

### **A decision has yet to be reached as to whether to allow Elk Motel's connection to the Town of Boone sewage system.**

The county agreed to help- if the town allows connection to a county subdivision. At last night's town council meeting a connection to Brookshire Drive was estimated at just under \$400,000. That's not the only reason the town is hesitating. Under the county's proposal, the county may be entitled to half the proceeds of the new line. The town decided a meeting with commissioners might help straighten things out. Owner Floyd Garrison hopes his sewage system will last in the meantime.

"I wish they could have said, 'hey, we're going to start, this is done,' but I know that's not how it works," he said.

Also discussed were Garrison's future intentions with the Elk Motel property.

"The plan is, if everything works out well, to keep it going as long as possible," he said.

The Motel is all he has for a retirement fund, however- and if forced to sell it, he hopes something can be worked out where the county and town can be compensated for their help on the sewage line. The Motel in question is a "mission" to Garrison, who provides low income housing to Watauga residents. Should the Motel close, he fears its residents could not afford alternate housing.