

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE WYTHEVILLE TOWN COUNCIL
HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS ON MONDAY, APRIL 26, 2004, AT 7:00 P.M.**

Members present: Trenton G. Crewe, Jr., Jacqueline K. King, John W. Jones, Jr., William B. Weisiger, Charles G. Crockett

Members absent: None

Others present: Town Manager C. Wayne Sutherland, Jr., Assistant Town Manager Stephen A. Moore, Town Clerk Sharon P. Hackler, Director of Parks and Recreation Rick Showalter, Recreation Program Coordinator Gary Jeffrey, Patrol Officer Chris Irvin, Stephanie Porter-Nichols with Wytheville Enterprise, Dan L. Adams with American Electric Power, Amanda Gordon, Brandon Bentley, 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. He advised that Town Attorney Kaase will be unable to attend the meeting. The invocation was given by Vice-Mayor King followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by Councilman Jones.

RE: CONSENT AGENDA

Mayor Crewe presented the consent agenda consisting of the minutes of the regular meeting of April 12, 2004. A motion was made by Vice-Mayor King and seconded by Councilman Weisiger to approve the consent agenda consisting of the minutes of the regular meeting of April 12, 2004. 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, Charles G. Crockett. Against: None.

RE: PUBLIC HEARING – BONDS

Mayor Crewe stated the meeting constituted a public hearing (due notice having been given) to consider the proposed issuance of bonds to finance improvements to the sewer system of the Town in an estimated maximum amount of \$270,000. He advised that as the Council will recall, in February, the Council adopted a Rural Development loan resolution for the Sewer Interceptor Project because it came in over the estimated expected bids by \$270,000, and the Council had to increase the budget to \$1,092,000. Mayor Crewe explained that all of this has already taken place, but now, the Council needs to go back and amend the prior resolution to increase the amount of the general obligation sewer bonds by \$270,000 to match the work that was done in February. He remarked that the Council will consider this later in the meeting, but the Council had advertised for a public hearing. He stated he has not received any comments, and advised that no one has indicated on the sign up sheet that they desired to address the Council regarding this matter. Mayor Crewe inquired if there are persons present who wish to address the Council regarding this matter during the public hearing. There being none, he declared the public hearing closed. He advised that if someone arrives later at the meeting and desires to address the Council, he will permit them to speak.

RE: ELECTRICAL FRANCHISE

Mayor Crewe stated the next agenda item is Citizens' Period. He remarked that as the Council can see in their package, the Council has advertised to receive bids for a franchise for an electric light, heat, and power transmission and distribution system in the Town of Wytheville. He remarked that the Town has only received a bid from American Electric Power, and the Council has this before them. Mayor Crewe noted it will be necessary for the Council to act on the bid and to accept it. He stated the only thing the Town needs to do is to accept the bid. Mayor Crewe remarked that he would assume what Mr. Dan Adams has submitted is sufficient and noted that the Town has received the written bid from American Electric Power. He stated he did not know if Mr. Adams needs to add any comments but could if he wishes, but advised that Mr. Adams did not have to address the Council. Mr. Adams indicated that he does not have anything to add, and noted there is only the bid that Mayor Crewe has presented. Mayor Crewe advised that the Council will consider the ordinance later in the meeting. He stated he will ask the Council, and noted that Mr. Adams has to travel, that they take the ordinance out of order on the agenda and consider it now. Mr. Adams noted that he has several documents to be signed, and it will take some time to secure the signatures. He indicated that if Mayor Crewe wanted to proceed with the meeting as usual, he can obtain the signatures after the meeting. Mayor

Crewe noted that the Town Council has a budget work session immediately following the regular meeting. He stated assuming that the ordinance will pass since there are no other bids, he could be signing the documents. Mayor Crewe explained that the Council will proceed and consider the ordinance.

RE: ORDINANCE NO. 1171 – ELECTRICAL FRANCHISE

Mayor Crewe presented Ordinance No. 1171, an ordinance to sell and grant a franchise for an electric light, heat and power and transmission and distribution system in the Town of Wytheville, Virginia, on first reading. A motion was made by Vice-Mayor King and seconded by Councilman Weisiger to suspend the rules and adopt Ordinance No. 1171, an ordinance to sell and grant a franchise for an electric light, heat and power transmission and distribution system in the Town of Wytheville, Virginia, on first and final reading. 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, Charles G. Crockett

AGAINST: None

ABSTENTIONS: None

Ordinance No. 1171 was adopted on first and final reading. Mayor Crewe indicated that he will be glad to sign Mr. Adams' papers during the remainder of the meeting.

RE: RECREATION PROGRAM PRESENTATION

Mayor Crewe stated the next agenda item is the presentation by Mr. Gary Jeffrey, Recreation Program Coordinator, on community programs. Vice-Mayor King indicated that this program is interesting, and that is the reason she requested him to do the presentation for the Council. Mayor Crewe advised that the electronic brochure is also very nice. Mr. Jeffrey stated he works in the Parks and Recreation Department in community programs. He explained that he works in the section of the Parks and Recreation Department that is not always seen in the public as much as the athletics and aquatics because of their popularity. Mr. Jeffrey indicated that he has been requested to produce a small slide show of the things that go on in their department with community programs. He explained that this slide show will give the Council an idea of some of the programs they are doing in the Recreation Department. Mr. Jeffrey advised that there are two other departments within the Recreation Department. He noted that one of these departments is the athletic department, and the other is the aquatics department. Mr. Jeffrey stated that there is also the community programs department. He indicated that the athletics department encompasses a full year's schedule with soccer, baseball, basketball, football, and some special event athletic programs. Mr. Jeffrey remarked that the aquatics department runs basically from Memorial Day to Labor Day and includes McWane Pool and the McWane Tides Swim Team. He stated the programs he is responsible for are senior programs, adult programs, youth programs, and the growing outdoor education programs. Mr. Jeffrey explained that, for example, some of the senior programs that the Recreation Department is doing include the different trips and outings, lots of racquet and paddle sports, a new chess club, potluck luncheons, outdoor activities, Senior Olympics, dancing, quilting, etc. He presented a slide of a picture of some of the seniors that are involved in badminton. Mr. Jeffrey pointed out that badminton is very popular, and there have been seniors participating in the Senior Olympics in the state and local games. He stated they also take lots of senior trips. Mr. Jeffrey indicated that some of these trips include mall trips, dinner trips, dinner cruises, etc. He noted that one of the stronger programs of the Recreation Department, and noted it is one of the more simple ones, is the potluck luncheons. Mr. Jeffrey remarked that there are usually 20+ senior citizens who come in once a month and have lunch. He stated that one of the larger groups that the Recreation Department participates with is the New River Valley Senior Olympic Games that start this weekend. Mr. Jeffrey noted there are many outdoor activities, and there are a large number of senior citizens who participate in them. He explained that the adult programs are another part of the community programs. Mr. Jeffrey stated that these programs consist of the after hours concerts, the different outdoor activities, karate, and dances. He noted a lot of adults are taking advantage of the Recreation Department's outdoor programs. He presented a slide of a photograph of a trip on the New River when they stopped for lunch. Mr. Jeffrey indicated that the after hours concerts will begin rather soon. He noted the concert schedule is for June 4, July 4, and August 6. Mr. Jeffrey explained that the July 4 concert date will include fireworks, and it is going to be held on Sunday. He noted that the youth programs that are offered at the Recreation Center include the new Outdoor Adventure Club, which is rather popular, dances, Winterfest, a bike rodeo, karate, etc. Mr. Jeffrey stated that these activities take place during the

time of most everyone's work schedule. He presented a picture of the Winterfest program, and noted he is sure that most of the Council has heard of Winterfest, but may not have seen any pictures or been involved with it. Mr. Jeffrey also presented a slide of the youth karate program, and advised that this is a strong program. He noted that there is also a program called "Little Dragons" for children ages three and under and noted that this is a new program. He then presented a slide of this year's Easter Egg Hunt and advised that there was a great turnout this year, especially with the younger age group. Mr. Jeffrey remarked that the bike rodeo this year is going to be sponsored by the Safety Day Program and the Recreation Department, and it is going to be a much bigger event. He noted that Kidventures is the summer day camp program, which is a youth program, that fills up rather early in the year, usually around February. Mr. Jeffrey explained that they have 50 children all day long, and Kidventures is based on outdoor activities. He then presented a slide with a collage of pictures from several of their programs. Mr. Jeffrey explained that they have a new equestrian program that includes beginner horseback riding to children doing gymnastics on horseback to confidence building programs. He stated there are several pictures of youth participating in sports activities. Mr. Jeffrey advised that they also do some work with the Wythe Bland Tennis Association and are involved with youth tennis. He indicated that they take the children ice skating in the Kidventure program, and they also take them hiking. Mr. Jeffrey noted the Outdoor Adventure Club includes some bike trips. He remarked that a new program they started last year is a Grandparents Day trout fishing. Mr. Jeffrey noted that Grandparents Day is usually the first Sunday after Labor Day, and they try to do a Grandparents Day fishing trip. He stated they have the outdoor education programs where they teach beginner through intermediate in several different outings, caving, rock climbing, kayaking, and cycling. He noted there is also skiing and wilderness education programs. Mr. Jeffrey presented snapshots of the caving programs. He remarked that they take individuals to semi-local caves and teach them safety and caving ecology. Mr. Jeffrey presented photographs of rock climbing programs they have had in the past. He noted these are all held locally and are for beginners. Mr. Jeffrey remarked that they teach safety first, and there are great activities for the children. He pointed out that their most popular program is the intermediate kayaking program. Mr. Jeffrey advised that any youth groups and senior citizens can participate, and noted that these groups do participate. He indicated that these programs are educational as well as fun. Mr. Jeffrey remarked that this year, the Recreation Department is sponsoring the Big Walker Century Ride which is a 100-mile bike ride through Wythe and Bland Counties. He noted that this will be held on July 3, which is the weekend of the after hours concert, and indicated that he hopes this all works well together. Mr. Jeffrey explained that two years ago, they started working with Winter Place on a 5-week learn-to-ski program, which has really been popular, and indicated that this is a great deal for the citizens of this area. He noted that Winter Place is semi-local for skiing, and it is all based on learning to ski. Mr. Jeffrey remarked that Winter Place is a great place to learn to ski, and it is not too far for a day trip. He indicated that the logo the Council sees indicates a program that is national that starts out simple with an outdoor ethics seminar that teaches citizens who may be training to be outdoors how to help preserve the wilderness. Mr. Jeffrey explained that this program has a great philosophy on how to act when outdoors, what a person should pack in and out of the wilderness and how to do this. He advised that one of the pictures depicts one of their local horseback trail rides. Mr. Jeffrey remarked that the equestrian program offers a lesson in learning to drive a cart. He summarized that these are some of the programs the Recreation Department has going on. Mayor Crewe indicated that the Recreation Department stays busy. Mr. Jeffrey remarked that they try to keep community programs going year round. He advised that this ends his presentation, and inquired if the Council has any questions regarding any of the programs. Vice-Mayor King stated that Mr. Jeffrey did a good job on the presentation. Mayor Crewe noted he did not know if there is a town anywhere near the town's size that offers all of these recreational programs. He thanked Mr. Jeffrey for bringing this presentation to the Council and for explaining all of these recreational programs. Mayor Crewe inquired if there are any questions or comments. There being none, Mayor Crewe thanked Mr. Jeffrey and Director of Parks and Recreation Showalter for attending the meeting.

RE: CITIZENS' PERIOD

Mayor Crewe inquired if there are persons present who wish to address the Council during Citizens' Period. He advised that no one has come into the meeting to discuss the franchise for an electric light, heat, and power transmission and distribution system in the Town of Wytheville.

There being no one who desired to address the Council during Citizen's Period, he proceeded with the agenda.

RE: OLD BUSINESS

Under Old Business, Town Manager Sutherland reported the following:

1. The Town heard last week, and noted that the Town staff had just returned last week and the Budget and Finance Committee saw the trophy, that the Town was awarded the National Best Tasting Drinking Water in America. At the National Rural Water Association conference last week, the water was judged on taste, clarity, smell, and several other factors. The Town's water won at the State level a few weeks earlier, and last week, the Town was proud to note that its water had become a national winner. The Town is very pleased about this. Vice-Mayor King advised that the trophy was in the form of a water drop.
2. A topic that was discussed at the last Joint Governing Bodies meeting was the potential to have the next meeting on May 24. This has now been arranged, and the meeting will be on the Town Council's regular meeting night. The Joint Governing Bodies will convene at 6:00 p.m. As the Council will recall, there was a need to hold a joint public hearing on the Solid Waste Management Plan. This meeting has been scheduled for May 24 at 6:00 p.m. Mayor Crewe inquired if the meeting will be held in the Town of Wytheville Municipal Building. Town Manager Sutherland advised that is correct and noted that the meeting will be held in Conference Room B.

Councilman Weisiger advised that the Town should advertise the water award. Vice-Mayor King indicated that there was an article in the *Wytheville Enterprise* regarding the award. Mayor Crewe stated that it was in the newspaper on Saturday. Vice-Mayor King stated that Mr. Danny Gordon with WYVE/WXBX has not received information regarding the award.

Mayor Crewe inquired if there are any other items of Old Business to be reported. There being none, he proceeded with the agenda.

RE: BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

Councilman Jones, reporting for the Budget and Finance Committee, stated that with warmer weather returning in springtime, the activity of juveniles in public locations is beginning to increase. He stated the Town's Code provides that it is unlawful for any minor to be in public places between the hours of 11:00 p.m. and 4:00 a.m. the following day. Councilman Jones remarked that there are, of course, exceptions for supervised activities or when the minor is accompanied by a parent, guardian, or other adult person. He explained that these regulations are set out in Section 9-57 of the Town's Code. Councilman Jones remarked that this section does not provide any penalties for violating the section. He noted that the section merely notes that the penalty shall be dealt with in accordance with juvenile and domestic relations law and procedures. Councilman Jones stated that the Town's Police Department advises that the local Juvenile Court is reluctant to impose penalties since the Town's Code does not specifically set forth a penalty. He advised it would be the recommendation of the Budget and Finance Committee that the Council ask Town Attorney Kaase to address this issue by suggesting amendments that will be acceptable to the local Juvenile and Domestic Relations Court. Mayor Crewe indicated that he did not think the Public Works Committee has seen this because this was done after the Public Works Committee had met. He inquired if the Public Works Committee has any problems with asking Town Attorney Kaase to review this matter. It was noted that the Public Works Committee did not have any problem with asking Town Attorney Kaase to review this matter. It was the consensus of the Council to ask Town Attorney Kaase to suggest amendments to the curfew regulations of the Town Code that will be acceptable to the local Juvenile and Domestic Relations Court.

Councilman Jones also reported that later in the meeting, the Council will have a budget work session to review in a preliminary fashion the appropriations that have been requested by the Town's various departments. He stated that as usual, there are far more requests for appropriations than revenues will permit. Councilman Jones pointed out that there is no question that all of the requested appropriations are valid and would serve the various departments well, but, unfortunately, there are not sufficient revenues to accommodate all of the requests. He noted that also, there continues to be a lack of information from the state regarding what amount of state funds will be provided for the upcoming fiscal year. Councilman Jones stated it is difficult to firmly establish the appropriations side of the budget without having a complete picture of the anticipated revenues. He advised that both the Budget and Finance Committee and the Public Works Committee will continue to review budget numbers in the upcoming weeks at their Committee meetings. Councilman Jones noted that the Committee would also suggest that the Council move the budget adoption process forward two weeks, making the first reading of the budget on May 24, rather than May 10 as previously discussed. Mayor Crewe advised that the communication he received this afternoon is the hope is, and noted the Council has heard this before, that apparently the Senate Finance Committee has worked out what they think will be approved, and, tomorrow, the Senate should pass this in the morning, and, hopefully the House will adopt a budget in the afternoon. He noted this is a

compromised bill based on House Budget Bill 5018. Mayor Crewe advised he does not know the specifics of which changes were made, but explained that the amendment adds revenue above what the House budget bill was. He noted that possibly, everyone will be lucky, and the State will act by tomorrow and the Council will know what the budget will be. Mayor Crewe inquired if any member of Council has any problems with moving the budget hearing forward two weeks to May 24 rather than May 10. He noted that although there will be a joint meeting that evening, there should not be a problem. It was the consensus of the Council to move the budget adoption process forward two weeks, making the first reading of the budget on May 24, rather than May 10. Town Manager Sutherland stated the Virginia Municipal League sent out a memo this afternoon seeking a response to the United States Senators, and noted this is something that could impact all of the State's budget again, which is the whole revision to the way Internet sales are going to be taxed. He noted that according to the League, if it is passed in a fashion that it is currently before Congress, there will be billions and billions of dollars that will be lost in revenues to the State in taxation from Internet sales. Town Manager Sutherland advised that this matter remains to be watched. A copy of the Budget and Finance Committee report is attached and made part of these minutes. ([Attachment](#)).

RE: PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE REPORT

Councilman Crockett, reporting for the Public Works Committee, stated that the New River Regional Water Authority met last week, and the Committee thought it may be helpful to give the Council an update of the activities of the Authority. He stated that at the New River Regional Water Authority's last meeting, it was at the recommendation of the interview committee that the Authority should negotiate a contract with the engineering firm of Peed & Bortz. Councilman Crockett advised that the Authority's attorney, Mr. Webster Day, is currently in the process of reviewing the contract documents, and it is anticipated that the Authority will approve the contract with Peed & Bortz at the next meeting. He explained that Peed & Bortz has established their design fees to be in accordance with the fees permitted by Rural Development. Councilman Crockett indicated that the fees allowed by Rural Development are conservative, and, therefore, clearly, the Authority is benefiting from a lower expense than normal. Councilman Crockett stated that secondly, the Authority continues to review the service agreement among the three participating jurisdictions. He noted that while the service agreement is somewhat of a lengthy document, it sets out that participating communities are obligated to purchase certain quantities of water from the Authority once the water treatment plant is completed. Councilman Crockett explained that the document also makes provisions for the reallocation of consumptions in the event that one community needs more or less water than was originally anticipated. He stated it would seem that the Authority will spend several more meetings trying to find language that is enforceable and acceptable to all three jurisdictions. Mayor Crewe advised that he knows both Council Committees reviewed the draft in its present form. He stated the Council will look forward to seeing more changes to the agreement as it goes through the process.

Councilman Crockett also reported that at the last meeting, the Committee advised that the Town had let a contract for milling and paving various streets throughout town. He stated that at that meeting, several members of Council noted other streets that may want to be added as this paving program went forward. Councilman Crockett remarked that currently, the estimated cost of work to be performed is about \$210,000, and there is \$225,000 in the current year's budget for these activities. He stated the Committee discussed this at their meeting last week and determined that the Committee will attempt that as the paving program was ongoing, they would monitor the expenses, and, if possible, add the several streets that had been suggested by members of Council. Councilman Crockett advised that at this time, the Committee does not know if they will be able to do this, or not, but they will attempt to accommodate these requests. A copy of the Public Works Committee report is attached and made part of these minutes. ([Attachment](#)).

RE: RESOLUTION – GENERAL OBLIGATION SEWER BONDS

Mayor Crewe stated the next agenda item is the consideration of a resolution supplementing and amending a prior resolution that authorized the issuance of \$822,000 general obligation sewer bonds, in order to increase the amount of the bonds by \$270,000 and provide for changes to the details of the bonds. He explained that this resolution goes back to the action that the Council took to increase the general obligation sewer bonds to accommodate \$270,000 in additional costs that were in the documents the Council approved in February. A motion was made by Councilman Jones and seconded by Councilman Weisiger to approve the resolution supplementing and amending a prior resolution that authorized the issuance of \$822,000 general obligation sewer bonds, in order to increase the amount of the bonds by \$270,000 and provide for changes to the details of the bonds. Mayor Crewe inquired if there is any discussion on the motion. He noted this resolution will make the total cost \$1,092,000. There being no

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, Charles G. Crockett. Against: None.

RE: SPORTS HALL OF FAME MONUMENT HONOREE

Mayor Crewe stated the next agenda item is the consideration of the nominee submitted by the Wythe County Sports Hall of Fame Committee for inclusion on the Sports Hall of Fame Monument. He noted the recommendation is that the name of Roland Lazenby be included on the Sports Hall of Fame Monument. A motion was made by Vice-Mayor King and seconded by Councilman Crockett to accept the recommendation of the Wythe County Sports Hall of Fame Committee and the Wall of Honor Committee to include the name of Roland Lazenby on the Sports Hall of Fame Monument. 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, Charles G. Crockett. Against: None.

RE: ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Crewe advised that the Council has a budget work session immediately following the regular meeting. 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, CMC, Clerk of Council

**MINUTES OF THE WORK SESSION OF THE WYTHEVILLE TOWN COUNCIL
HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS ON MONDAY, APRIL 26, 2004, AT 7:30 P.M.**

Members present: Trenton G. Crewe, Jr., Jacqueline K. King, John W. Jones, Jr., William B. Weisiger, Charles G. Crockett

Members absent: None

Others present: Town Manager C. Wayne Sutherland, Jr., Assistant Town Manager Stephen A. Moore, Town Treasurer Michael G. Stephens, Stephanie Porter-Nichols with Wytheville Enterprise

RE: 2004-05 BUDGET WORK SESSION

Mayor Crewe called the work session to order. He stated the purpose of the meeting is to discuss the appropriations in the proposed budget for the Town of Wytheville for fiscal year 2004-05. Mayor Crewe requested Town Manager Sutherland and Town Treasurer Michael Stephens to review the proposed appropriations in the proposed budget. There was no action taken in regard to the proposed budget.

RE: ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the work session was adjourned (8:40 P.M.).

Trenton G. Crewe, Jr., Mayor

C. Wayne Sutherland, Jr., Town Manager

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE REPORT

APRIL 26, 2004

1. The New River Regional Water Authority met last week, and we thought it may be helpful to give the Council an update of the activities of the Authority. At our last meeting, it was at the recommendation of the interview committee that the Authority should negotiate a contract with the engineering firm of Peed & Bortz. The Authority's attorney, Mr. Webster Day, is currently in the process of reviewing the contract documents, and it is anticipated that the Authority will approve the contract with Peed & Bortz at the next meeting. Peed & Bortz has established their design fees to be in accordance with the fees permitted by Rural Development. The fees allowed by Rural Development are conservative, and, therefore, clearly, the Authority is benefiting from a lower expense than normal. Secondly, the Authority continues to review the service agreement among the three participating jurisdictions. While the service agreement is somewhat of a lengthy document, it sets out that participating communities are obligated to purchase certain quantities of water from the Authority once the water treatment plant is completed. The document also makes provisions for the reallocation of consumptions in the event that one community needs more or less water than was originally anticipated. It would seem that the Authority will spend several more meetings trying to find language that is enforceable and acceptable to all three jurisdictions.

2. At the last meeting, we advised that the Town had let a contract for milling and

paving various streets throughout town. At that meeting, several members of Council noted other streets that may want to be added as this paving program went forward. Currently, the estimated cost of work to be performed is about \$210,000, and there is \$225,000 in the current year's budget for these activities. We discussed this at our meeting last week and determined that we will attempt that as the paving program was ongoing, we would monitor the expenses, and, if possible, add the several streets that had been suggested by members of Council. At this time, we do not know if we will be able to do this, or not, but we will attempt to accommodate these requests.

William B. Weisiger

Charles G. Crockett

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BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

APRIL 26, 2004

1. With warmer weather returning in springtime, the activity of juveniles in public locations is beginning to increase. The Town's Code provides that it is unlawful for any minor to be in public places between the hours of 11:00 p.m. and 4:00 a.m. the following day. There are, of course, exceptions for supervised activities or when the minor is accompanied by a parent, guardian, or other adult person. These regulations are set out in Section 9-57 of the Town's Code. But, this section does not provide any penalties for violating the section. It merely notes that the penalty shall be dealt with in accordance with juvenile and domestic relations law and procedures. Our Police Department advises that the local Juvenile Court is reluctant to impose penalties since the Town's Code does not specifically set forth a penalty. It would be the recommendation of the Budget and Finance Committee that we ask Town Attorney Kaase to address this issue by suggesting amendments that will be acceptable to the local Juvenile and Domestic Relations Court.
2. Later this evening, the Council will have a budget work session to review in a preliminary fashion the appropriations that have been requested by the Town's various departments. As usual, there are far more requests for appropriations than revenues will permit. There is no question that all of the requested appropriations are valid and would serve the various departments well, but, unfortunately, there are not sufficient revenues to accommodate all of the requests. Also, there continues to be a lack of information from the state regarding what amount of state funds will be provided for the

upcoming fiscal year. It is difficult to firmly establish the appropriations side of the budget without having a complete picture of the anticipated revenues. Both our Committee and the Public Works Committee will continue to review budget numbers in the upcoming weeks at our Committee meetings. We would also suggest that we move the budget adoption process forward two weeks, making the first reading of the budget on May 24, rather than May 10 as previously discussed.

Jacqueline K. King

John W. Jones, Jr.

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