REGULAR
COUNCIL MEETING
March 13, 1972

The regular meeting of the Elkton Town Council was held March 13, 1972 at 8:00 P.M. in the Council Chambers with the Mayor, Edward F. Garber presiding. The following council members were present: Mr. R. E. Davis, Mr. E. O. Karow, Mr. H. A. Leet, Mr. W. H. McGahey, Mr. A. R. Thompson and Mr. H. A. Workman. Mr. Marvin Hillsman, Town Attorney, Mr. D. C. Liskey, Town Superintendent, and Mrs. Norma R. Leap, Clerk were also present.

Mayor Garber opened the meeting with prayer.

The Council agreed to change the deadline set at the last meeting for taking the downspouts or surface drains out of the sewer from April 1st. to May 1st.

Mr. A. R. Thompson moved, seconded by Mr. E. O. Karow and carried to approve the minutes of the regular meeting February 14, 1972 with the noted corrections.

Mr. E. O. Karow moved, seconded by Mr. W. H. McGahey and carried to approve the Finance Report.

Mayor Garber suggested that the town continue to operate on the present 12 month budget and then set up a 10 month budget in September to complete the year.

Mr. Welty Hensley was present to see what plans the council had for correcting the excess water problem in the western section of town which was causing the sewer to back up into his mother's home. Mr. Hensley said he would wait until this came up in the proper committee.

Mr. R. B. Hutton came before the council asking that the council and those running for re-election state their intentions before the elections in regards to a garbage collection fee and the landfill operation with the County. Mr. Hutton asked how much the town had obligated themselves to the County in regards to the proposed landfill and how much it was going to cost the tax payer. He also wanted to know if the council plans to put a garbage collection fee into effect. Mr. Hutton stated that he was opposed to both of these and felt that if the town was short on revenue they should take a closer look at the budget to see if they can't cut in some areas before taking any action. If it is then necessary to have more revenue, he felt real estate taxes should be increased as these can be deducted from the tax payers income tax.

Mayor Garber explained that the auditor's had indicated at the last audit that the town needed to find additional revenue but that the council has not decided on any definate way of raising the extra revenue. He also explained that landfill was quite an expensive operation and he did not feel the town could handle it on their own.

Mayor Garber apologized to Mr. Berkley Brooks for the article in the paper stating that Mr. Garber was endorsing Mr. Leet, Mr. McGahey and Mr. Dean for Council. Mayor Garber explained that when he talked with the news reporter he did not know anyone else was running for council and stated that he would have no trouble endorsing the three candidates but would not have done so if he had known anyone else was running.

Mr. H. A. Leet read the following proposed ordinance on Agents and Solicitors:

> Section 15-45 Agents and solicitors generally.
>
> Each person who, for compensation, solicite or offers for sale or acts as agent or solicitor, in making such sales, or acts as such agent or solicitor in any business not otherwise herein classified and licensed, shall pay a license tax of $15.00 for the privilege of conducting such business or acting as such agent or solicitor in the town. If such person is not a resident of the town the license tax shall be $50.00. For the purpose of this section, soliciting or offering for sale shall include telephone as well as door to door contact.

After discussing this ordinance, the council decided to make a further study before taking any action.

Mr. Leet read the following proposed ordinance on convalesent homes:

Section 15-58 Boardinghouses and rooming houses.

The license tax for keeping a boardinghouse or rooming house shall be as follows: For from three to five boarders or roomers, $5.00; for any over five boarders or roomers, $1.00 each. The license tax shall be computed upon the average number of boarders entertained daily throughout the year.

For the purpose of this section, "Boardinghouses and rooming houses" shall include convalesent homes, rest homes and homes for the aged.

The council felt this ordinance should also include restrictions in regards to rest homes, etc. and suggested contacting the Virginia Municipal League to see what information they had along these lines. The matter was tabled for further study.

Mr. Leet reported that the Planning Commission has reorganized and is under way again.

Mr. Leet reported that in the area of recreation a Ping Pong Tournament has been scheduled for the weekend.

Mr. Liskey reported that he estimates it will take approximately $4000.00 to remove the water from the area of Mr. Leroy Hitt's home and solve his water problem. Mr. George Williams asked that the town also consider the people on the opposite side of the street who have water problems and include them in this project. The matter was then turned back to the Street Committee for further study.

Mr. R. E. Davis moved, seconded by Mr. H. A. Workman and carried to sell the old riding mower to Mr. William T. Herring for $50.00.

Mr. R. E. Davis moved, seconded by Mr. H. A. Leet and carried to repair the bridge on Fifth Street at a maximum cost of $1600.00.

Mr. Liskey reported that it would cost approximately $20,000.00 to replace the sewer line from First Street to the Sewer Plant. The council decided to wait until all the downspouts were taken from the sewer and surface water has been redirected before taking any further action.

Mr. Alan R. Thompson told Mr. R. B. Hutton that the Finance Committee has been considering ways to increase the revenue but have not made any decisions as yet. He assured Mr. Hutton that they would take a closer look at the budget to see if it could be trimmed in any area and that a public hearing would be held before any increase went into effect.

Mr. Thompson reported that the Finance Committee had met and during the meeting it was pointed out that the first note on the Town of Elkton, Filtration, Reservoir and Spring Sinking Fund would be due in April and no amount has been set up to retire this debt.

Mr. A. R. Thompson moved, seconded by Mr. W. H. McGahey and carried to transfer $2,100.00 from the Sanitary Sewer System Sinking Fund to the Town of Elkton, Filtration, Reservoir and Spring Sinking Fund to retire the notes.

(Insert 1)

Mr. Liskey reported that he had not received any quotes as yet on repairing the roof leading to the jail.

Mr. Thompson was asked to check further on the Retail and Wholesale Merchant's License.

Mr. Karow read a letter from Blue Ridge Community College in regards to the shortage of funds for police officer's courses. State funds are available but have to be applied for by the officers.

Mr. E. O. Karow moved, seconded by Mr. W. H. McGahey and carried to authorize the Treasurer to advance tuition for the officers with the understanding that the officers will apply for State funds and that the officers will reimburse the Town of Elkton when they are reimbursed by the State.

Mr. Karow suggested that the town begin requiring physical examinations before employment. Several of the council members who have served for quite awhile stated that this was the practice at one time and agreed that the town should begin to do this again.

Mr. W. H. McGahey moved, seconded by Mr. H. A. Workman and carried to have the Ordinance Committee study Section 32-9, to amend or repeal this ordinance and draw up a new ordinance to allow the sale of water and sewer outside of town by permission of the council.

Mr. A. R. Thompson moved, seconded by Mr. E. O. Karow and carried for the town to continue Mr. Frank Rodger's insurance and retirement payments while he is ill.

Mr. H. A. Workman reported on some of the progress being made in the fight against electrical rate increases and that he feels there is some relief in sight.

Mr. Workman suggested that the town again approach the state in regards to widening Route 340 from the intersection of Old Route 33 and 340 to the intersection of Route 340 and Spotswood Avenue. Mayor Garber reported that he has written several times in regards to this matter but has received no results.

Mr. Workman suggested that the council make some arrangements to reserve parking on the nights of council meetings.

(Insert II)

Mayor Garber reported that a training program in techniques of laboratory procedure for sewage treatment plant personnel will begin April 3, 1972 at the Moore's Creek Sewage Treatment Plant, Charlottesville, Virginia.

Mayor Garber reported that he had received a questionnaire in regards to sewer and he had forwarded it to Martin, Clifford and Associates to complete.

As there was no further business, Mr. R. E. Davis moved, seconded by Mr. A. R. Thompson and carried to adjourn.

MAYOR: Edward F. Garber
Edward F. Garber, Mayor

RECORDER: Norma R. Leap
Norma R. Leap, Clerk

Insert I

Mr. A. R. Thompson moved, seconded by Mr. H. A. Workman and carried to set aside $600.00 a month from the Town of Elkton General Fund in the Town of Elkton, Filteration, Reservoir and Spring Sinking Fund to retire the notes.

Insert II

Mayor Garber reported that there would be a course held at VPI April 11th. thru the 13th. on Land Fill Operations. The registration will be $10.00.