REGULAR
COUNCIL MEETING
January 18, 1993

The regular meeting of the Elkton Town Council was held January 18, 1993 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, W. E. Printz, R. L. Snow and T. R. Whitfield Jr. M. B. Fuller was absent. Dale Davenport, Attorney, Norma Leap, Clerk, Gerald Monger, Superintendent and Warren Pence, Chief of Police were also present.

Ishmal Baugher, Captain and Henry Harman of the Elkton Rescue Squad were present. They gave an update on the squad and the Advanced Cardiac Life Support System. They demonstrated the Life Pack 10 and explained the cardiac program.

Ms. Debi Driver, EDRC Project Manager, presented the first quarterly report for 1993 which included an update on the committees, the projects completed and those in progress. She reported that the Elkton Planning Commission and EDRC met at the Elkton Planning Commission meeting in late December to consider recommendations from the Virginia Main Street office and the Center on Rural Development. Mr. Bill Veno, County Director of Planning, the Elkton Town Council, the Elkton Board of Zoning Appeals and EDRC were also invited to attend a Planning Commission meeting. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss county zoning ordinances in the areas immediately adjacent to the town with emphasis on the town's entrance ways.

Ms. Joyce Lough, Rockingham County Extension Librarian, and Ms. Dorenda Flick, an employee of the Rockingham County Library, were present. Ms. Lough reported that State funding was cut for the libraries last year and it looks like they will be cut 50% this year. Other communities in the area have been providing funds to buy books for their libraries. She requested recognition of the Elkton library and consideration of a donation to purchase books for the Elkton library. In response to a question regarding space and accessibility of the Elkton library, Ms. Lough stated she feels the space is very good and wisely used, but that accessibility is not good. They do have a program by which they will deliver materials to those who are unable to access the library due to a disability.

Councilman R. L. Snow moved, seconded by Councilman W. E. Printz and carried to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting December 21, 1992 as presented.

Mr. Monger reported that the Rockingham Municipal League meeting will be held here in Elkton on Wednesday, January 20, 1993 at 6:30 p.m. at the Valley Restaurant. Mr. Daniel L. Fitch, a Harrisonburg attorney, will speak on the American Disability Act.

Mr. Monger reported that they have been having some vandalism at Riverside Park and need to decide what kind of fence to put up over there. Plans are to put some lights there, work on getting the road closed and request more police patrol. The cost for a fence will be approximately $3000.00.

Mayor Dean, Councilman Printz and Councilman Whitfield agreed to go with Mr. Monger to look at this and make some recommendations.

Councilman Snow suggested this go before the Recreation Commission for a recommendation before council makes a decision. He feels the road should be closed and this would eliminate most of the problems. Council was in agreement to wait for a recommendation from the Recreation Commission.

Mayor Dean asked Mr. Monger to work on the street closing.

Mr. Monger reported that they have received two proposals on landscaping at the Municipal Building but he would like to get at least one more before presenting them to council.

Councilman R. L. Snow moved, seconded by Councilman T. R. Whitfield III and carried to approve the Finance Report for the month of December 1992.

Mayor Dean presented prices on a laser printer for the Treasurer's office.

Councilman R. L. Snow moved, seconded by Councilman W. E. Printz to approve the First Reading to purchase an OL400 laser printer from Cherry Tree (government Contract) for the Treasurer's office at a cost of $659.00. The vote was recorded as follows:

Bennett	-	yea	Snow	-	yea
Davis	-	yea	Whitfield	-	yea
Printz	-	yea			

Councilman Printz reported that the Street and Sidewalks Committee had a short meeting regarding the sidewalk at Valley Heritage. They are waiting to get some information from Valley Heritage regarding this. Mr. Monger feels it could be fixed so that they would not have to worry about the road problem. The committee will need to have another meeting before making any further recommendations.

Councilman Whitfield reported on the landscaping at the town hall. They have talked with Daniel Landscape Inc, a division of Fulk's Landscaping, Shreckhise Landscaping and Outdoor Effects. They asked them to consider landscaping for the town hall and the caboose separately. They showed them the tree and told them that the town would like to have the poison ivy problem remedied. Councilman Whitfield stated he did not have a motion at this time as they are waiting on a final tally of the bids.

Councilman Whitfield stated he would like to see a locked drop box for utility bills installed in the entrance way near the dispatcher's desk. He feels this will be a convenience for the residents to be able to pay their bills twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week. It will also save our employees time. Councilman Bennett stated bills can be deposited in the bank drop box and he sees no reason to duplicate services.

Councilman T. R. Whitfield Jr. moved, seconded by Councilman W. E. Printz and carried to acquire a lockable drop box to be installed in the dispatcher's foyer where town electric, water or sewer bills could be dropped off at any time.

Councilman Whitfield volunteered to coordinate with the Treasurer's office to acquire the box and have it installed by February 1, 1993.

Councilman Whitfield reported that he has sent letters to the three separate branches of the Monger family thanking them for their generosity which has resulted in the picnic shelter at Stonewall Memorial Park. A tentative date of Tuesday, January 26, 1993 at 7:30 p.m. has been set for a meeting to discuss the formulation of plans for completion of the shelter. Council was invited to attend the meeting.

Councilman Snow suggested having a joint meeting with the Recreation Commission in the council chambers. Councilman Whitfield was in agreement with this suggestion.

Councilman Whitfield reported that he met with the EDRC Design Review Committee to discuss implementation of the ordinance enforcement campaign. He feels it is important to remember that although we can bring suggestions or support from individuals or civic organizations, ultimately the responsibility for enforcing these

ordinances rest with the town. He is willing to take on this challenge and hopes that each council member will support this effort.

Councilman Whitfield reported that the town sponsors a Clean Up Week each spring, usually in May. He feels this should be expanded to two weeks this year. He suggested the Clean Up weeks be set for Monday, April 19, 1993 through Friday, April 30, 1993. due to the fact that the Tour Du Pont will be coming to Elkton on May 10, 1993 bringing a large number of visitors.

Councilman T. R. Whitfield III moved, seconded by Councilman R. L. Snow and carried that a townwide Clean Up period be enacted beginning Monday, April 19th and ending on Friday, April 30th, during which time any reasonably sized discarded item will be picked up at no cost to the property owner.

Councilman T. R. Whitfield III moved, seconded by Councilman R. L. Snow to approve on Second Reading the allocation of $1500.00 for the Tour Du Pont. The vote was recorded as follows:

Bennett	-	nay	Snow	-	yea
Davis	-	yea	Whitfield	-	yea
Printz	-	yea			

Councilman Bennett reported that the Water and Sewer Committee had met briefly before the council meeting. They have nothing to report at this time. The committee needs to meet with Supervisor Correa to discuss in detail the Route 759 New Town Road Project and the county's offer.

Mayor Dean reported that the Personnel Committee has met twice in the past month. Space needs were discussed. The Department Heads listed their space requirements. It was decided to take the requirements and to try to get an architect to look at the municipal building and the requirements to see if our present building can be utilized, or if in order to get the space requirements needed, we will need to look at a new building.

Mayor Dean reported that the Personnel Committee talked with Dan Goodson regarding where we want to go with the computer system. The first thing we will be working on is the Master Address File and then the corrections and updates needed on the the Utility System Program.

Mr. Monger reported that land has been purchased for the cemetery and the deed has been recorded. The next step will be going through the County for a Special Exception Permit to change the land usage. The Public Hearing on this is scheduled for February 10, 1993 at 7:00 p.m. The land also needs to be staked off into lots.

Councilman Whitfield stated that he had discussed with the Personnel Committee how we would like the telephones to be answered. It was the consensus to ask the dispatchers to answer the telephones by saying "Good Morning, Town of Elkton" or Good Afternoon, Town of Elkton".

Mayor Dean stated that council has voted to donate $1500.00 for the Tour Du Pont and discussed trying to come up with something with the business people to raise another $1000.00. He has a proposed letter ready to send out to the community. He will have Mrs. Leap run copies of the letter for each council member to review, see if there are any changes which needs to be made and if they feel this is the proper approach to take.

A thank you note from Julie Hensley was read thanking council for the $500.00 donated to Spotswood High School Youth in Government Club to be used for their Model General Assembly trip.

A recycling report was distributed to council members for their review and discussion.

Chief Pence presented the monthly police report. He reported that Officer Marshall has obtained another $1250.00 grant for the police department on a Speed Enforcement Project. This grant will allow the police department to equip both vehicles with radar units.

Chief Pence reported that the gentleman planning to open the theatre in Elkton has indicated he would like to hire off duty police officers for security. Chief Pence has not had the opportunity to discuss this with him. Mr. Davenport stated he was a little concerned about the liability aspect and also the fact of officers being under the authority of some other person. He would like to see this run by our insurance carrier.

Councilman R. C. Davis moved, seconded by R. L. Snow that council go into Executive Session to discuss disciplining an employee of the town. The vote was recorded as follows:

Bennett	-	yea	Snow	-	yea
Davis	-	yea	Whitfield	-	yea
Printz	-	yea			

Councilman R. L. Snow moved, seconded by Councilman F. A. Bennett and carried to go back into Regular Session.

Councilman R. C. Davis moved, seconded by Councilman F. A. Bennett and carried to certify that no matters were discussed in Executive Session except those set forth in the motion to go into Executive Session.

Mayor Dean reported that he has received a request from the Elkton Fire Company to allow their members to wash their private vehicles in front of the fire hall. Council had stopped this about three years ago as they felt the town was being taken advantage of by people other than fire company members. The Fire Company feels if members were allowed to do this again, younger members would spend more time at the department. Council decided to allow the fire company members to wash their private vehicles again if the Fire Company can control this.

Councilman Whitfield asked if Mr. Davneport has requested an opinion from the Attorney General regarding the town charter provision giving the town authority for two miles outside the corporate limits. Mr. Davenport stated he has not requested it as yet but will look into the matter.

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