REGULAR
COUNCIL MEETING
February 17, 1992

The regular meeting of the Elkton Town Council was held February 17, 1992 at 8:00 p.m. in the council chambers with the Mayor Charles E. Dean presiding. The following council members were present: F. A. Bennett, R. C. Davis, M. B. Fuller, L. C. Life, W. E. Printz and R. L. Snow. Dale Davenport, Attorney, Norma Leap, Clerk, Gerald Monger, Town Superintendent and Warren Pence, Chief of Police were also present.

Michael and Michele Fletcher of 102 Henry Avenue were present regarding the trash pickup in that area. Mr. Fletcher stated he was asked to be the spokesman for the residents living in the town houses on Henry Avenue. They are presently having to carry their trash through the living area of their homes and out the front door to place it on Henry Avenue or those in the middle of the complex have to walk around the entire complex if they take it out the back of their homes. They feel there is two options that would help the situation. A dumpster could be placed in the alley, if there is room, or allow trash pickup in the alley. He pointed out that the alley is in good condition and the residents would like the town to consider trash pickup in the alley.

Mr. John Adams, President of the EDRC, was present to report on the Main Street Program. The Senate Finance Committee and House Appropriations Committee have restored the funding for the Main Street Program. This must still go through the House and the Senate for approval. Mr. Adams thanked the town and town employees who sent letters in support of the Main Street Program. He reported that Elkton is eligible to become a National Main Street town. EDRC would have to pay all the cost. Mr. Adams again requested the town's support and commitments.

Mayor Dean stated that he feels council is still committed to the program but not to any additional funding.

Mr. Adams stated that he would not anticipate any additional funding needs.

Mr. Bill Holt stated that the EDRC Board is firmly committed to downtown revitalization whether or not they receive State funding. A coordinator and funding are needed. Council's commitment is also needed.

Councilwoman L. C. Life moved, seconded by Councilwoman M. B. Fuller and carried to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting January 20, 1992.

Chief Pence presented and answered questions on the monthly police report.

Councilman R. L. Snow moved, seconded by Councilman W. E. Printz and carried to approve the Finance Report for the month of January 1992.

Councilman R. L. Snow moved, seconded by Councilwoman L. C. Life and carried to recommend the appointment of Anthony Lawson to the Board of Zoning Appeals to replace Fred A. Bennett.

Councilman R. L. Snow moved, seconded by Councilman W. E. Printz and carried to reaffirm council's support for the EDRC's efforts.

It was noted that this would reserve the $25,000.00 a year for the next three years for EDRC.

Councilman Davis reported that he and Mr. Monger had met with a representative from Virginia Power. They toured Elkwood and discussed several options regarding the street lights. The Electric Committee is waiting for prices on upgrading the present lights and what it would cost to install new lights. No decisions can be made until Virginia Power sends the information.

Councilman Printz reported that our representative to the Board of Supervisors, Mr. Correa, had set up a meeting with Mr. Lineberry, Assistant Engineer for the Department of Transportation, to discuss the sidewalk problem on Spotswood Avenue in front of King Construction. Mr. Lineberry stated that this project is a top priority and will be bid again next week.

Councilman Printz passed around some pictures showing several areas in need of repairs in the downtown area. Councilman Printz and Mr. Monger were asked to prepare a list of all the places which are in need of repair and maybe these can be done when the State comes in.

Mr. Monger reported that the town will need approval regarding the signs for the parks and he will get a letter off to the State on this.

There was some discussion regarding crosswalks in the downtown area. Several crosswalks are needed. One from the Country Inn to the triangle, one from the triangle to the NationsBank and one from the Chevron Station to the corner below the Curiosity Shop. It will be necessary to get back with the State on this.

Councilwoman Life reported that the Public Health, Ordinances and Recreation Committee met and discussed the trash pickup problem on Henry Avenue. The committee was not in agreement with her recommendations and the motion she was going to make was her recommendation, not the committees.

Councilwoman L. C. Life moved, seconded by Councilman W. E. Printz that the trash be picked up from the townhouses on Henry Avenue either by a dumpster in the alley or individual pickups in the alley.

Councilwoman Life stated that the alley is in good condition at this location. The town needs to plan for townhouses and make changes to provide equitable service to townhouses. She pointed out that every problem does not have the same answer.

Councilman Snow, Councilwoman Fuller and Councilman Bennett all stated they were not unsympathetic to the problem but were concerned about setting a precedent. They feel there are other viable alternatives to solving this problem.

Councilman Printz stated he was also concerned about setting a precedent but this is the only area that has this type of problem at present. He agrees with the people up there and feels since the alley is in good condition we should allow for pickup in the alley.

The vote was taken on the motion and recorded as follows:

Bennett	-	nay	Life	-	yea
Davis	-	yea	Printz	-	yea
Fuller	-	nay	Snow	-	nay

Mayor - yea

Councilwoman Life reported on recycling and the results of the meeting with A.R.S. The cost would be $2.56 per household for once a week curbside pickup. A.R.S. would furnish the recycling containers. The contract would run for three years. Our present trash contract ends in 1995. Both contracts could be combined when renewed. The Finance Committee would recommend how the monies for this would be handled. A.R.S. would do all the advertising, paper work, etc.

Randy Murphy asked if businesses will be included. Mayor Dean stated that the only businesses that might be considered would be those that have curbside pickup.

The Public Health, Ordinances & Recreation Committee all agreed that there is a need for recycling on a weekly basis, but were not in agreement that it should be mandatory. Councilwoman Life feels it should be voluntary while Councilwoman Fuller and Councilman Snow feel it should be mandatory to show that the town fully supports recycling.

Councilwoman Life moved to go into a recycling program with a weekly voluntary pickup. There was no second to the motion.

There was further discussion on the recycling issue.

Councilwoman M. B. Fuller moved, seconded by Councilman R. L. Snow that the Town of Elkton go to weekly curbside recycling through A.R.S., pending an acceptable contract, and that it be made mandatory.

Councilman Printz stated he feels this should go back to committee for further study and they should also consider recycling for businesses.

Councilman Bennett stated he is a firm believer in recycling but is not in favor of going into it at this time.

A vote was taken on the motion and recorded as follows:

Bennett	-	nay	Life	-	nay
Davis	-	nay	Printz	-	nay
Fuller	-	yea	Snow	-	yea

Councilwoman L. C. Life moved, seconded by Councilwoman M. B. Fuller that the Town of Elkton go along with a contract, for weekly voluntary curbside recycling, as presented and with the approval of the Town Attorney and Mayor. The vote was recorded as follows:

Bennett	-	nay	Life	-	yea
Davis	-	yea	Printz	-	nay
Fuller	-	yea	Snow	-	nay

Mayor - yea

Mayor Dean requested that Councilwoman Life and Mr. Monger see to getting a contract on the recycling.

Councilwoman Life reported on the caboose. She met with Mr. Monger, Mr. Hammer and Mr. Turner to determine what remains to be done to complete the caboose project. The cost will be approximately $1800.00. Councilwoman Life stated she is still working to get the funds donated.

Councilman Snow introduced Mrs. Angela Dean. The Recreation Commission recommends that Mrs. Dean be hired as the new Recreation Coordinator.

Councilman R. L. Snow moved, seconded by Councilwoman L. C. Life to hire Angela Dean as Recreation Coordinator at a yearly salary of $14,000.00 and to pay Mrs. Dean for the hours she has worked the last three weeks. The vote was recorded as follows:

Bennett	-	yea	Life	-	yea
Davis	-	yea	Printz	-	yea
Fuller	-	yea	Snow	-	yea

Councilman R. L. Snow moved, seconded by Councilman W. E. Printz and carried to approve the following members on the Recreation Commission:

Randell Snow, Council Representative & Chairman
Eddie Cave
Joe Flick
Joe Gooden
Jessie Knighton
Lynn Meadows
Bobbie Rae Monger
Debbie Ritchie
Jeff Workman

Councilman Bennett reported that his committee is working on some projects but have nothing to report at this time.

Councilwoman Fuller reported that the Personnel Committee had planned to move for adoption of the Town of Elkton Employee Handbook but Mr. Davenport has found some problems with the draft and some changes need to be made. The Personnel Committee proposes to take this back to the committee to make the changes. The committee will meet Thursday night from 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Councilwoman Fuller reported that at the last meeting she had suggested coming up with a formal method of replying to citizen's requests. She presented a sample Visitors Sign-In Log and Form Letter.

There was some discussion as to who would send out the form letters and how many times to respond. Councilwoman Life suggested sending this back to the committee to iron out the details and bring a recommendation back to council.

Councilwoman Fuller reported she would like to see the town apply for a Planning Grant. The deadline for applying is in May. The town needs to prioritize all the improvements they would like to make to see if any might qualify and set up a meeting with the CSPDC as they will work with the town on the grant. If we got the planning grant, then the town would be in a good position for a Community Block Grant.

Mayor Dean asked Mr. Monger to contact Mr. Strider to discuss a planning grant and if he thinks the town would qualify.

Councilwoman M. B. Fuller moved, seconded by Councilman F. A. Bennett that, this evening immediately prior to the conclusion of the regular Town Council Meeting, the Town Council go into Executive Session for discussion or consideration of employing or appointing prospective candidates for a new position of Town Manager. The vote was recorded as follows:

Bennett	- yea	Life	- yea
Davis	- yea	Printz	- yea
Fuller	- yea	Snow	- yea

It was reported that the town has received a package of information from the people in Sandy Bottom. They feel the park wants to expand and they are opposed to this. They eventually would like to have some support from the town.

Mr. Joseph Correa, our representative on the Board of Supervisors, was present. He reported that at this time the Board of Supervisors is waiting for their Park Study Committee to report back on what the park is planning before taking any stand on the situation. He also reported that he is the Board of Supervisor's representative on the CSPDC. He will be glad to help the town in any way he can when applying for a planning grant.

Mr. Correa stated he went with the Department of Transportation's Engineer to look at Ore Wash Road. The State will need to meet with Virginia Power regarding access to their substation. The Engineer did caution that the town should be very careful and make sure this is what they really want to do before closing this street as it would be almost impossible to reopen it once it is closed.

Mr. Randy Murphy stated he would like to register an objection to council's going into Executive Session as the reason given is a policy discussion, not personnel.

Council adjourned from Regular Session to go into Executive Session as moved and approved.

Councilwoman L. C. Life moved, seconded by Councilman F. A. Bennett to go from Executive Session back into Regular Session and that each council member, to the best of their knowledge, certify that only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements under Chapter 21 of Title 2.1 of the Code of Virginia were heard, discussed or considered. The vote was recorded as follows:

Bennett	-	yea	Life	-	yea
Davis	-	yea	Printz	-	yea
Fuller	-	yea	Snow	-	yea

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