REGULAR
COUNCIL MEETING
March 12, 1979

The regular meeting of the Elkton Town Council was held March 12, 1979 at 8:00 P.M. in the council chambers with the Mayor, Charles E. Dean presiding. The following council members were present: R. R. Dean, S. P. H. Flick, H. D. Flory, B. B. Holt and L. C. Life. Charles Lawhorne, Chief of Police, Norma Leap, Clerk, Gerald Monger, Superintendent and Bruce Wiles, Attorney were also present.

Councilman R. R. Dean opened the meeting with prayer.

Councilman H. D. Flory presented the Harrisonburg-Rockingham Chamber of Commerce's 1979 Five-Point Primary Highway Program which they will present to the Highway Commission's Pre-allocation Hearing later this month. The part pertaining to Elkton is the same as was approved by council last year with the stipulation that the town could not assume any financial responsibility for curb and guttering. Councilman Flory read the resolution which was passed June 13, 1978 approving the project.

Councilman H. D. Flory moved, seconded by Councilwoman L. C. Life and carried to approve the minutes of the regular meeting February 12, 1979 as presented.

Councilman B. B. Holt moved, seconded by Councilwoman L. C. Life to approve on Second Reading the appropriation of $6,000.00 for the Public Safety Department to pay the wages of the two dispatchers through the end of the fiscal year. The vote was recorded as follows:

R. Dean	- yea	B. Holt	- yea
S. Flick	- yea	L. Life	- yea
D. Flory	- yea		

Councilman Holt reported that the Public Safety Committee has been considering a replacement police officer for Officer Babb and felt it would be necessary to go into Executive Session to consider this.

Councilman B. B. Holt moved, seconded by Councilwoman L. C. Life to go into Executive Session to consider the hiring of a police officer. The vote was recorded as follows:

R. Dean	- yea	B. Holt	- yea
S. Flick	- yea	L. Life	- yea
D. Flory	- yea		

Councilman B. B. Holt moved, seconded by Councilwoman L. C. Life and carried to go from Executive Session back into Regular Session.

Councilman B. B. Holt moved, seconded by Councilman R. R. Dean to hire as a police patrolman, effective March 19, 1979, Mark Edward Baylor at an annual salary of $8,495.00. The vote was recorded as follows:

R. Dean	- yea	B. Holt	- yea
S. Flick	- yea	L. Life	- yea
D. Flory	- yea		

Councilman H. D. Flory moved, seconded by Councilman B. B. Holt to approve on Second Reading the amendment to Section 32-10 of the code of the Town of Elkton, Virginia: Connections Inside and Outside Town as presented in the February 12, 1979 minutes. The vote was recorded as follows:

R. Dean	- yea	B. Holt	- yea
S. Flick	- yea	L. Life	- yea
D. Flory	- yea		

Councilman Flory reported that the acquiring of the land for the sewer treatment plant has been finalized.

Councilman Flory reported that one of the things holding the sewer project back is that they have an innovative and creative idea for disposing of the finality of the treatment. The project is costing a lot of money and they are seeking ways to try to hold down on the cost.

Councilman Flory read a letter from Councilman Schumacher stating that his hearing has not returned enough so that he is able to effectively participate in a meeting. The Electric Committee met last week to discuss a matter of stand-by pay for weekends after being requested to do so by electric foreman, Homer Ageon. Mr. Ageon met with the committee to explain his reasons for the request. Councilman Flory had suggested that the matter be turned over to the Personnel Committee. Subsequently it was turned over to Councilman Randal Dean, Chairman of the Personnel Committee for consideration. The committee also discussed the matter of safety in regards to employees doing electrical work, but nothing conclusive developed. The matter will be discussed again at a future meeting.

Councilman Flick reported that Councilman Holt had called him the other day about some signs and it is his understanding that they were originally put up by the Bicentennial Committee. Councilman Flick was asked to get prices on doing them over as they badly need it. He had received the following quotes from Mr. Jeddie Hensley:

Sign at the North Entrance (to scale and paint the frame)	$ 80.00
Sign at the South Entrance (to scale and paint complete)	167.00
Sign at the East Entrance (to scale and paint complete)	167.00
	$414.00

Councilman Holt reported that someone had come to him complaining about the condition of the signs. It is Councilman Holt's understanding that the Bicentennial Commission has money set aside to do something about the signs. Mr. Monger said the last word he had from the Bicentennial Commission was that they would get back with him. He had drawn up a sign and they did not like it. Their plans are to completely replace the present signs. Mayor Dean reported he had talked with Mr. Longley after Councilman Flory's suggestion regarding Renee Meadows and Mr. Longley had informed him that the money had been set aside to replace the three signs and add a fourth and would have to be used for this. The Mayor plans to give Mr. Longley another call and see if he can meet with him and Mr. Monger to get something started on this project.

Councilman Flick reported that the Streets & Sidewalk Committee had not met so he had nothing to report. The drainage problem on Chestnut Street which was promised on December 12th. has not been done. Mrs. Crider has contacted other councilmen in an effort to get this done. Councilman Flick stated that there is some doubt in his mind as to whether this is the complete answer to Mrs. Crider's problem but feels it should be done as it is within the town's capabilities and would show good faith on our part. Mayor Dean said it was his understanding it would be done tomorrow.

Councilman Flick reported that Mr. Monger has a bid of $8,235.00 from A. N. Johnson for "C" Street from Ashby to Terrace and that Mr. Monger recommends that we accept it as it is the only bid he has received. This is $3,000.00 over last years estimate. Mayor Dean pointed out that last summer's estimate did not include the grading but this price does. Mr. Monger stated the price last summer included the town doing the grading but we do not have a grader to do the work now.

Mr. Monger explained that this would be a new method. They would not use any base stone. It would be three inches of airport mix. Supposedly it is better. Councilman Flick stated this was number two on the list of priorities set by council last summer.

Councilman S. P. H. Flick moved, seconded by Councilman B. B. Holt to accept the bid from A. N. Johnson to regrade and repave "C" Street from Ashby to Terrace with three inches of airport mix at a cost of $8,235.00. The vote was recorded as follows:

R. Dean	- yea	B. Holt	- yea
S. Flick	- yea	L. Life	- yea
D. Flory	- nay		

Mayor Dean suggested we see if the Rockingham County School Board will grade their entrance while we are grading the streets.

Councilwoman L. C. Life moved, seconded by Councilman B. B. Holt to approve on Second Reading an ordinance amending Chapter 24 of the code of the Town of Elkton, Virginia, to provide for the removal, repair, or securing of certain dilapidated buildings and other structures by adding Sections 24-4, 24-5, 24-6 and 24-7, and repealing Article V, Chapter 7, of the code of the Town of Elkton, Virginia as presented in the minutes of the February 12th. meeting. The vote was recorded as follows:

R. Dean	- yea	B. Holt	- yea
S. Flick	- yea	L. Life	- yea
D. Flory	- yea		

Councilwoman Life reported that the ordinance was amended to give the town clearance to do something with the old Blue and Grey Inn of which Mrs. Darlene Roadcap is one of the heirs. Councilwoman Life did talk with Mrs. Roadcap and told her the purpose of the ordinance change but that council was not pressing this at this time and had no intention of running in there as soon as the ordinance is passed and tearing the building down. The estate is in court and hopefully the building will be put up for auction the latter part of May or first part of June.

Councilwoman Life reported that plans are continuing for the Litter Control Program and will coincide with the town cleanup week in May. Mrs. Virginia Gentry will be helping with the poster contest in the Intermediate School and Mrs. Marla Shifflett at the Elementary School. Dr. Asa Talbot has been contacted about the scouts helping with the trash pickup. An Ecology Club is in the process of being formed at Elkton High School.

Councilwoman Life reported that the Recreation Commission has held two special meetings in February and has another special meeting set for Wednesday night. A letter from the Recreation Commission was read regarding the dinner meeting on March 22nd. They hope to obtain the support of the clubs in the community along with the entire council in order to continue with their proposal regarding developing Memorial Park. Councilwoman Life urged the council to attend this meeting.

Councilwoman Life reported that as we have received no notification it appears that none of our four persons sending in applications were chosen to serve on the Governor's Conference on Library and Information Services. Those sending in applications were Mrs. Carolyn Gooden, Mrs. Helen Holt, Mr. Henry Leap and Mrs. Jane Leet.

Councilwoman Life was concerned about the town agenda not getting in the paper. Mayor Dean stated he would take it upon himself to call the council if they have not contacted the clerk and get the information needed to put the agenda in the paper.

Councilwoman Life stated that she has made a recommendation that the Personnel Committee revise and revamp the personnel program booklet that was undertaken in 1976 as she plans to stand behind it firmly and until it is revised she may make some people unhappy.

Councilman R. R. Dean moved, seconded by Councilman H. D. Flory and carried to approve the Finance Report for February.

Councilman Dean reported that we had placed $20,000.00 on savings certificates for six months. This was divided between the two local banks.

Councilman Dean reported he has contacted Dr. Downey on the two twenty-five foot lots behind the Maintenance Building on Warren Avenue. He is willing to sell the lots at $4,000.00 each. He would want 25% down when the deeds are signed and the balance to be paid in one year at 9½% interest. He also stated there is a ten foot alley there now and would like this extended to twenty foot. Mr. Monger felt the alley was more than ten foot but will check into it.

Councilman R. R. Dean moved, seconded by Councilman H. D. Flory to purchase two twenty-five foot lots from Dr. Downey at a cost of $4,000.00 each. We will pay 25% down when the deeds are signed and the balance in one year at 9½% interest. The vote was recorded as follows:

R. Dean	-	yea	B. Holt	-	yea
S. Flick	-	yea	L. Life	-	yea
D. Flory	-	yea			

Councilman R. R. Dean moved, seconded by Councilwoman L. C. Life and carried to postpone any decision on weekend stand-by pay for the town electrician which was turned over to the Personnel Committee until after the committee has revised the Personnel Program.

Councilman H. D. Flory moved, seconded by Councilman B. B. Holt and carried to adopt the following resolution approving the portion of the Five-Point Primary Highway Program which pertains to Elkton as presented by the Harrisonburg-Rockingham Chamber of Commerce Highway Program Committee:

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the Harrisonburg-Rockingham Chamber of Commerce has proposed as part of their Five-Point Primary Highway Program certain improvements on US 340 in the Town of Elkton, Virginia, from the intersection of Route 33 to the intersection of Spotswood Avenue and Route 340, including the bridge over Elk Run, and

WHEREAS, the Town of Elkton approves the suggested improvements,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Town Council of the Town of Elkton, Virginia, at its regular meeting on this 12th. day of March, 1979, that:

1. Elkton agrees to pay 50% of the cost of all new sidewalks installed.
2. Elkton agrees to pay its share of the cost of storm drains in accordance with State Highway Commission Policy adopted August 18, 1966.
3. Elkton agrees that parking will be prohibited at all times throughout the limits of the above described project.

Councilman Holt reported that the Planning Commission met on February 26th. and made a lot of progress on the Comprehensive Plan. They have a meeting set for March 20, 1979 to talk with the County Planner. The Planning Commission needs another member for the commission and would like to get someone in the Chicken Hill area. They would welcome suggestions from council or volunteers from this area.

Mr. Wiles reported that the Clerk has received a letter from J. C. Rees, Director of Local Government Management Relations, Department of Personnel and Training, indicating that they are withholding approval on our revised grievance procedure until the procedure is amended to include the statement that the action of the panel at the final step of the procedure shall be final and binding. Mr. Wiles pointed out that this statement is in our revised procedure which apparently the personnel department overlooked and he does not feel we will have to make any revision. The Department of Personnel will be contacted about this matter to see if any further action is necessary.

Mr. Wiles reported he has received a letter from Michie Company stating that in order to keep us updated on the code projects, that due to their work load it appears doubtful that the conference will be held by April of this year. They apologized for the delay and will keep the town informed on their progress.

Councilman Flory reported that the Town Superintendent had a question about the trailer in Elkwood. The trailer was there before the town annexed. Councilman Flory feels the trailer should not be allowed to stay there as there is an ordinance against trailers in town. Mr. Hinkle called Councilman Flory today and explained that he plans to use the trailer as a sales office and for storage while he is building another home on the adjoining lot. He anticipates removing the trailer by July of this year. Councilman Flory would recommend allowing the trailer to remain until July. Councilman Holt stated he was definitely opposed to the trailer for an indefinite period but would go along with it until the end of July. Councilman Flick suggested having Mr. Hinkle put his

request in writing, including the date of removal of the trailer. Councilwoman Life stated she had contacted six of the nine residents in the Elkwood area and they were in favor of a sales office and she had no opposition to the trailer remaining for a period of say a year. This was left to Mr. Monger and Mayor Dean to contact Mr. Hinkle and get his request in writing including the date he will remove the trailer, which cannot be beyond July 31, 1979.

Mayor Dean requested that council reply to the Elkton Parks and Recreation Commission as to whether they plan to attend the March 22nd. meeting.

As there was no further business, Councilman B. B. Holt moved, seconded by Councilman H. D. Flory and carried to adjourn.

MAYOR: Charles E. Dean
Charles E. Dean, Mayor

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