**PUBLIC HEARING**
**January 15, 1996**

The Elkton Town Council held a Public Hearing on the Intermodel Surface Transportation Efficiency Act (ISTEA) Grant January 15, 1996 at 7:00 p.m. Mayor Charles E. Dean presided over the hearing. The following council members were present:

PRESENT

F. A. Bennett
D. H. Dail
M. B. Fuller
W. E. Printz
R. L. Snow
T. R. Whitfield III

Ted Costin, Manager, Norma Leap, Clerk, Gerald Monger, Superintendent and Joseph Shifflett, Director of Public Works were also present.

Mayor Dean stated that the purpose of the hearing was to consider any comments on the ISTEA Grant.

Mr. Monger presented the First Draft of the 1996 ISTEA Grant Application. The title this year is "Elimination of Transportation Obstacles and Streetscape Improvements". The grant is being submitted by the Town of Elkton, who will administer the grant and be the owner; the Elkton Downtown Revitalization Corporation, whose Director will act as the Public Relations Officer between the Town, its employees and the businesses; and by the County of Rockingham, whose Engineer will help review contracts and other documents as work is bid on and accomplished.

Mr. Monger reported that the application is basically like last years except, since the Town was unsuccessful last year and they asked that we lower our request funds, the funds have been lowered. They also went from four phases to five phases. The phases are as follows:

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Phase I | $ 618,252.74 | Town's Share | $123,650.54 |
| Phase II | $ 598,825.11 | Town's Share | $119,765.02 |
| Phase III | $ 330,767.19 | Town's Share | $ 66,153.43 |
| Phase IV | $ 366,646.46 | Town's Share | $ 73,329.29 |
| Phase V | $ 705,146.40 | Town's Share | $141,029.28 |
| | $2,619,637.90 | | $523,927.56 |

This is lower than last years by $703,558.95. Mr. Monger reviewed the contents of the application. The application must be completed and submitted by January 31, 1996.

Mr. Costin pointed out that in meeting with Dr. Thomas and the VDOT Staff they received a lot of suggestions for the Town to do this time and he feels they have done most of these things. One of the things suggested was that the Town raise their match, however those working on the application did not feel the Town could do this.

Marsha Deavers, EDRC Program Manager, stated that EDRC, at its December Board Meeting, voted to be a co-applicant on the ISTEA Grant. One of the reasons for doing this was they feel that it would be very beneficial to the downtown area because it does improve the aesthetics of the downtown. There have been studies done that show that the aesthetics of the shopping area improves the economic stability of those areas. Also, having a nicer downtown is more conducive to pedestrian and bicycle traffic. Another thing that is good about the grant is that the street lighting would be lower to the ground which is better for pedestrians to get around. EDRC is for this application because we already have tourist dollars coming into the Town of Elkton and by creating a more pleasing atmosphere, it will create an environment for tourist to linger in the downtown.

As there were no further comments, the Public Hearing adjourned.

MAYOR: Charles E. Dean RECORDER: Norma R. Leap
Charles E. Dean, Mayor Norma R. Leap, Clerk