

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE WYTHEVILLE TOWN COUNCIL
HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS ON MONDAY, MAY 8, 2006, AT 7:00 P.M.**

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

Members absent: Trenton G. Crewe, Jr.

Others present: Town Manager C. Wayne Sutherland, Jr., Assistant Town Manager Stephen A. Moore, Town Clerk Sharon P. Hackler, Town Attorney Robert P. Kaase, Police Officer Chris Irvin, Justin Harmon with Wytheville Enterprise, Agnes Eades, Kim Dunford, Mark Dunford, Alex Dunford, Elijah Dunford, Deborah Little, Nefertiti Anvorid

RE: CALL TO ORDER, QUORUM, INVOCATION, PLEDGE

In the absence of Mayor Crewe, Vice-Mayor King called the meeting to order and established that a quorum of Council members was present. She noted that Mayor Crewe is out of Town with his father being ill. The invocation was given by Councilman Lambert followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by Spiller Elementary students.

RE: CONSENT AGENDA

Vice-Mayor King presented the consent agenda consisting of the minutes of the regular meeting and the work session of April 24, 2006, and the request of the American Legion Auxiliary Unit 9 for waiver of fee for use of the Community Center on June 2 and 3, 2006, for an indoor yard sale. A motion was made by Councilman Jones and seconded by Councilman Lambert to approve the consent agenda consisting of the minutes of the regular meeting and the work session of April 24, 2006, and the request of the American Legion Auxiliary Unit 9 for waiver of fee for use of the Community Center on June 2 and 3, 2006, for an indoor yard sale. Vice-Mayor King 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: Jacqueline K. King, John W. Jones, Jr., William B. Weisiger, H. Judson Lambert. Against: None.

RE: CITIZENS' PERIOD

Vice-Mayor King stated the next agenda item is Citizens' Period. She inquired if there are persons present who wished to address the Council during Citizens' Period. There being none, she proceeded with the agenda.

RE: OLD BUSINESS

Under Old Business, Town Manager Sutherland reported the following:

1. Sometime ago, the Town had submitted an application to the Tobacco Commission for a grant in the amount of \$247,000. This application was reviewed by a subcommittee of the Tobacco Commission in Abingdon a week or so ago, and the end result of that day's review, combined with all the other applications that were submitted, by the subcommittee was that the Town be awarded a grant in the amount of \$95,000. The subcommittee's recommendation is merely a recommendation until it reaches the full Tobacco Commission in Richmond. The Commission, last week, ratified the recommendation of the subcommittee, and the Town will receive a \$95,000 grant. The purpose of this grant is to be used for technological equipment and devices in the new Community Center. The award was not as much as the Town had hoped to receive, but it is \$95,000 more than the Town started with. It was good to receive this grant.
2. For those who can attend, the Amcor groundbreaking will be held on Thursday, May 11, at 10:30 a.m. in Progress Park.
3. On Tuesday of next week, May 16, at 1:30 p.m., there will be a State highway marker dedicated at the Training Center. This is something the Training Center has worked on for some time trying to get this highway marker, and, apparently, they were successful.
4. The New River Regional Water Authority will meet on Thursday, May 18.
5. The Council members received an e-mail noting that the Joint Governing Bodies meeting scheduled for May 29, 2006, has been cancelled.

RE: BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

Councilman Jones, reporting for the Budget and Finance Committee, reported that later in the meeting, the Council will consider, on the first of three readings, the proposed budget for fiscal year 2006-2007. He noted that on May 22, there will be a public hearing with regard to the budget document with the budget being considered on second reading on that evening, and the scheduled final reading of the budget will be on June 12. Councilman Jones advised that the Committee thought it would be helpful to give citizens an overview of the significant features within the proposed budget. He stated the total proposed budget for the coming year is \$21,314,000. Councilman Jones noted this number represents both the revenues and the appropriations for both the General Fund and the Water and Sewer Fund. He remarked that the combined total consists respectively of \$17,014,000 in the General Fund and \$4,300,000 in the Water and Sewer Fund. Councilman Jones pointed out that clearly, the largest expenditure on the General Fund side of the budget for this year is construction and operational expenses associated with the new community center. He stated that slightly over \$7.5 million of the total General Fund allocations will be associated with the new community center. Councilman Jones remarked that the vast majority of this sum is the cost of construction. He noted that generally speaking, all of the other line items within the General Fund appropriations have remained relatively stable and reflect only slight increases to adjust for revisions to salaries and inflation. Councilman Jones indicated that with regard to the Water and Sewer Fund, revenues and appropriations will remain relatively the same in the upcoming year, though there will be slight increases in revenues once Gatorade begins to consume water in large quantities. He stated that for both funds, there is no capital outlay funding provided in the budget as drafted, but the Committee realizes that there will be isolated events during the year that will require appropriation of funds. Councilman Jones advised that the budget, as proposed, maintains all current tax rates and user fees. He stated there are no increases proposed within the budget. Councilman Jones commented that the budget also reflects a 3.5 percent cost of living payroll increase for employees. He advised that with the exception of the new community center, the level of services to the citizens will be maintained in the proposed budget. A copy of the Budget and Finance Committee Report is attached and made part of these minutes. ([Attachment](#)).

RE: PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE REPORT

Councilman Weisiger, reporting for the Public Works Committee, stated the Town has received bids for applying asphalt to various locations throughout town. He stated the current year's budget has \$250,000 allocated for these paving projects. Councilman Weisiger remarked that unfortunately, escalation in petroleum costs has negatively impacted the Town's paving schedule for this spring. He noted that bids were received from three construction companies with the low bid being submitted by Apac of Virginia, Incorporated with a price of \$56.15 per ton in place. Councilman Weisiger stated this is approximately \$13 per ton more than it was during the 2005 paving schedule. He explained that originally, the Town had anticipated it would be able to install 5,663 tons of asphalt paving, but with the increased tonnage price, the Town will now have to reduce the program to approximately 4,288 tons of asphalt. Councilman Weisiger stated this will provide approximately \$9,000 for areas where tonnage overruns estimates. He noted that the Town has awarded the contract to proceed to Apac of Virginia, Incorporated though, unfortunately, the schedule for this spring has been reduced by about 45 percent. Councilman Weisiger stated that hopefully, petroleum prices will moderate in the coming year, and the Town will be able to resume its normal paving schedule.

Councilman Weisiger also reported that last week, representatives from the Virginia Department of Transportation met with the Town staff to discuss the commencement of acquiring the right of way needed to construct the connector road from Peppers Ferry Road to Lithia Road. He remarked that this project has been scheduled to commence for many, many years, but lack of funding by the Department of Transportation put the project on hold. Councilman Weisiger indicated that the design for this project has been completed for a number of years, and earlier this spring, the Department of Transportation conducted a public hearing, which is the first required step in bringing the project to bid. He explained that certain portions of right of way already exist for the new connector road. Councilman Weisiger noted that the Town recently acquired the needed right of way from Peppers Ferry Road to the new community center. He remarked that the next parcel of right of way belongs to the Virginia Community College System where a right of way has existed across this property since it was given to the Community College System. Councilman Weisiger advised that the Department of Transportation will need to acquire right of way from a point near the cul-de-sac on Cassell Road southeasterly to Lithia Road. He stated the Department's representatives noted that they were in a position, now, to submit this to the Transportation Board for authorization to proceed with purchasing the needed right of way. Councilman Weisiger remarked that hopefully, this project could be bid by next summer. He stated the new connector road will be very valuable to the Town's new community center as well as traffic to the community college. Councilman Weisiger noted that additionally,

it will provide a much needed corridor between the north and south sides of town. He indicated that no action is required by the Council, but the Committee did want to advise that the Department of Transportation had taken these recent actions. A copy of the Public Works Committee report is attached and made part of these minutes. ([Attachment](#)).

RE: ORDINANCE NO. 1202 – INOPERATIVE VEHICLES

Vice-Mayor King presented Ordinance No. 1202, an ordinance amending and reenacting Chapter 12, Solid Waste Collection and Disposal, Article VII. Keeping of Inoperative Vehicles, Sections 12-130, Definitions, and 12-132, Exceptions, of the Code of the Town of Wytheville, Virginia, on second reading. She stated the Town has received no comments to date regarding this ordinance. A motion was made by Councilman Jones and seconded by Councilman Lambert to approve Ordinance No. 1202, an ordinance amending and reenacting Chapter 12, Solid Waste Collection and Disposal, Article VII. Keeping of Inoperative Vehicles, Sections 12-130, Definitions, and 12-132, Exceptions, of the Code of the Town of Wytheville, Virginia, on second, but not final, reading. Vice-Mayor King 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: Jacqueline K. King, John W. Jones, Jr., William B. Weisiger, H. Judson Lambert

AGAINST: None

ABSTENTIONS: None

Ordinance No. 1202 was approved on second, but not final, reading.

RE: ORDINANCE NO. 1203 – BUDGET ORDINANCE

Vice-Mayor King presented Ordinance No. 1203, the budget ordinance for fiscal year 2006-2007, on first reading. A motion was made by Councilman Lambert and seconded by Councilman Weisiger to adopt and appropriate the departmental budget and adopt Ordinance No. 1203, the budget ordinance for fiscal year 2006-2007, on first, but not final, reading. Vice-Mayor King inquired if there is any discussion on the motion. Councilman Jones stated the only thing he would like before the Town Council finalizes the budget on the third reading is to get some type of consensus on how the Council wants to do the financing on the community center. Vice-Mayor King stated that is acceptable. She inquired if there is any other discussion on the motion. There being none, the motion was approved with the following voting in favor and there being no opposition:

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

AGAINST: None

ABSTENTIONS: None

Ordinance No. 1203 was approved on first, but not final, reading.

RE: RELAY FOR LIFE

Town Manager Sutherland stated he was talking to Mr. Steve Lester today with regard to Relay for Life, and, apparently, they are going to be in the magnitude of \$175,000 that they raised for that event. Vice-Mayor King stated she filled in for the Mayor and gave the welcome speech for this event.

RE: SPILLER ELEMENTARY STUDENTS

Vice-Mayor King advised the Spiller Elementary students that the Town Council is thrilled that they attended the meeting and requested them to attend another meeting. The students noted they would come back. Vice-Mayor King inquired if after listening to the meeting if the students have anything to state. Ms. Little noted that one of the students speaks, reads, and writes in three languages. She inquired if the student could tell the Council what three languages he could read, write, and speak. The student answered Russia, Ukrainian, and English. Vice-Mayor King and the other members of Council noted that this was remarkable. One of the students noted they could speak Spanish. Vice-Mayor King inquired if Ms. Little is their instructor who taught them English. Ms. Little advised that is correct, and noted that they speak English as a second language as well as learning about being a good American citizen. She pointed out that

they know more about America than a lot of fifth graders do. Ms. Little indicated that they know who the President is, and inquired of the children as to who is the President. The children answered that George W. Bush is the President. Ms. Little inquired as to who is the Governor of Virginia. The children answered Tim Kaine. Ms. Little inquired as to who is the Mayor. They answered that Trent Crewe is the Mayor. Ms. Little inquired as to who is the Vice-Mayor. The children answered that Jackie King is the Vice-Mayor. Ms. Little indicated that she has a good time each day with the children and noted they are smart children. She stated they do know a lot about America. Ms. Little noted that the children also noted that they know what the seven spikes on the Statute of Liberty were for. The children noted that the seven spikes represent the seven seas and the seven continents. Vice-Mayor King advised that Ms. Little is smart. Ms. Little reiterated that the children are smart. Vice-Mayor King stated that is correct. Ms. Little advised that the children all speak English well. Vice-Mayor King noted that this is wonderful. Councilman Weisiger noted he agreed. Vice-Mayor King invited the children to attend another Council meeting and noted that the Council is glad the children were able to be present.

RE: ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to be discussed, a motion was duly made, seconded, and carried to adjourn the meeting (7:20 p.m.).

Jacqueline K. King, Vice-Mayor

Sharon P. Hackler, MMC, Clerk of Council

BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

MAY 8, 2006

1. Later this evening, the Council will consider, on the first of three readings, the proposed budget for fiscal year 2006-2007. On May 22, there will be a public hearing with regard to the budget document with the budget being considered on second reading on that evening, and the scheduled final reading of the budget will be on June 12. We thought it may be helpful to give citizens an overview of the significant features within the proposed budget.

The total proposed budget for the coming year is \$21,314,000. This number represents both the revenues and the appropriations for both the General Fund and the Water and Sewer Fund. This combined total consists respectively of \$17,014,000 in the General Fund and \$4,300,000 in the Water and Sewer Fund. Clearly, the largest expenditure on the General Fund side of the budget for this year is construction and operational expenses associated with the new community center. Slightly over \$7.5 million of the total General Fund allocations will be associated with the new community center. The vast majority of this sum is the cost of construction. Generally speaking, all of the other line items within the General Fund appropriations have remained relatively stable and reflect only slight increases to adjust for revisions to salaries and inflation. With regard to the Water and Sewer Fund, revenues and appropriations will remain relatively the same in the upcoming year, though there will be slight increases in revenues once Gatorade begins to

consume water in large quantities. For both funds, there is no capital outlay funding provided in the budget as drafted, but we realize that there will be isolated events during the year that will require appropriation of funds.

The budget, as proposed, maintains all current tax rates and user fees. There are no increases proposed within the budget. The budget also reflects a 3.5 percent cost of living payroll increase for employees. With the exception of the new community center, the level of services to the citizens will be maintained in the proposed budget.

Jacqueline K. King

John W. Jones, Jr.

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE REPORT

MAY 8, 2006

1. The Town has received bids for applying asphalt paving to various locations throughout town. The current year's budget has \$250,000 allocated for these paving projects. Unfortunately, escalation in petroleum costs has negatively impacted our paving schedule for this spring. Bids were received from three construction companies with the low bid being submitted by Apac of Virginia, Incorporated with a price of \$56.15 per ton in place. This is approximately \$13 per ton more than it was during the 2005 paving schedule. Originally, we had anticipated that we would be able to install 5,663 tons of asphalt paving, but with the increased tonnage price, we will now have to reduce the program to approximately 4,288 tons of asphalt. This will provide approximately \$9,000 for areas where tonnage overruns estimates. We have awarded the contract to proceed to Apac of Virginia, Incorporated though, unfortunately, the schedule for this spring has been reduced by about 45 percent. Hopefully, petroleum prices will moderate in the coming year, and we will be able to resume our normal paving schedule.
2. Last week, representatives from the Virginia Department of Transportation met with the Town staff to discuss the commencement of acquiring the right of way needed to construct the connector road from Peppers Ferry Road to Lithia Road. This project has been scheduled to commence for many, many years, but lack of funding by the Department of Transportation has put the project on hold. The design for this project has been completed for a number of years, and earlier this spring, the Department

of Transportation conducted a public hearing, which is the first required step in bringing the project to bid. Certain portions of right of way already exist for the new connector road. The Town recently acquired the needed right of way from Peppers Ferry Road to the new community center. The next parcel of right of way belongs to the Virginia Community College System where a right of way has existed across this property since it was given to the Community College System. The Department of Transportation will need to acquire right of way from a point near the cul-de-sac on Cassell Road southeasterly to Lithia Road. The Department's representatives noted that they were in a position, now, to submit this to the Transportation Board for authorization to proceed with purchasing the needed right of way. Hopefully, this project could be bid by next summer. This new connector road will be very valuable to our new community center as well as traffic to the community college. Additionally, it will provide a much needed corridor between the north and south sides of town. No action is required by the Council, but we did want to advise that the Department of Transportation had taken these recent actions.

William B. Weisiger

H. Judson Lambert