REGULAR
COUNCIL MEETING
May 10, 1982

The regular meeting of the Elkton Town Council was held May 10, 1982 at 8:00 P.M. in the council chambers with the Mayor Maurice W. Lough presiding. The following council members were present: V. L. Cook Jr., S. P. H. Flick, T. G. Hulings, L. C. Life and R. L. Snow. R. E. Davis was absent. Noah Helsley, Acting Chief, Norma Leap, Clerk, Gerald Monger, Superintendent and Dale Davenport, Attorney were also present.

Mayor Lough opened the meeting with prayer.

Mr. Pablo Cuevas, Vice President of Public Affairs for the Harrisonburg/Rockingham Chamber of Commerce was present. He presented each member of council with the informational package which is distributed by them to new citizens in the county and city. He thanked the council for the work they do and offered their services whenever they are needed. Mr. Bill Holt, a member of their board, pointed out that the town may become a member of the Chamber of Commerce at a fee of $40.00.

Mr. Michael Liskey, Fire Chief, brought to council's attention that there is a parking problem in front of the fire hall. As the community hall is being used more, there are more vehicles parking in the area. The Fire Company at one time had ten spaces marked off for their use, but these need to be repainted so they can be identified. He also questioned if the gravels could not be moved to allow six or seven more spaces. Mr. Monger pointed out that the gravel are used during snow and ice and need to be where they are easily accessible. Mr. Liskey was told that the Public Safety Committee and Chief of Police, along with Mr. Monger, will work with the fire company on this problem.

Mr. Ray Smith of Virginia Avenue came before council regarding the street in front of his home. Before they were annexed the state maintained the street and it was in good condition. There have been apartment houses built on this street, sewer lines have been put in and the street is in bad shape and has been this way for awhile. There is a hole right in front of Mr. Smith's driveway and he would like council to see that this hole is patched and to repair the street. He thanked council for their services which they give the town. This request was referred to the Street Committee and Mr. Monger.

Mr. and Mrs. George Williams came before council regarding the water problem on Washington Avenue. They requested council study this problem and try to come up with a permanent solution. They pointed out that the road iced over this past winter and was quite dangerous. The road is also in need of repair.

Mrs. Hazel Crider asked council about the ordinance requiring property owners to mow their lots. She pointed out that this is not being enforced and asked council to see that it is enforced. She also pointed out that North Avenue is now a raceway. People are not stopping for the stop sign. They have requested four or five times in the past several months that something be done and she would appreciate anything council could do to correct these problems.

Mr. Bill Holt questioned what the status is on the easement that the town has been trying to get on the Randell Snow property at the intersection of U.S. 340 and North Avenue and how long has the town been trying to obtain this easement. Mr. Monger stated that the easement is at a stalemate at this time and they have been trying for approximately three years. Mr. Holt asked if it would be easier to get the easement if the property was zoned commercial and Mr. Monger stated that Mr. Snow has never come to him and stated that this is the reason he has not signed the easement.

The minutes of the regular meeting April 12, 1982 and the special meeting April 15, 1982 were approved as presented.

Mr. Monger stated that we will be receiving $10,173.08 more in highway upkeep funds than budgeted and we will need to appropriate this money. He suggested we appropriate the money as follows:

Wages	$4000.00
Office Equipment	$ 245.00
Supplies	$5928.08

Councilwoman L. C. Life moved, seconded by Councilman R. L. Snow to approve the First Reading to appropriate the additional $10,173.08 street funds as follows:

Wages	$4000.00
Office Equipment	$ 245.00
Supplies	$5928.08

Councilwoman Life pointed out that there is a water problem on Prospect Avenue as well as Washington Avenue and particularly that concrete work is needed from H & R Block to the cleaners. She asked if some of this street money is going to be used in this area. Mr. Monger pointed out that at present this is being considered but could change once the necessary information is received from the concrete people.

Councilwoman Life asked if we plan to observe Clean Up Week May 15th. Mr. Monger stated that we do not plan anything special. Councilwoman Life suggested we postpone Clean Up Week until the next week and advertise it and to also include in the advertisement a notice regarding dogs being retained and mowing lots.

Councilwoman L. C. Life moved, seconded by Councilman V. L. Cook Jr. and carried to pass a resolution extending Clean Up Week through the week of the 17th. of May, that an ad be placed in the paper advertising such and designating about the lots being mowed and also dogs are suppose to be leased.

Councilwoman Life pointed out that the salaries of police officers were not raised until the end of March, the town has advertised and the committee has been doing interviews. They had planned to recommend two persons tonight as officers, one being certified and one not certified. As officers have to be approved by council, she had waited until today to contact these people and when contacted the certified officer had already accepted employment elsewhere. This was the only certified officer which had applied even with the increase in salary. They do plan to recommend one person tonight. The Public Safety Committee has decided that since it does not seem that the salary for an officer is that enticing, to advertise for a Chief of Police at the end of this week.

Councilwoman L. C. Life moved, seconded by Councilman R. L. Snow to hire James Marshall Hudson as a police officer. Mr. Hudson will need to be recertified and is willing to sign the employment contract. The vote was recorded as follows:

Cook	- yea	Life	- yea
Flick	- yea	Snow	- yea
Hulings	- yea		

Councilman S. P. H. Flick moved to accept the Finance Report for March as presented. There were no objections.

Councilman Flick asked Mrs. Leap to read the Town of Elkton proposed budget for 1982-83. This will be the First Reading. The budget is as follows:

TOWN OF ELKTON
PROPOSED BUDGET
1982 - 1983

EXPECTED REVENUE

Utility Accounts	
Electric Department	$ 869,750.00
Water Department	55,350.00
Sewer Department	120,280.00
	$1,045,380.00
General Fund	$ 251,149.00
TOTAL EXPECTED REVENUE	$1,296,529.00

EXPECTED DISBURSEMENTS

Utility Accounts	
Electric Department	$ 759,212.00
Water Department	81,155.00
Sewer Department	119,550.00
	$ 959,917.00
General Fund	
General Government	$ 36,092.00
Garbage Department	67,469.00
Street Department	71,961.00
Public Safety	161,090.00
	$ 336,612.00
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS	$1,296,529.00

The Public Hearing on the proposed budget was set for May 26, 1982 at 7:00 P.M. and a Special Meeting at 7:30 P.M.

Councilman Hulings reminded council that apparently Vepco's rate increase which they have announced has not been reduced or changed in any way, therefore he would like for this to be a First Reading so that at the regular meeting in June council can act as needed on this.

Councilman Hulings presented a First Reading that as Vepco intends to increase their wholesale rate to the town May 29th., he proposes the town adjust their rates to match the new Vepco increase effective June 1, 1982.

Mrs. Leap reported that the employer rate for the Virginia Supplemental Retirement will be increased July 1st. from 3.57% to 6.24% of active members' payroll. We have the option of accepting this rate immediately or take a phase-in rate.

Councilman S. P. H. Flick moved, seconded by Councilman R. L. Snow to go with Option B which is the Phase-In Rate. The vote was recorded as follows:

Cook	- yea	Life	- yea
Flick	- yea	Snow	- yea
Hulings	- yea		

Mr. Monger reported that the application for the litter grant in the amount of $475.00 has been prepared but we will need to pass the required resolution.

Councilwoman L. C. Life moved, seconded by Councilman V. L. Cook Jr. and carried to adopt the following resolution:

RESOLUTION

Whereas the Elkton Town Council recognizes the existence of a litter problem within the boundaries of the Town of Elkton and

Whereas the Virginia Litter Control Act of 1976 provides, through the Department of Conservation and Economic Development, Division of Litter Control, for the allocation of public funds in the form of Grants for the purpose of enhancing local litter control programs and

Whereas having reviewed and considered the Regulations and the Application covering administration and use of said funds

Be it resolved that the Elkton Town Council:

Hereby endorses and supports such a program for the Town of Elkton as is indicated in the attached Application Form LC-G-1 and

Hereby authorizes Gerald K. Monger, Town Superintendent, to plan, budget, and apply for a Grant, which if approved, will be used to fund said Program and

Hereby requests the Department of Conservation and Economic Development, Division of Litter Control, to consider and approve said Application and Program, said Program being in accord with the regulations governing use and expenditure of said funds.

Mrs. Leap announced that the Virginia Municipal League has two seminars scheduled, one May 18th. in Richmond and the other May 19th. in Roanoke, to brief local officials on Antitrust, The Virginia Freedom of Information Act, The Virginia Conflict of Interest Act and S.B. 96, Public Procurement. This is jointly sponsored by the league, the Office of the Attorney General and the Virginia Association of Counties. Anyone wishing to attend should contact Mrs. Leap.

As there was no further business, the meeting adjourned.

MAYOR: Maurice W. Lough, Mayor

RECORDER: Norma R. Leap, Clerk