REGULAR
COUNCIL MEETING
April 19, 1993

The regular meeting of the Elkton Town Council was held April 19, 1993 at 7:30 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
R. L. Snow
T. R. Whitfield III

The following council members were absent:

M. B. Fuller
W. E. Printz

Dale Davenport, Attorney, Norma Leap, Clerk, Gerald Monger, Superintendent and Warren Pence, Chief of Police were also present.

Delegate Peter Way was present to give a report on the last session of the General Assembly and answered questions from council members.

Delegate Way stated he would be willing to look into the problem regarding the Virginia Department of Transportation no longer allowing signs to be erected on state right of ways which has resulted in EDRC not being able to place the Main Street signs where originally planned. Delegate Way asked that Councilman Whitfield write him a letter in reference to this problem.

MINUTES

A motion was presented by Councilman R. L. Snow, seconded by Councilman F. A. Bennett and carried unanimously to approve the minutes of the regular council meeting March 15, 1993 and the public hearing April 13, 1993 as presented.

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS

Chief of Police

Warren Pence, Chief of Police presented the monthly police report and answered questions. He pointed out that seven of the charges on the monthly police report were against individuals committing vandalism in the park areas. He hopes to meet with the Recreation Commission in the near future to discuss ways to correct this problem. They are working on the automobile ordinance in regards to junk cars, etc. Chief Pence has applied through the State Police for his department to be given authorization to issue multi gun purchase permits and feels confident of approval.

Town Superintendent

Gerald Monger, Superintendent stated he had presented a written report to council members and that several item will be brought up later in the meeting.

Mr. Monger reported that they are ready to begin more pipe work on Spotswood Avenue. The next work will begin at LIW and go back to Lee Avenue on each side of the street.

Mr. Monger reported that the town has received a schematic plan from Whitney, Bailey, Cox and Magnani which is available for review in his office. He will probably spend the remainder of the week making corrections.

Mr. Monger reported he had met with Vickie S. Racca of Farmers Home Administration in Harrisonburg regarding more grant money. She stated the town would be wasting their time even thinking about applying for a grant.

Treasurer

A motion was presented by Councilman R. L. Snow, seconded by Councilman T. R. Whitfield III and carried unanimously to approve the Finance Report for the month of March 1993.

Norma Leap, Clerk/Treasurer reported that the Directory of Council, Boards and Commission members has been completed and distributed to council members

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Electric Committee

Councilman Davis referred to Mr. Monger's report which stated that work is still being done on the regulator station. We still have Virginia Power's regulator on line along with one rebuilt regulator which was purchased from T & R Transformers for $4000. The regulator which originally gave us trouble has been repaired by Nelson Electric in Richmond at a cost of $2132.50 and is also back on line. There are still two original regulators in Richmond being repaired.

A motion was presented by Councilman R. C. Davis, seconded by Councilman R. L. Snow and carried unanimously to appoint Gerald Monger as the voting delegate and Joe Shifflett as the alternate voting delegate to VMEA #1.

Finance Committee

Councilman Snow requested Mrs. Leap give council an update on the proposal from John Alden Company for health insurance. Mrs. Leap reported that John Alden Company would not accept the town with preexisting conditions. Mr. Marty Dean had two other companies which he felt would accept the town but we could not get any prices or a guaranteed acceptance by noon March 31st so we did not have time to consider any other proposals. We have continued with Blue Cross for the next fiscal year. Mayor Dean said the town could start earlier next year and get some other proposals.

Councilman Snow reported that he will be setting some dates for the Finance Committee to work on the budget.

Public Health, Ordinances & Recreation Committee

Councilman Whitfield presented the following report:

1. On behalf of the Town Council, I prepared a letter which was signed by Mayor Dean to the Spotswood High School Boy's Varsity Basketball Team congratulating them on their successful season. Each of you should have received copies of this letter in your mailbox. The letter was well received by the students and for those of you who haven't heard, Spotswood did win the State Championship and I'm sure that this was due to the fact that Councilman Randell Snow is the Athletic Director at Spotswood.

2. I would like to thank our attorney Dale Davenport for his follow up with the Attorney General's office regarding the control we hoped we had around the periphery of our corporate limits. Even though the results were not as I had hoped, I do appreciate Dale's perseverance in this matter.

3. At the request of council, I approached several Elkton area stonemasons to solicit bids for the completion of the fireplace at the Monger Pavilion in Stonewall Memorial Park. This was over two months ago and since we have not received any indications of interest after repeated telephone calls, it is my recommendation that we release the job to Mr. J. J. Correa who is a stonemason from Shenandoah and very anxious to begin the project. Mr. Correa's bid for completion was $2,000.00.

Council was in agreement with Councilman Whitfield's recommendation to release the job to Mr. J. J. Correa.

Water & Sewer Committee

Councilman Bennett stated he had nothing to report in this section of the meeting.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A motion was presented by Councilman T. R. Whitfield III, seconded by Councilman R. C. Davis to approve on Second Reading to engage Whitney, Bailey, Cox and Magnani to perform the schematic work listed in their proposal.

There was some discussion regarding using some of the work done by Copper & Associates. Mr. Monger stated he plans to talked with them again about using some of Copper's work.

Councilman Whitfield moved, seconded by Councilman Davis to amend the motion to add "at a cost not to exceed $49,360.00". The vote on the motion was recorded as follows:

YEAS: F. A. Bennett, R. C. Davis, R. L. Snow and T. R. Whitfield III.

NAYS: None

NEW BUSINESS

Councilman Whitfield reported that former Grottoes Mayor Eugene Souder resigned last week due to health reasons and Town Councilman Doug Shifflett was appointed to the Mayoral position. In an effort to maintain the constructive relationship the town has with the Grottoes community, he feels the Elkton Town Council should send a letter to former Mayor Souder acknowledging his years of service and a separate letter to Mayor Shifflett wishing him well in his new position. Councilman Whitfield volunteered to prepare these letters for Mayor Dean's signature. Council was in agreement with this suggestion.

Mayor Dean reported that the Rockingham County Municipal League meeting will be held April 21, 1993 at 6:30 p.m. in Grottoes.

Councilman Whitfield stated that National Secretaries Day is Wednesday, April 21. The town employees that we have in this realm are much more than what he would interpret as a secretary, however he feels they should be recognized in some capacity. Mayor Dean pointed out that we have no one that goes by that title.

Councilman Whitfield reported that he, along with Mayor Dean and the EDRC Design Review Committee, met with Kathy Frazier of Frazier and Associates to discuss a possible design prospectus for the exterior of Town Hall and other municipal buildings that the town owns. Each committee member voiced their opinion and suggestions and Mrs. Frazier is working on the drawings now and they should be completed very shortly. Councilman Whitfield reiterated that this will be a free professional advice only and the town is not obligated to utilize the suggestions given, however as a catalyst for other businesses and homes in the EDRC project area, he thinks the suggestions Mrs. Frazier submits should be taken very seriously and ultimately implemented. He feels they will be easy to implement.

Councilman Whitfield reported that the planning commission met on Monday, April 12 with Central Shenandoah Planning District representative Sara Hollberg. Executive Director Bill Strider estimated at their March meeting that Elkton would need to pay approximately $3,700.00 in addition to our initial investment of approximately $5,700.00 to complete our plan. Our initial comprehensive plan has not been upgraded since its inception in 1977 and there is a state directive suggesting that municipalities revise these plans every six to seven years. Councilman Whitfield requested and received from Mr. Strider and Ms. Hollberg a proposed contract for completing this plan with specific cost figures and an accompanying timetable. Each council member should have received a copy of this. Councilman Whitfield stated he feels it is vital that each council member scrutinize this contract and expecially Superintendent Monger, Town Treasurer Norma Leap and of course, Town Attorney Davenport.

It was noted that there is $6000.00 in the budget this year for the Comprehensive Plan and as only approximately $600.00 has been spent to date, it appears there is no need to appropriate any additional funds this year. Council will need to anticipate what funds will be needed in the budget for next year.

Councilman Whitfield stated that the target date for completion of the Comprehensive Plan is December 31 and that they would defer to the Town Attorney's judgement as far as the contract is concerned.

Mr. Davenport stated he has reviewed the contract and except for the open ended aspect, has no major problems with it. He did feel the cost of copies were high and stated that as far as quality, there is no protection for this in the contract.

A motion was presented by Councilman T. R. Whitfield, seconded by Councilman R. L. Snow to accept the contract as presented by the Central Shenandoah Planning District Commission. The vote was recorded as follows:

YEAS: F. A. Bennett, R. C. Davis, R. L. Snow and T. R. Whitfield III.

NAYS: None

Councilman Whitfield stated that he had sent each council member a letter advising of a date change but would like to remind council members again that the planning commission decided that in order to complete the comprehensive plan as soon as possible, at the request of Bill Strider and Sara Hollberg,and in order to more quickly respond to requests from the Town Council, the Elkton Planning Commission voted at their Monday, March 29 meeting to move their meeting date to the second Monday of every month beginning at 7:30 p.m. Each council member is always welcome to attend and their idea's and input are especially valuable now that the comprehensive plan is being developed. The next meeting of the planning commission is a special time due to the Tour DuPont and that meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, May 12.

A motion was presented by Councilman T. R. Whitfield III, seconded by Councilman F. A. Bennett and carried unanimously that the Elkton Town Council begin it's Monday, May 17 meeting at 7:30 p.m.

Councilman Whitfield reported that the planning commission discussed the request from Wayne Weaver to subdivide property on North Street. There will need to be a public hearing on this request.

A joint Elkton Town Council and Elkton Planning Commission public hearing will be held Wednesday, May 12, 1993 at 7:00 p.m. on this subdivision request.

Councilman Davis reported that the cemetery has been under town control for several years now and there has been no major expenses. They have now purchased a piece of land and Mr. Monger has prepared a proposed budget to finish the rest of the fiscal year.

A motion was presented by Councilman R. C. Davis, seconded by Councilman R. L. Snow to approve the First Reading on the following proposed budget for the Cemetery:

Cemetery Call Outs	$ 200.00
Gas, Oil and Lubes	200.00
Mowing	900.00
Misc. Labor	1,000.00
Surveying	2,500.00
Fence	10,500.00
Grading, Paving and Seeding	14,700.00
Storage Building	2,500.00
	$32,500.00

The vote was recorded as follows:

YEAS: F. A. Bennett, R. C. Davis, R. L. Snow and T. R. Whitfield III.

NAYS: None

Councilman Bennett reported on a request from Mr. Roy Heiston for sewer and water hookups to two lots just off State Route 637 at the Elkton Florist. He needs approval from the town to present to the county in order to get the property subdivided. Mr. Heiston was informed that the town is not interested in expanding our lines at this time and if he wants to hook onto the town system he would have to fund the entire expense to expand the line.

A motion was presented by Councilman F. A. Bennett, seconded by Councilman R. L. Snow and carried unanimously to give Mr. Heiston the approval to hook on to the town's water and sewer.

Councilman Bennett reported that Mr. Koogler of Lake Partners, L.P. is planning to build and operate an apartment complex for elderly folks adjacent to the Elkmont Apartments. They expect to finance and operate these under the Farmers Home Administration's Rural Rental Housing Program. They are requesting a letter from the town as to the availability of water and sewer and an indication of the town's support for this project.

There was some concern regarding the two inch water line which runs to the Elkmont Apartments being able to serve forty more units. There is a six inch water line which runs to the Catholic Church on Route 340.

A motion was presented by Councilman F. A. Bennett, seconded by Councilman R. L. Snow and carried unanimously to give Lake Partners, L. P. permission to hook onto the town's water and sewer lines with the stipulation that they must hook into the town's six inch water and six inch sewer lines.

MAYOR'S BUSINESS

Mayor Dean pointed out from Mr. Monger's report that landfill charges will be increased 21 to 22 percent according to Don Krueger of Rockingham County.

Mayor Dean reported that he will be meeting with Debi Driver and June Brinkman tomorrow evening to work out details on how the town is going to be involved as far as promotional areas of the Tour DuPont.

Mayor Dean stated that if any council member is interested in serving on a Virginia Municipal League Committee to please notify him and he will submit their name.

Mayor Dean reported that the VML has scheduled a series of Town Section meetings during May and June at four different locations. The closest one to Elkton will be held in Culpeper at the Holiday Inn on May 7.

Mayor Dean reported that he has received one interesting letter as a result of the public hearing on a town manager. The letter is from Paul Atkins who attended the hearing and is interested in applying for the position of town manager if the town decides to hire a manager.

Councilman Davis asked what the town is actually going to get for the money that has been spent on the Tour DuPont? Mayor Dean stated we will find out tomorrow night at 5:00 p.m. and anyone interested is invited to attend this meeting. Councilman Snow stated he feels we will be getting a lot of favorable publicity. He has been attending some of the meetings held by Debi Driver with the different organizations and it has resulted in a lot of people and organizations working together for a common cause.

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