

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE WYTHEVILLE TOWN COUNCIL
HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS ON MONDAY, AUGUST 27, 2007, AT 7:00 P.M.**

Members present: Trenton G. Crewe, Jr., Jacqueline K. King, John W. Jones, Jr., H. Judson Lambert, William B. Weisiger

Members absent: None

Others present: Town Manager C. Wayne Sutherland, Jr., Town Clerk Sharon P. Hackler, Assistant Town Manager Stephen A. Moore, Town Attorney Robert P. Kaase, Police Officer Chris Irvin, Danny Gordon with WYVE/WXBX, Mark Boenke, John Dowd, Agnes Eades

RE: CALL TO ORDER, QUORUM, INVOCATION, PLEDGE

Mayor Crewe called the meeting to order and established that a quorum of Council members was present. The invocation was given by Councilman Weisiger followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by Councilman Lambert.

RE: CONSENT AGENDA

Mayor Crewe presented the consent agenda consisting of the minutes of the regular meeting of August 13, 2007. A motion was made by Councilman Weisiger and seconded by Councilman Lambert to approve the consent agenda consisting of the minutes of the regular meeting of August 13, 2007. Mayor Crewe inquired if there is any discussion on the motion. There being none, the motion was approved with the following voting in favor and there being no opposition: For: Trenton G. Crewe, Jr., Jacqueline K. King, John W. Jones, Jr., William B. Weisiger, H. Judson Lambert. Against: None.

RE: CITIZENS' PERIOD

Mayor Crewe stated the next agenda item is Citizens' Period. He recognized Mr. Mark Boenke and thanked him for attending the meeting. Mayor Crewe advised that the Council will be glad to hear from him regarding playing fields.

Mr. Mark Boenke was recognized and stated he is addressing the Council as an engineer and as a coach of several teams that his children are involved in for recreation leagues. He stated what he has been noticing over the past couple of years is the increase of players and activities. Mr. Boenke pointed out that as the town grows and more people come, he sees this increasing. He stated that as such, he would like to have the Council members keep in mind the playing fields and their availability and proper sizing, spacing, and adequacy for such. Mr. Boenke noted that as property becomes available, he would like for the Council to take serious consideration into acquiring it since the land within the town limits for flat playing surfaces is very limited. He stated that currently, soccer season is underway for the pre-kindergarten, kindergarten, and up to second grade. Mr. Boenke noted that these children are currently playing on fields and baseball fields, which they can fit on, and at this age it is fine, but as they grow older, they are moving over to Scott School and over to Ager Park, and still playing on ball fields and on football fields. He stated these are not the proper size for soccer fields. Mr. Boenke explained that soccer is a growing sport, as both the County and the Town Recreation Commission can tell the Council, and to take full advantage of that sport and the joys of it, the fields need to be the proper size. He requested the Town Council to keep this in mind as the town grows. Mr. Boenke stated that this is going to be needed, and if there is property that is flat within town limits that is available, it might be a wise idea to look at acquiring it to help out with the Recreation Department. Mr. Boenke thanked the Council for listening to him. Mayor Crewe thanked Mr. Boenke for attending the meeting. Mayor Crewe noted that Vice-Mayor King is the Recreation Commission liaison, and stated he would request her to take particular note of this. Vice-Mayor King stated that she is writing it down. Mayor Crewe indicated that he realizes this is a topic of discussion. He thanked Mr. Boenke for attending the meeting.

Mayor Crewe informed Mr. John Dowd that he will call upon him to speak when the Peppers Ferry Road rezoning matter is considered on the agenda. He thanked Mr. Dowd for attending the meeting.

Mayor Crewe inquired if there are others who wished to address the Town Council during Citizens' Period. There being none, he proceeded with the agenda.

RE: OLD BUSINESS

Under Old Business, Town Manager Sutherland reported the following:

1. The Public Works Committee and the Budget and Finance Committee will meet this week on their regular day and time.
2. Next Monday, September 3, is Labor Day. This is an observed holiday for the Town of Wytheville.

RE: BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

Councilman Jones, reporting for the Budget and Finance Committee, reported that earlier this summer, the Town solicited proposals from insurance agencies to provide the Town with all of its property and liability insurances. He noted that the solicitation for insurance coverages did not include coverage for Workers' Compensation, health insurance, or disability insurance. Councilman Jones explained that in response to the Town's request, the Town received proposals from four different entities. He indicated that those who responded were Bankers Insurance, LLC, the Lester Agency, Virginia Municipal League Insurance Programs, and the Virginia Association of Counties Insurance Programs. Councilman Jones advised that in the Town's solicitation for proposals, it was noted that price would be a consideration in the selection process, but would not be the sole consideration. He stated the primary consideration has to be the thoroughness of the coverage provided to the Town. Councilman Jones noted that of the four proposals received, two were from insurance companies and two were from group pools wherein the participants are insuring their perils. He remarked that in a group pool, the participants jointly contribute to a fund that handles the claims of all the participating jurisdictions. Councilman Jones advised that in this arrangement, excess funds can accumulate and can be distributed back to the participating jurisdictions. He pointed out that on the other hand, in a group pool, if there were catastrophic events that depleted the pool's funding, each participating jurisdiction could be assessed in the amount needed to cover the claims. Councilman Jones stated that both the Virginia Municipal League and the Virginia Association of Counties programs have been managed very well and are currently in a very solvent position. He noted that the Committee does have concerns that a catastrophic event could result in an unexpected assessment. Councilman Jones remarked that with coverage by a regular insurance company, the arrangement is for a specific time, in this case one year, wherein there are no additional assessments made in the event of a catastrophic event. He noted the first decision with regard to the four submitting agencies was to determine if the Council wants to enter a pooled program or to stay with a traditional insurance carrier. Councilman Jones advised that having said that, it was determined that the Committee would evaluate more thoroughly the proposals offered by the two local insurance agencies. He noted that after evaluating the proposals, the Committee believes the proposal submitted by Bankers Insurance, LLC provides the most extensive coverage. Councilman Jones indicated that the premium in the Bankers Insurance proposal for the year totals \$109,475. He stated, therefore, it is the recommendation of the Budget and Finance Committee that the Council accept the proposal of Bankers Insurance, LLC for the coming year. Councilman Jones indicated that the Committee would note that the Council appreciates all of the agencies who submitted proposals, which has resulted in a strong insurance program at reasonable rates. A motion was made by Councilman Jones and seconded by Vice-Mayor King that the Council accept the proposal from Bankers Insurance, LLC to furnish the Town its insurance for the coming year at a premium of \$109,475. Mayor Crewe inquired if there is any discussion on the motion. He advised that he knows both Committees reviewed the insurance proposals. Councilman Jones remarked that he might add that there was a reduction in the premium from last year. He stated he thinks bidding out the insurance makes a difference in the premiums. Town Manager Sutherland noted he thinks it was a good bid process. Mayor Crewe inquired if there is any further discussion on the motion. There being none, the motion was approved with the following voting in favor and there being no opposition: For: Trenton G. Crewe, Jr., Jacqueline K. King, John W. Jones, Jr., William B. Weisiger, H. Judson Lambert. Against: None.

Councilman Jones also reported that later in the meeting, the Council will consider an ordinance that makes a number of "housekeeping" revisions to the Town's Personnel Policy. He stated the amendments in Articles 5.7 and 5.10 specify that jury leave and crime victims leave are available to full-time employees. Councilman Jones indicated that previously, there had been some question as to whether these leaves were available to part-time employees. He remarked that obviously, the intent was always that it be describing full-time employees since they would be subject to being away from work without being compensated, where part-time employees could have the flexibility of being away from work at different times. Councilman Jones explained that the ordinance provides that employees who utilize vacation and sick leave time can do this in 1-hour increments rather than the current 2-hour minimum. He noted that previously, the Town's computer software tracking these leave times could not accommodate anything less than 2 hours. Councilman Jones indicated that there is a revision to the regulations with regard to health insurance that reflects that the Town pays 93 percent of the

healthcare coverage on an employee rather than the 95 percent paid in previous years. He stated the Safety Risk Management Program has been amended to the extent that it identifies new locations, such as the new Community Center, where Material Safety Data Sheets are available. Councilman Jones remarked that finally, there is a redrafting of the Communicable Disease/Exposure Control Policy as requested by OSHA. He stated that periodically, federal regulations change with regard to these matters, and the revision here only reflects current acceptable standards. Councilman Jones advised that when this matter is considered later in the meeting, it would be the recommendation of the Budget and Finance Committee that the ordinance implementing these revisions be considered on first and final reading and that they become effective immediately. A copy of the Budget and Finance Committee report is attached and made part of these minutes. ([Attachment](#)).

RE: PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE REPORT

Councilman Lambert, reporting for the Public Works Committee, reported that at the last meeting of Council, an action was taken to rezone properties which are located generally along Peppers Ferry Road from a point on Cove Road eastwardly to Interstate 77. He indicated that in the action taken by the Council, all of the designated lands in that area with the exception of the Travel Center of America truck stop, King and King Enterprises, and JRJ Properties, LLC would be included in the rezoning. Councilman Lambert explained that the consideration of rezoning these properties was the result of the Planning Commission's review of controlling the entrance corridors into town. He advised that in the Committee meetings, they discussed those properties which had been excluded from the previous action. Councilman Lambert indicated that ultimately, the Committee thinks these excluded properties should be rezoned to B-1 Business, but providing these property owners with special exception permits. He stated this would result in all of the properties within the entrance corridor being zoned business rather than industrial. Councilman Lambert noted, however, that because of the logistics of this zoning situation, the Committee thinks it is the best approach to continue to exclude these properties and take a subsequent look at the properties that were excluded from the rezoning. He stated that later in the meeting when Ordinance No. 1220 is considered on second reading, it would be the motion of the Public Works Committee that the ordinance be approved on second reading with the exception that the excluded properties not only be the Travel Center of America, King and King Enterprises, and JRJ Properties, LLC, but also include the property owned by the Gordon family located at 200 Cove Road. Councilman Lambert advised the Gordon property is a parcel of property that lies between King and King Enterprises and JRJ Properties, LLC. Mayor Crewe indicated that the Council will consider this matter later in the meeting. He stated he thinks what he would like to do is wait and have Mr. Dowd's comments at that time. Mayor Crewe explained that the way this is going to be proposed on second reading is to leave the truck stop the way it is currently zoned and not rezone any of the truck stop's property. He indicated that he wants to ensure that Mr. Dowd understands where the Council is with this issue. Mayor Crewe reiterated that the Council will consider this matter later in the meeting.

Councilman Lambert also reported that last week, representatives from Wythe County, Bland County, and the Town of Wytheville met with representatives from the Virginia State Police to discuss the potential for the regional consolidation of E-911 dispatching services. He indicated that Bland County, Wythe County, and the Town of Wytheville have been considering, for some time, the potential to consolidate dispatching services. Councilman Lambert stated that recently, it was determined that there was also the potential for the Virginia State Police to participate in this venture. He explained that under this scenario, the Virginia State Police would construct a facility in which all of the dispatching services would be located. He advised that the local agencies would make an annual payment to the Virginia State Police for their share of the expenses associated with the building. Councilman Lambert stated that the real significance in this type of consolidation with the State Police would be the potential to share equipment and other facilities such as towers. He noted that the Virginia State Police advise that they will be doing some additional work to determine the feasibility of this concept. Councilman Lambert remarked that the State Police advise that they should have some additional information available within the next couple of months. Councilman Lambert stated it has become apparent that the consolidation of dispatching services is going to be an economic necessity. He advised that the equipment and resources required to meet the mandated requirements for E-911 and cellular emergency calls are rapidly expanding. Councilman Lambert noted that this equipment is very expensive, and without a consolidation, each of the jurisdictions will be required to buy its own equipment. He pointed out that the equipment has the capability of serving multiple jurisdictions, and, therefore, it does not make sense to buy three sets of equipment instead of one. Councilman Lambert indicated that there is no action required on the Council's part at this time, though this is an important issue that the Council will be addressing over the next year or so. Mayor Crewe stated that technically, it would be four sets of equipment that would need to be purchased counting the State Police, Bland County, Wythe County, and the Town of Wytheville. Town Manager Sutherland stated that is correct. Mayor Crewe advised that consolidation would be even more of a savings. He noted that the Council will look forward to

hearing more about this issue. A copy of the Public Works Committee report is attached and made part of these minutes. ([Attachment](#)).

RE: APPOINTMENT – BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS

Mayor Crewe stated the next agenda item is the recommendation to the Circuit Court regarding the appointment of a member to the Board of Zoning Appeals to fill the expiring term of Mr. Robert C. Atwell, Jr. whose term expires September 10, 2007. He noted that Mr. Atwell is not eligible for reappointment. Mayor Crewe indicated that there is one application in the Council package, and the Council will need to make a recommendation to the Circuit Court about appointing someone. A motion was made by Vice-Mayor King and seconded by Councilman Weisiger to recommend to the Circuit Court to appoint Mr. George F. James to the Board of Zoning Appeals. Mayor Crewe inquired if there is any discussion on the motion. There being none, the motion was approved with the following voting in favor and there being no opposition: For: Trenton G. Crewe, Jr., Jacqueline K. King, John W. Jones, Jr., William B. Weisiger, H. Judson Lambert. Against: None. Mayor Crewe explained that this is an appointment the Circuit Court makes and not the Town Council.

RE: APPOINTMENT – WYTHEVILLE REDEVELOPMENT AND HOUSING AUTHORITY

Mayor Crewe stated the next agenda item is the appointment of members to the Wytheville Redevelopment and Housing Authority to fill the expiring terms of Mrs. Martha L. Riggle, Mr. Elton Robinson, and Mr. Charles A. Wenige whose terms expire September 8, 2007. He noted that the Council can see that there are three people whose terms expire. He noted that Mrs. Riggle is eligible for reappointment, and she has indicated a willingness to serve again if reappointed. He stated that Mr. Robinson is not eligible for reappointment. He noted there is also the vacancy of a resident member, and Mr. Wenige has moved away. Mayor Crewe indicated that there are three openings, one application, and one member is eligible for reappointment. A motion was made by Vice-Mayor King to reappoint Mrs. Martha L. Riggle, and appoint Ms. Rebecca Huddle to fill the expiring term of Mr. Elton Robinson. She noted she would guess that the Housing Authority would suggest a resident member. The motion was seconded by Councilman Weisiger. Mayor Crewe inquired if there is any discussion. He stated he would remind Town Manager Sutherland that the Town may need some assistance from the Housing Authority to fill the resident member position. Town Manager Sutherland indicated that there will be a meeting of the Housing Authority in the near future. Councilman Weisiger stated he thinks the Housing Authority has had trouble in the past getting resident members, and there have been several years where they did not have a resident member on the Authority. Mayor Crewe noted that is correct. There being no further discussion, the motion was approved with the following voting in favor and there being no opposition: For: Trenton G. Crewe, Jr., Jacqueline K. King, John W. Jones, Jr., William B. Weisiger, H. Judson Lambert. Against: None.

RE: ORDINANCE NO. 1220 – PEPPERS FERRY ROAD REZONING

Mayor Crewe presented Ordinance No. 1220, an ordinance amending Ordinance No. 640, generally known as the Zoning Ordinance, to rezone all M-1 Industrial property to B-1 Business in the following areas: (1) the area bounded by Peppers Ferry Road, Cove Road, and Interstate 81; (2) the area bounded by Peppers Ferry Road, the north boundary of Hedgefield Terrace Apartments, the northeast boundary of Wytheville Community College, and Interstate 81; (3) the area bounded by Peppers Ferry Road, Interstate 81, and Interstate 77, on second reading. He noted that the ordinance, as it is in the Council member's notebook and as it comes, if he is understanding correctly, is a recommendation from the Public Works Committee that it be adopted as presented. Mayor Crewe explained that the current ordinance would leave the Travel Centers of America truck stop property, King and King Enterprise property, JRJ Properties, LLC property, and the Gordon family property unchanged, and it does not affect these properties' current M-1 Industrial zoning. He advised Mr. Dowd that Council records will also reflect that the Town has received a letter from Kyle Raynor, of which Mr. Dowd is aware, on behalf of the Travel Centers of America. Mayor Crewe advised that the Council will be glad to hear from Mr. Dowd if there is anything he would like to address or state to the Council. He noted that the Council appreciates Mr. Dowd attending the meeting. Mr. Dowd indicated that he appreciates the Council's time on this matter and for excluding the truck stop property from the rezoning. Mayor Crewe inquired if there is any discussion on the motion that the ordinance would be adopted on second reading, which is the way the Committee report reads. Councilman Weisiger inquired if the ordinance could be adopted on second and final reading. Mayor Crewe noted that the Council can adopt this on second and final reading if they desire. Vice-Mayor King stated this is what she just mentioned to Councilman Jones. Councilman Jones remarked that what they are stating is the truck stop is not included at all. Mayor Crewe noted that is correct, and the truck stop property would remain zoned industrial. Councilman Jones stated the only thing the Council is sending back to the Planning Commission is those three pieces of property. Town Manager Sutherland advised that is correct, and this is what the Committees

talked about. Councilman Jones advised that is correct, and he just wanted to ensure he is correct. Mayor Crewe noted he would suppose this has not actually been decided yet, and the only thing that has been decided is that the four pieces of property not be rezoned and remain zoned M-1 Industrial. Councilman Jones advised that is correct, but the Committee is also recommending that the three properties be sent back to the Planning Commission. Mayor Crewe noted that is correct and advised that the Committee discussions were to ask the Planning Commission to review the special exception permits. Councilman Jones stated that is correct, for the three properties, but not for the truck stop. Mayor Crewe advised that is correct. Vice-Mayor King inquired if the ordinance can be approved on second and final reading. Mayor Crewe noted that the ordinance can be approved on second and final reading if that is what the Council wished to do. A motion was made by Councilman Weisiger and seconded by Councilman Lambert to suspend the rules and adopt ordinance No. 1220, an ordinance amending Ordinance No. 640, generally known as the Zoning Ordinance, to rezone all M-1 Industrial property to B-1 Business in the following areas: (1) the area bounded by Peppers Ferry Road, Cove Road, and Interstate 81; (2) the area bounded by Peppers Ferry Road, the north boundary of Hedgefield Terrace Apartments, the northeast boundary of Wytheville Community College, and Interstate 81; (3) the area bounded by Peppers Ferry Road, Interstate 81, and Interstate 77, on second and final reading with the following properties being excluded from the rezoning including the Travel Center of America truck stop, King and King Enterprises property, JRJ Properties, LLC property, and the Gordon family property. Mayor Crewe inquired if since this motion is from the Committee if it is acceptable to Councilman Lambert that the Committee is recommending to adopt the ordinance on second and final reading. Councilman Lambert noted it is acceptable to him to adopt the ordinance on second and final reading. Mayor Crewe inquired if there is any discussion on the motion to adopt Ordinance No. 1220 as amended on second and final reading. There being none, the motion was approved with the following voting in favor and there being no opposition:

FOR: Trenton G. Crewe, Jr., Jacqueline K. King, John W. Jones, Jr., William B. Weisiger, H. Judson Lambert

AGAINST: None

ABSTENTIONS: None

Ordinance No. 1220 was adopted on second and final reading. Mayor Crewe advised that the ordinance will be effective immediately. He reiterated that this ordinance does not change the zoning of the Travel Centers of America truck stop property.

RE: ORDINANCE NO. 1221 – PERSONNEL ORDINANCE AMENDMENTS

Mayor Crewe presented Ordinance No. 1221, an ordinance amending and reenacting Ordinance No. 1028, generally known as Personnel Rules, Regulations, and Policies, of the Town of Wytheville, Virginia, so as to include revisions to Section 5.7, Jury Leave and Crime Victims Leave, Section 5.10, Inclement Weather Leave Policy, Section 6, Benefits, Section J, Hazard Communication Policy of the Safety/Risk Management Program, and the Communicable Disease/Exposure Control Policy, of the ordinance, on first reading. He noted this comes as a recommendation from the Budget and Finance Committee that the ordinance be approved on first and final reading. Mayor Crewe indicated that this ordinance makes housekeeping changes to the Personnel Ordinance that was alluded to in the Budget and Finance Committee report. A motion was made by Councilman Jones and seconded by Vice-Mayor King to suspend the rules and adopt Ordinance No. 1221, an ordinance amending and reenacting Ordinance No. 1028, generally known as Personnel Rules, Regulations, and Policies, of the Town of Wytheville, Virginia, so as to include revisions to Section 5.7, Jury Leave and Crime Victims Leave, Section 5.10, Inclement Weather Leave Policy, Section 6, Benefits, Section J, Hazard Communication Policy of the Safety/Risk Management Program, and the Communicable Disease/Exposure Control Policy, of the ordinance, on first and final reading. Mayor Crewe inquired if there is any discussion on the motion to adopt Ordinance No. 1221 on first and final reading. There being none, the motion was approved with the following voting in favor and there being no opposition:

FOR: Trenton G. Crewe, Jr., Jacqueline K. King, John W. Jones, Jr., William B. Weisiger, H. Judson Lambert

AGAINST: None

ABSTENTIONS: None

Ordinance No. 1221 was adopted on first and final reading. Mayor Crewe advised that the ordinance is effective immediately.

RE: PLANNING COMMISSION ANNUAL REPORT

Mayor Crewe stated the next agenda item is the consideration of the Annual Report from the Planning Commission. He noted that since Councilman Jones is the liaison, he can highlight anything or tell the Council what is in the report. Councilman Jones noted that in July/August 2006, the Planning Commission spent a lot of time and finally ended up leaving the zoning in the Fairview Industrial Park as M-1 Industrial. He indicated that in November/December 2006, the Planning Commission held a public hearing and recommended that the B-2 Business General District, Section 11-33, regarding aboveground fuel storage tanks be approved. He remarked that on Page 3, at the top, the Planning Commission ended up recommending a special exception permit to the Town Council, which was approved, for a recycling center at the old Pendleton shop area. Mr. Jones stated from what he understands, the owner is continuing to abide by those requirements that were placed on him, and is doing well. Mayor Crewe indicated that he does not think the Town has received any complaints of any kind about this operation. Councilman Jones remarked that in March/April 2007, after a lot of discussion, the Commission recommended buffer yard regulations be included in the Town of Wytheville Zoning Ordinance. He continued that the Commission also conducted a public hearing, after a lot of discussion, on raising the building height, which the Council ended up approving. Councilman Jones stated that the Commission also conducted a public hearing on retaining walls, which came up from a couple of citizens, and the Commission put requirements on the retaining walls, which the Council approved. He noted that finally, in May/June 2007, the Commission recommended to the Council, which was approved, the rezoning of the property on Holston Road where Dr. Happel is going to construct his new office. Mayor Crewe stated that Dr. Happel's new office is under construction. Councilman Jones advised that is correct. He noted that this is a summary of the Planning Commission Annual Report. Councilman Jones remarked that he appreciates the support the Council gives to the Planning Commission because he thinks the Council knows that all of the Commission members are certified and work very hard for the low pay they receive. Mayor Crewe stated the Council appreciates the Planning Commission's efforts. He advised that, obviously, it was a busy year, as all of them have been lately. He thanked Councilman Jones for his service to the Planning Commission. Mayor Crewe asked Councilman Jones to please relay to the full Planning Commission how much the Council appreciates what they do.

RE: ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to be discussed, a motion was duly made, seconded, and carried to adjourn the meeting (7:30 p.m.).

Trenton G. Crewe, Jr., Mayor

Sharon P. Hackler, MMC, Clerk of Council

BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

AUGUST 27, 2007

1. Earlier this summer, the Town solicited proposals from insurance agencies to provide the Town with all of its property and liability insurances. This solicitation for insurance coverages did not include coverage for Workers' Compensation, health insurance, or disability insurance. In response to our request, we received proposals from four different entities. Those who responded were Bankers Insurance, LLC, the Lester Agency, Virginia Municipal League Insurance Programs, and the Virginia Association of Counties Insurance Programs. In our solicitation for proposals, it was noted that price would be a consideration in the selection process, but would not be the sole consideration. The primary consideration has to be the thoroughness of the coverage provided to the Town. Of the four proposals received, two were from insurance companies and two were from group pools wherein the participants are self insuring their perils.

In a group pool, the participants jointly contribute to a fund that handles the claims of all the participating jurisdictions. In this arrangement, excess funds can accumulate and can be distributed back to the participating jurisdictions. On the other hand, in a group pool, if there were catastrophic events that depleted the pool's funding, each participating jurisdiction could be assessed an amount needed to cover the claims. Both the Virginia Municipal League and the Virginia Association of Counties programs have been managed very well and are currently in a very solvent position. We do have concerns that a catastrophic event could result in an unexpected

assessment. With coverage by a regular insurance company, the arrangement is for a specific time, in this case one year, wherein there are no additional assessments made in the event of a catastrophic event. The first decision with regard to the four submitting agencies was to determine if we want to enter a pooled program or to stay with a regular insurance company. We believe that it is in the Town's best interest to stay with a traditional insurance carrier. Having said that, it was determined that we would evaluate more thoroughly the proposals offered by the two local insurance agencies. After evaluating the proposals, we believe that the proposal submitted by Bankers Insurance, LLC provides the most extensive coverage. The premium in the Bankers Insurance proposal for the year totals \$109,475. Therefore, it is the recommendation of the Budget and Finance Committee that we accept the proposal of Bankers Insurance, LLC for the coming year. We would note that we appreciate all of the agencies who submitted proposals, which has resulted in a strong insurance program at reasonable rates.

2. Later this evening, the Council will consider an ordinance that makes a number of "housekeeping" revisions to the Town's Personnel Policy. The amendments in Articles 5.7 and 5.10 specify that jury leave and crime victims leave are available to full-time employees. Previously, there had been some question as to whether these leaves were available to part-time employees. Obviously, the intent was always that it be describing full-time employees since they would be subject to being away from work without being compensated, where part-time employees could have the flexibility of being away from work at different times. The ordinance provides that employees who utilize vacation and sick leave time can do this in 1-hour increments

rather than the current 2-hour minimum. Previously, our computer software tracking these leave times could not accommodate anything less than 2 hours. There is a revision to the regulations with regard to health insurance that reflects that the Town pays 93 percent of the healthcare coverage on an employee rather than the 95 percent paid in previous years. The Safety Risk Management Program has been amended to the extent that it identifies new locations such as the new Community Center, where Material Safety Data Sheets are available. Finally, there is a redrafting of the Communicable Disease/Exposure Control Policy as requested by OSHA. Periodically, federal regulations change with regard to these matters, and the revision here only reflects current acceptable standards.

When this matter is considered later this evening, it would be the recommendation of the Budget and Finance Committee that the ordinance implementing these revisions be considered on first and final reading and that they become effective immediately.

Jacqueline K. King

John W. Jones, Jr.

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE REPORT

AUGUST 27, 2007

1. At the last meeting of Council, an action was taken to rezone properties which are located generally along Peppers Ferry Road from a point on Cove Road eastwardly to Interstate 77. In the action taken by the Council, all of the designated lands in that area with the exception of the Travel Center of America truck stop, King and King Enterprises, and JRJ Properties, LLC would be included in the rezoning. The consideration of rezoning these properties was the result of the Planning Commission's review of controlling the entrance corridors into town.

In our Committee meetings we discussed those properties which had been excluded from the previous action. Ultimately, we think that these excluded properties should be rezoned to B-1 Business, but providing these property owners with special exception permits. This would result in all of the properties within the entrance corridor being zoned Business rather than Industrial. However, because of the logistics of this zoning situation, we think it is the best approach to continue to exclude these properties and take a subsequent look at the properties that were excluded from the rezoning. Later this evening when Ordinance No. 1220 is considered on second reading, it would be the motion of the Public Works Committee that the ordinance be approved on second reading with the exception that the excluded properties not only be the Travel Center of America, King and King Enterprises, and JRJ Properties, LLC, but also include the property owned by the

Gordon family located at 200 Cove Road. The Gordon property is a parcel of property that lies between King and King Enterprises and JRJ Properties, LLC.

2. Last week, representatives from Wythe County, Bland County, and the Town of Wytheville met with representatives from the Virginia State Police to discuss the potential for the regional consolidation of E-911 dispatching services. Bland County, Wythe County, and the Town of Wytheville have been considering, for some time, the potential to consolidate dispatching services. Recently, it was determined that there was also the potential for the Virginia State Police to participate in this venture. Under this scenario, the Virginia State Police would construct a facility in which all of the dispatching services would be located. The local agencies would make an annual payment to the Virginia State Police for their share of the expenses associated with the building. The real significance in this type of consolidation with the State Police would be the potential to share equipment and other facilities such as towers. The Virginia State Police advise that they will be doing some additional work to determine the feasibility of this concept. They advise that they should have some additional information available within the next couple of months.

It has become apparent that the consolidation of dispatching services is going to be an economic necessity. The equipment and resources required to meet the mandated requirements for E-911 and cellular emergency calls are rapidly expanding. This equipment is very expensive, and without a consolidation, each of the jurisdictions will be required to buy its own equipment. The equipment has the capability of serving multiple jurisdictions, and, therefore, it does not make sense to

buy three sets of equipment instead of one. There is no action required on the Council's part at this time, though this is an important issue that we will be addressing over the next year or so.

William B. Weisiger

H. Judson Lambert