REGULAR
COUNCIL MEETING
February 9, 1976

The regular meeting of the Elkton Town Council was held Monday, February 9, 1976 at 8:00 P.M. in the Council Chambers with the Mayor, H. Ditman Flory presiding. The following council members were present: Mr. C. E. Dean, Mr. R. R. Dean, Mr. H. A. Leet, Mr. R. J. Lough and Mr. W. P. Suiter. Mr. W. H. McGahey was absent. Mr. Fred Cloonan, Jr., Patrolman, Mrs. Norma Leap, Clerk, Mr. Gerald Monger, Superintendent and Mr. R. Bruce Wiles, Town Attorney were also present.

Mr. C. E. Dean opened the meeting with prayer.

Mr. R. J. Lough moved, seconded by Mr. W. P. Suiter and carried to approve the minutes of the regular meeting January 12, 1976.

Mr. Melvin Shifflett and Mr. Norman Shifflett, along with two other men, were present to ask if the council was considering annexation in any other areas besides Liberty Heights and Elkwood. The Mayor stated that the council has no interest in any other area at this time.

Mr. W. P. Suiter reported that fossil fuel for the month of February is $9.93 a thousand kwh.

Mr. Suiter reported that the police station looks excellent since remodeling. A decision needs to be made as to what type door should be put on the front of the police station. Mr. Suiter felt a glass door with metal frames should be used which would cost approximately $280.00 installed. A wooden door could be purchased for about $132.00. Council was in agreement that if the building code requires the door to swing out a glass door should be purchased but if the door can open into the station a wooden door would be purchased.

Mr. R. J. Lough reported that he felt council should be considering some extra sources of revenue. He suggested an increase in water and sewer rates as our rates are low in comparison with other communities. Mayor Flory felt taxes should be considered rather than water and sewer.

Mr. R. J. Lough moved, seconded by Mr. C. E. Dean and carried to approve the Finance Report for January.

Mr. C. E. Dean reported that the Recreation Commission is doing a fine job.

Mr. Dean suggested the council consider an ordinance where council could require abutting property owners to pay up to 75% of the cost for storm drainage. Mr. Wiles was asked to draw up an ordinance for council to consider.

Mr. H. A. Leet reported that his committee is still looking into the pros and cons of flouridation of town water.

Mr. Leet reported that the engineers request for additional water samples from three other sources had been studied further and it appears two samples will do. It will cost only $160.00 to obtain the two samples rather than the approximate $600.00 as reported at the last meeting.

Mr. H. A. Leet moved, seconded by Mr. C. E. Dean to obtain the samples needed to complete the water study from the two water sources as requested by Arthur Beard Engineers at a cost of $160.00. The vote was recorded as follows:

C. Dean	- yea	R. Lough	- yea
R. Dean	- yea	W. Suiter	- nay
H. Leet	- yea		

Mr. Leet suggested the council consider the passing, in the near future, of a good up to date ordinance for the installation of water and sewer lines.

Mr. R. J. Lough moved, seconded by Mr. R. R. Dean to approve the Second Reading to purchase a reconditioned Model 191 3M Copier at a cost of $995.00, less trade-in on our present machine of $175.00, at a cost of $820.00. The vote was recorded as follows:

C. Dean	- yea	R. Lough	- yea
R. Dean	- yea	W. Suiter	- yea
H. Leet	- yea		

Mr. Wiles reported he had checked the legal aspects regarding the town accepting the ninety acres of free land Mr. Wilkins had ask if council would be interested in accepting. Legally the town can acquire land outside the corporate limits. Mr. Wiles suggested council might want to consider suggesting the county take over the land for parks. Council felt further study was needed before any decisions could be made.

There was a discussion regarding water and sewer connection fees for Elkwood and when the town should receive their money. Several members of council felt that the town was to receive the money for connection fees as soon as Elkwood sold the lots. Mr. Wiles felt there were some ambiquties in the contract. Council suggested Elkwood be contacted and the matter cleared up.

Mayor Flory brought up the point that if a person buys two lots in the subdivision but states he is going to build only one dwelling should he have to pay for two water and sewer connection fees. Council felt connection fees should be paid on both lots at time of purchase and that after construction has been completed and the town building inspector confirms that only one connection will be used, the cost of the other connection will be refunded to the payee. Mr. Wiles was ask to draw up something to this effect for council's consideration at the next meeting.

Mayor Flory read a letter from Mr. Ashby Shifflett, Principal and Mrs. Argelia Garrett, Teacher-Coordinator, Elkton High School, inviting the Mayor and Council to attend the ceremony dedicating a highway historical marker at the site of the first settler in the Shenandoah Valley. The ceremony is planned for February 16, 1976 at 2:00 P.M. at the marker site one-half mile North West of Elkton on U. S. Route 340.

Mayor Flory read a letter from Marvin Hillsman, Chairman, Community Center Sub-Committee, Elkton Bicentennial Commission, regarding the possibility of beginning construction of a community center in the Bicentennial year. Their committee had concluded that such a project could not be successfully completed and carried on in the future without the active participation, financial and otherwise, of the Town of Elkton. Answers to the following questions were requested:

1. Is the Town willing to apply to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for funding of such a project?

Council's Answer: Yes, if the deadlines can be met.

2. Is the Town willing to assume the care and maintenance of a completed community center?

Council's Answer: The Town would be willing to help with maintenance and care but not operating expenses.

3. Is the Town willing to assist us in the acquisition of real estate for the project, and would the Town accept title to the property in its' name?

Council's Answer: The council does not feel it could accept title to this property.

4. What other ways, if any, would the Town be willing to assist?

Council's Answer: There were no commitments from council.

Mr. Suiter ask Mr. Gerald Monger if he had any time schedule set for providing water to Elkwood. Mr. Monger stated that he had none at present. The previous plans had not been accepted by the State Water Control Board so new plans have to be presented for approval.

As there was no further business, Mr. R. J. Lough moved, seconded by Mr. W. P. Suiter and carried to adjourn.

MAYOR: H. Ditman Flory Mayor
H. Ditman Flory, Mayor

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