REGULAR
COUNCIL MEETING
July 12, 1982

The regular meeting of the Elkton Town Council was held July 12, 1982 at 8:00 P.M. in the council chambers with the Mayor Charles E. Dean presiding. The following council members were present: V. L. Cook Jr., R. E. Davis, S. P. H. Flick, B. B. Holt, T. G. Hulings and R. L. Snow. Noah Helsley, Acting Chief, Norma Leap, Clerk, Gerald Monger, Superintendent and Dale Davenport, Attorney were also present.

Mayor Dean opened the meeting with prayer.

Councilman S. P. H. Flick moved, seconded by Councilman B. B. Holt and carried to approve the minutes of the regular meeting June 14, 1982 and the special meeting July 1, 1982.

Councilman Davis stated that the rental property (the old police station) has been delegated to him in the past and felt maybe the new council might want to delegate this to some committee.

Councilman R. E. Davis moved, seconded by Councilman V. L. Cook Jr. and carried to leave the rental property under the Ordinance Committee.

Councilman Davis reported that the Public Safety Committee has met a couple of times and are in the process of trying to secure for the town a Chief of Police. The committee has started over on this as Councilman Davis was not in on any of the interviews and he had received no recommendation from the previous committee. Some interviews have been set up and hopefully they will be through interviewing by the end of the month. They plan to have a recommendation at this time or will report that they have not found a suitable candidate and will have to look further.

Councilman Flick reported that the Finance Committee has not had a formal meeting as they did not have that much to do at this time. We are working on programing the new billing machine but are having some problems which are delaying the billing. Hopefully these will be resolved quickly.

Councilman Flick reported that we have approximately $7,000.00 of old utility bills, some close to ten years old. The auditors have in previous years requested that these bills be written off.

Councilman S. P. H. Flick moved, seconded by Councilman B. B. Holt and carried that the old accounts be written off at the end of this past year and that it be left to the Treasurer and Attorney to collect the ones that can be collected.

Councilman Flick requested that council be thinking about raising the utility deposits. His suggestion would be to raise the electric deposit from $50.00 to $75.00 and the water deposit from $10.00 to $25.00.

Councilman Flick reported that the auditors have been in for one day and will be back in the next few weeks to complete the audit. There will be no finance report tonight.

Councilman Flick stated that after reviewing Mr. Monger's report regarding installing our own gasoline tank and pump, it appears that if Mr. Monger can obtain a 2¢ discount from a station we would be better off not to install our own tank at this time. Councilman Snow suggested maybe we could put this out on bids as the county does and also look into going in with some others, such as the fire company, in order to be able to purchase in larger quanities. Councilman Holt suggested that if we do advertise for bids we word it so we can refuse any or all bids if we are not satisfied with the quotes we receive.

Councilman S. P. H. Flick moved, seconded by Councilman B. B. Holt and carried that we go with a pump discount at this time and to leave the money appropriated for our own tank as it is at present.

Councilman Hulings reported that the Electric Committee met July 8th. and discussed the current status of a number of things. They have nothing to come before council at this time.

Councilman Snow reported that the paving project on North Street and Liberty Heights is completed and sidewalk repairs are in progress on West Spotswood Avenue. The Washington Street drainage problem has come up again and there is in progress, hopefully, a remedy for this problem. He did not know how soon this could be done but it does have a high priority.

Councilman Holt reported that most of what he is doing is catch up. Councilman Davis has passed some things to him and he has one or two new items. A new draft has been made of the Special Use Ordinance, has been before the committee and they feel it should be sent back through the Planning Commission again so they can review the new draft. It will then be brought before council.

Councilman Holt reported that there is some very strong feeling that we need something new in the way of an effective ordinance on mowing vacant lots. We also need to take a look at some way of enforcing general appearance of lots. This is going to be difficult but they hope to work out something and present it to council before very long.

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Councilman Holt stated that he personally in his business has had some problems with garbage collection, that is collection from commercial and business activity by the company that we have a contract with. It is his understanding that other people have also had some problems. Our contract will soon be coming up for renewal and he feels it behooves us to have some record of performance and some list of complaints and dissatisfaction. He asked the newspapers to help with this as he would like to have any business that has a genuine and valid complaint about the garbage collection service provided by our contractor to pass this on to Mr. Monger and he will make a record of this.

Councilman Cook reported that his committee also met July 8th. We have run into some problems on the sewer project from First Street to the sewer plant. We are not going to be able to bore under the road. We will now have to go back to the State and try to get permission to go through a culvert. This means we will have to draw up a new set of plans and submit them to the State for their approval so this will delay the project for awhile.

Councilman Cook reported that we do have the pipe for the water lines on Route 340 and the electric poles but we do not have some of the hardware as yet.

Mr. Monger stated that the State had told us that they wanted us to start the project on Route 340 July 15th. and be finished by August 1st. but they have now delayed it for a month or so which will be about August 15th. and be finished by September 1st. for the contractor to start. We don't have a definite date and cannot start until they tell us to do so.

Mr. Monger reported that they have replaced the leaky one inch water line which fed the Dollar General Store and the old Swortzel house.

Mayor Dean reported that we have about 700 feet of fence to install at the Little League Park which was donated by Merck Chemical Co. They hope to get this up, with Mr. Monger's help, in the next month or so.

Councilman Holt reported that the American Cancer Society in connection with WSVA is having a radio-thon to raise funds this Saturday, July 17th., at the Valley Mall from 12:00 noon to 6:00 P.M. One of the things which is going to be done is to have the mayors of all the towns held for ransom. The way to obtain their release is through donations to the American Cancer Society. Mayor Dean will be taking part in this activity.

Mr. Monger reported that on Tuesday, July 20th., Mr. Bob Lank of the Hud Flood Insurance Group will be here at 1:00 P.M. to audit us and will explain what can be done in the flood plain. Anyone interested should attend this meeting.

As there was no further business, the meeting adjourned.

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

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

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Councilman Holt stated that it is his understanding that the recreation grant from the State which was approved by the previous council has twice been refused and asked where this stands at this time. Councilman Snow reported that the last report they had from the State Commission on Outdoor Recreation was that it has not been turned down. It was not submitted to the final committee so the application is still pending and will come up again the middle of August or the first of September. Councilman Holt stated that while knocking on doors last May this was not a particularly popular project throughout the community.