REGULAR
COUNCIL MEETING
February 12, 1973

The regular meeting of the Elkton Town Council was held February 12, 1973 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. R. R. Dean, Mr. H. A. Leet, Mr. W. H. McGahey and Mr. H. A. Workman. Mr. A. R. Thompson was absent. Mr. Homer Ageon and Mr. William Herring, Acting Superintendents, Mr. Charles W. Hammer, Chief of Police, Mr. Marvin Hillsman, Town Attorney and Mrs. Norma R. Leap, Clerk were also present.

The Rev. Johnny Hensley opened the meeting with prayer.

Mr. W. H. McGahey moved, seconded by Mr. R. R. Dean and carried to approve the minutes of the regular meeting January 8, 1973.

Mr. H. A. Leet moved, seconded by Mr. H. A. Workman and carried to approve the Finance Report for the month of January.

Mr. Norris Shifflett came before the council in regards to getting permission for a water and sewer connection for the house he is building in the Liberty Heights subdivision. This was deferred until later in the meeting.

Mrs. Carol McCune came before the council in regards to the parking on Henry Avenue. She stated that she and Miss Furry would like to know if the town is going to continue to allow parking as they keep this area mowed and cars are cutting it up quite badly. Mrs. McCune also wanted to know if something could be done to do away with these hi-rise signs being used by service stations as she feels they are an eyesore. This matter was turned over to the Ordinance and Public Health Committee.

Mr. L. P. Hale came before the council wanting to know if there was any truth to the rumor that Spotswood Avenue in front of his store was going to be four lane and also Rt. 340 to the Post Office. Mayor Garber told Mr. Hale that he was not aware of any plans of this nature.

Mayor Garber presented a Certificate of Appreciation to Mr. Edward O. Karow for his four years service on the council.

Mr. McGahey reported that the 1971 Police Car is in bad shape and presented two bids on a new car.

Myers Ford Company, Inc.	$3,446.00
Hensley's Sales & Service Inc.	3,478.94

Mr. W. H. McGahey moved, seconded by Mr. R. E. Davis and carried to approve the First Reading to accept the low bid by Myers Ford Co., Inc. of $3,446.00 for a new 1973 Police Car.

An application by Mr. Charles Hawkins of 101 M Street for a Business License to keep three elderly women in his home was turned over to Mr. McGahey's Committee to process through the proper channels.

Mr. W. H. McGahey moved, seconded by Mr. H. A. Leet and carried to increase Thomas R. Painter's salary $200.00 a year. Mr. McGahey also reported that Mr. Painter will move into the area as previously agreed upon.

Mr. R. E. Davis moved, seconded by Mr. H. A. Leet and carried to grant Mr. Norris Shifflett permission to hook on to the Towns water and sewer lines for the house he is building in the Liberty Heights subdivision at his own expense, according to Town specifications, under Town supervision and becoming the property of the Town. Mr. Workman opposed the motion.

Mr. Davis reported on letters which have been received from the Health Department. The one letter was pertaining to surface water going into the sewer system. Mr. Davis reported that after investigating enlarging the line on the lower end of town, it is felt this would not cure the problem of sewers backing up as the sewer plant could not handle the volume of water that would enter the plant at one time. Surface drains are being removed and the committee is checking into the large amounts of surface water which is running into the North Avenue Pumping Station.

There was also a letter pertaining to the Town's future use of the Spring and Well and suggestions as to future sources of water supply. Mr. Davis reported

that his committee have been investigating settling tanks and new wells but feel it would be unwise to make any decisions before contacting the State further. Their committee hopes to have some suggestions in the near future.

There was some discussion on Building Permits and the council agreed that they would not need to act on permits as Mr. Herring as Acting Superintendent would have the authority to sign these.

Mr. Herring reported that as the feeling was that the present garbage truck could not hold up for very long under the increased trips to Pleasant Valley, he had been asked by the Sanitation Committee to secure prices on a new truck. He received the following prices from Truck Equipment Corporation of Richmond, Va.:

18 cu. yd. (size of present trk.)	$12,700.00
23 cu. yd.	15,500.00
27 cu. yd.	18,500.00

Diesels would cost approximately $3,500.00 more but are not recommended for small towns. They would guarantee $3,000.00 for our old truck or more if that is what it brings. This matter was tabled and taken under advisement.

Mr. Herring was asked by the Sanitation Committee to secure bids for grading, moving the high bank and leveling at the dump. The bids were:

Junior Dean's Excavating	$13,350.00
Lam Brothers Contractors	10,900.00
Owlen Mowbray	10,192.00
Monger Brothers Contractors	9,152.80

Mr. Herring explained that the Town has an agreement with the State Highway Department in regards to the bank screening the dump and will have to send a letter of intent before this can be removed. No action was taken on the bids.

There was a discussion on the new sidewalk which the Farmer's & Merchants Bank wants the town to help install on a 50-50 basis.

Mr. H. A. Workman moved, seconded by Mr. R. R. Dean and carried that the Town of Elkton offer to go to the extent of removing the present sidewalk if the bank would replace it at their expense. Mr. Davis opposed the motion as he felt that there is a sidewalk there now in fairly good condition and the Town is not obligated any further.

Mr. R. E. Davis moved, seconded by Mr. W. H. McGahey and carried to purchase water meters to replace old ones at a cost of $210.00 and Sewer Compound at $290.00.

Mr. Herring reported that we have the State's okay to move the "Welcome to Elkton" sign east of town and it will be placed 499 feet this side of the Elkton Motel.

Mr. Herring reported that two of the "Welcome to Elkton" signs have been painted and the other needs it badly. This was turned over to the Street Committee.

Mr. Herring was instructed not to give anyone permission to fish after no trespassing signs have been posted on the dump and at the sewer plant. This may be changed after the dump is closed.

The council dropped the action on Mr. Zieglers request to make "B" Street one way as it was felt this is not necessary for traffic control.

Mr. Ziegler requested that gravel be placed on each side of Henry Avenue to allow for parking. The council felt the school has plenty of parking area available and decided to place "No Parking" signs on Henry Avenue.

Mr. McGahey reported that buses are blocking "B" Street and creating a safety hazard. The Public Safety Committee was asked to meet with Mr. Ziegler to try to correct this problem.

There was a discussion on the parking situation on West Rockingham Street. This was turned over to the Street Committee.

Mr. Ziegler had requested that the town consider widening the sidewalk in front of the school. This matter was tabled.

Mr. Workman reported that we have received the new rate schedule from

VEPCO which would amount to a 17.3% increase retroactive to January 1, 1973 if passed by the FPC. Harrisonburg and Manassas have not signed to agree to this schedule and the town decided not to sign either.

Mr. Workman reported that he is working on several reports which have come in since Mr. Liskey resigned and is answering them as quickly as he can gather the necessary information.

Mr. Workman also stated that he is going to write to the S.C.C. & F.P.C. stating our feelings in regards to VEPCO having a monopoly in our area and asking they take our case as an example.

Mr. Leet stated he felt the council should make provisions to pass rate increases on to the customers whenever the town rates are increased rather than having to discuss them each time.

Mr. Workman reported that Mr. Thompson had asked him to bring the purchase order system before the council.

Mr. Workman moved to put a three copy purchase order system into effect and each department be given consecutive numbers. After discussion on these purchase orders, Mr. Workman withdrew his motion.

Mr. Leet reported on his committee meeting concerning garbage and trash. The committee felt that we should not be picking up garbage from people out of town. This will discontinue after this week and a notice to this effect will be published in the paper. They are also stopping all trash from being hauled into the dump from people out of town. The town is hauling their garbage to the county landfill but some trash is still being taken to our dump.

There was some discussion on the area around the boat landing and the problem with trash. It was decided we should check to see what the agreement is on this landing.

Mr. Leet stated he felt we were going to have to consider a new garbage truck and that his committee would have recommendations ready for the next meeting.

Mr. Leet reported that plans are being made for a ping pong tournament in March.

Mr. Leet reported that he had been checking on Government Aid to drain the park and it looks as if about 50% is all that is available.

A copy of a letter to Mr. Fugate, Commissioner Department of Highways, from Mr. C. J. Taylor, Mayor of Pearisburg, Va. thanking Mr. Fugate for listening to the eight towns in regards to an increase in road maintenance allowance was read. He also requested Mr. Fugate to direct the Highway Department to study the financial support situation for towns under 3500 population which maintain their own secondary roads; first, to determine financial support needs for the towns which maintain their own secondary roads; secondly, to determine from which fund this money should come; and thirdly, that legislation be drafted for the 1974 General Assembly which would implement the conclusions made in the study.

Mayor Garber reported that the Rockingham County Municipal League will meet February 16, 1973 at 7:30 P.M. at the Town Hall in Grottoes, Virginia.

Mr. W. H. McGahey moved, seconded by Mr. R. E. Davis and carried to write off $1,471.84 Electric and $467.83 Water & Sewer Old Accounts.

As there was no further business, the meeting adjourned.

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

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