County Municipal League will meet here in Elkton April 17th and Bill Veno has asked to be on the program.

Councilman R. L. Snow moved, seconded by Councilwoman L. C. Life and carried to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting January 21, 1991 and the Special Meeting February 13, 1991 as presented.

Sgt. Robert Marshall presented the monthly police report. Councilwoman Life requested that the monthly police report be sent to council with the minutes and Finance Report. Mayor Dean stated this should not be a problem.

Councilman R. L. Snow moved, seconded by Councilman J. R. Correa Jr. and carried to approve the Finance Report for January 1991.

Mr. Monger stated he has not heard any more from the utility rate study. They called last week for some more information.

Councilman R. L. Snow moved, seconded by Councilman H. W. Leap and carried to approve the First Reading to contract with Don Largent Roofing, Inc. to replace the roof on the old Community Center at a cost of $4,900.00.

Councilman Printz stated he basically had nothing new but gave the following update:

1. Problem with entrance to property at Louis Johnson's house. Mr. Monger and Councilman Printz will look at this situation and make recommendations.

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