

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE WYTHEVILLE TOWN COUNCIL
HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS ON MONDAY, JUNE 26, 2006, AT 7:00 P.M.**

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

Members absent: William B. Weisiger

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 Jeff Hall, Justin Harmon with Wytheville Enterprise, Jody Gibson, Becky Grubb, Pat Snapp, Jennifer Jones

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 Lambert followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by Vice-Mayor King.

RE: PUBLIC HEARING – BUDGET AMENDMENTS

Mayor Crewe stated the meeting constituted a public hearing (due notice having been given) to consider the budget amendments for fiscal year 2005-06. He noted there are two large amendments, with one being a \$2,100,000 bond for improvements to the Town's water system, and also a Tobacco Commission grant in the amount of \$350,000. Mayor Crewe advised that these two amendments total \$2.45 million. He noted the Council will need to amend their budget to include these amendments since those items were not budgeted when the fiscal year began, but these funds were received during the year. Mayor Crewe inquired if there are persons present who wish to address the Town Council during the public hearing on the budget amendments. There being none, he declared the public hearing closed.

RE: CONSENT AGENDA

Mayor Crewe presented the consent agenda consisting of the minutes of the regular meeting of June 12, 2006; the request of the New River Highlands Resource Conservation and Development for waiver of fee for use of the Community Center on July 27, 2006, for a dinner/meeting; the request of the Wythe County Public Library for waiver of fee for use of the Elizabeth Brown Memorial Park on July 26, 2006, for an end of summer reading program picnic; and, the request of the American Legion Auxiliary Unit 9 for waiver of fee for use of the Elizabeth Brown Memorial Park on July 29, 2006, for a fundraiser. A motion was made by Vice-Mayor King and seconded by Councilman Jones to approve the consent agenda consisting of the minutes of the regular meeting of June 12, 2006; the request of the New River Highlands Resource Conservation and Development for waiver of fee for use of the Community Center on July 27, 2006, for a dinner/meeting; the request of the Wythe County Public Library for waiver of fee for use of the Elizabeth Brown Memorial Park on July 26, 2006, for an end of summer reading program picnic; and, the request of the American Legion Auxiliary Unit 9 for waiver of fee for use of the Elizabeth Brown Memorial Park on July 29, 2006, for a fundraiser. 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., H. Judson Lambert. Against: None.

RE: CITIZENS' PERIOD

Mayor Crewe stated the next item on the agenda is Citizens' Period. He noted that Ms. Jody Gibson with the Chamber of Commerce will address the Council regarding an update on the downtown project. Ms. Gibson advised that she is with the Chamber of Commerce, and she is attending the meeting on behalf of the Downtown Committee to present where they are with their project in regard to timeframes, etc. She noted that Ms. Jennifer Jones with the Chamber of Commerce is also attending the meeting with her. Ms. Gibson remarked that she is going to present information as to where they are with the project. She advised that the last time they came before Council, they did so in Committee meetings and received some inputs, etc., and what they have done is the Committee has gone back and evaluated the comments they received from the Town Council and the landowners. She explained that the Chamber of Commerce had a landowner meeting where they brought everyone in who had anything to do with this, and invited them to a major design meeting to get their input on the idea of this pathway. Ms. Gibson remarked that the result of this is some rough sketches they have developed, and they are trying now to pursue some funding alternatives. She stated what she wants to do is briefly explain the path and what they have done in terms of development. Ms.

Gibson indicated that she would like to talk to the Council a little about how they intend to, hopefully, fund the project. She noted if the Council can envision, it has gone a little bit further than they had originally talked to the Council in Committee meetings. Ms. Gibson advised that originally, when they first started the project, they were going to include Monroe and Spring Streets to try to connect the parks. She indicated that one of the comments they received is they should get to the parks and possibly beyond. Ms. Gibson noted that members of the Committee had really good input in terms of what they could do to make this path a little bit stronger from point to point, and there was really some good input. She indicated that what they have decided to do is try to develop a project from Withers Park with actually some type of element at the park, whether it is a gate a person enters that would come between the Recycling Center, next to the bleachers, and come along the parking lot in front of the pool and the Recycling Center, to a point where a person would cross Monroe Street. Ms. Gibson remarked that this would make a little bit more developed stopping and crossing point. Ms. Gibson indicated that the stopping point would be at the exact same place it is currently at the traffic light. She noted a person would come across the walkway between King's Produce and the UPS Store, come through the alley, and cross Main Street at the same current crossing point, and this is only developing a path from one point to the next point. Ms. Gibson remarked that then what they are proposing to do is cross Main Street and develop downtown to Wordsprint and along this entire path to Spring Street. She noted when a person gets to Spring Street, take the path all the way down along the edge of Elizabeth Brown Park, ending up on Washington Street. She noted the thought with this, and advised that they are still evaluating this potential, is hooking a walk back into Church Street, so it would actually tie back in to the historic walk through the downtown. Ms. Gibson pointed out that their project is growing a little bit since the last time they talked to everyone. She advised that they are starting to develop the elements of the walking path, and they have simplified a few things and not making them so elaborate with regard to the gateways and such. Ms. Gibson indicated that the idea is this would be a little more simplified. She noted at the light at the crossing on Monroe Street, a person would cross at King's Produce. Ms. Gibson stated what they are doing now is simplifying their elements a little bit with regard to the light poles, the planters, the tree plantings, etc. She advised that they are still evaluating the idea of the gateways at certain points along the path. Ms. Gibson indicated that these would be very simple gateways that would pick up on the architecture of the gazebos in town, so the architecture would be brought out of some of the elements already in town along the path. She explained that what they were able to do was go to a Virginia Department of Transportation Enhancement Program seminar last week. Ms. Gibson remarked that one of the options the Committee is looking at, aside from fundraising because there are some businesses interested in contributing in buying light poles and having plaques put on, those types of things, is possibly going after VDOT Enhancement Program funding. Ms. Gibson advised that one of the things they learned last week, and indicated this is one of the things they wanted to ask for Council's approval to continue, is they would need a sponsor of the application. She explained that the Committee would be doing all the work for the application, in association with the Chamber of Commerce, and all they would like to ask at this meeting is if everyone is still in agreement with the project, to have the Town sponsor the Chamber of Commerce to submit the application. Ms. Gibson stated it is a long, drawn out process, and this is what they are finding out because the application is submitted in November, and the applicants are not actually aware of whether they are awarded any money or not for any portion of their project until fall of next year. She noted it is in May or June that the applicants are notified of any award, but the monies do not actually become available until October of the next year. Ms. Gibson reiterated that it is a little bit of a long, drawn out process, and they have some more study to do with that. She advised what they would like to do is phase the project and start to really investigate who is interested in fundraising for certain elements, and then how they could fund specific portions of the project all the way through. Ms. Gibson indicated it is probably going to take several years to do this, but it is something the Committee wants to move forward with. She inquired if there are any questions from the Council. Mayor Crewe inquired if it is the new ISTEA funding and inquired if this is the new federal funding or inquired if Ms. Gibson is talking about State money from VDOT. Ms. Gibson answered that it is State money. Town Manager Sutherland advised that it is a pass through. Mayor Crewe inquired if this would interfere with anything the Town is trying to do already and inquired if there is any reason the Town would not want to assist in that portion of the fundraising from the Town's grant writing side and inquired if this would hurt the Town on something else the Town is trying to do and if the Town would count it on its debt limit or anything like that. Town Manager Sutherland stated this would not hurt the Town. Mayor Crewe advised that the Town's experience is these grants are very difficult to obtain. Ms. Gibson stated that is correct, and noted this is the impression they received at this seminar last week. She remarked that there are certain elements of their project that fall into the twelve criteria for judging, and noted that several things they have already done fall into that twelve criteria. Ms. Gibson pointed out that there are several things they think they can do, and noted that Director of Museums Frances Emerson is on their Committee, and this project can help enhance the work they are doing at the Visitor's Center. She advised that there is one portion they still want to review from Withers on up to the Visitor's Center. Ms. Gibson indicated that they still want to

study this a little to see if there is either a way to bring that in, phase it in, or something so that actually they have the opportunity before they are finished to complete from the Visitor's Center all the way down through town, all the way down to Elizabeth Brown Park, and tie all the way in. She pointed out that this keeps getting bigger, but advised she thinks they need to look at the whole thing before they try to go after funding to develop it. Ms. Gibson advised that she thinks there are several criteria, and they would love to be able to apply for the grant funding. She remarked that she thinks they have a strong chance, but as Mayor Crewe has noted, it is competitive. Mayor Crewe stated the Chamber Committee would not qualify as a grant recipient for the application and inquired if that is correct. Ms. Gibson stated that is correct. Ms. Jennifer Jones explained that the Chamber of Commerce can apply for the grant application, but they need to have a government sponsor. Mayor Crewe inquired as to Council's reaction and if they have any questions or comments. Vice-Mayor King stated she thinks it is a good idea. Councilman Jones stated he agreed. Councilman Lambert stated he certainly supports being the sponsor. Vice-Mayor King stated she agreed. Councilman Lambert inquired if the Chamber has any idea of the cost. Ms. Gibson answered that they have started to break down the cost block by block, and, currently, they have not gotten into a lot of details because they are still working with the power company to try to understand what it would take to get some things underground in certain places, but, currently, they have between \$300,000 to \$350,000 for four blocks. She remarked that as she has stated, she does not want to be quoted on that because they are still in the development, but it is a substantial amount of money to complete the entire project. Ms. Gibson advised what they were told was this is not really a grant, but with the Enhancement Program, they can ask for up to \$1 million, and there were some strategies, and they would like to meet with Assistant Town Manager Moore, eventually, if they can continue, because in the application process, there are some ways to strategize the project, and it can be funded over a couple of years. She stated this program is going to be in existence until at least 2009. Ms. Gibson indicated that it may take a couple of years. She noted they stated if they fund a portion of one project, the chances of them funding other portions of the project as it continues will be increased. She remarked that their Committee wants to pursue this funding if they can. Mayor Crewe stated he thinks he is reading Council correctly, and told them to correct him if he is not. He noted that a year ago, when the Council held the discussions, they thought it was an exciting idea and worth pursuing, and now that it has more definitiveness, his read of Council is it still looks like a great idea and worth pursuing. Ms. Gibson stated that is great and thanked the Council for their support. Mayor Crewe advised that he did not know where the Chamber Committee is in their process, but if the Council needs to take formal action to authorize the Town to assist in this, he thinks they could do this at their meeting. Mayor Crewe reiterated that his read of Council is they would support this. He indicated that he did not know if the Chamber Committee needs this action now or later in the future, and remarked that he did not know the Chamber Committee's timetable. Ms. Gibson advised that they are not sure of the timetable because they are still in development, but they appreciate any support or whatever they could do together to work with the Town to make the project successful. Mayor Crewe advised that what the Council needs to do is entertain a motion that the Council authorize Town staff to work with the Chamber of Commerce and their Committee to try and pursue this idea, including any funding that the Town may assist in. Ms. Gibson stated this would be great. A motion was made by Vice-Mayor King and seconded by Councilman Lambert to authorize Town staff to work with the Chamber of Commerce by assisting in the development of the downtown project and to serve as the government sponsor for an application for funding. Mayor Crewe indicated that he is looking at two things including the Town assisting in the planning and development of the project, and, also, whatever the Town's name needs to be attached to as an applicant or a sponsor or whatever form it takes, and noted that the Town Council approves this. Ms. Gibson remarked that this would be great, and the Chamber of Commerce really appreciates the support because she thinks it is a tremendous project for the town, and the Chamber of Commerce is excited about it. Mayor Crewe inquired if there is any discussion on the motion. He noted the motion is that the Council authorize Town staff to assist in the development of the project and the Town to serve as the sponsor of any eligible funding that may be possible for this project. 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., H. Judson Lambert. Against: None. Ms. Gibson thanked the Town Council, and noted the Chamber of Commerce appreciates their support. Mayor Crewe inquired if the reaction of the property owners has been rather positive. Ms. Gibson stated the reaction of the property owners has been extremely positive, and they are very involved. She noted the Chamber of Commerce is working to keep the property owners involved and informed. Ms. Gibson remarked now that the Chamber of Commerce has the Council's sponsorship, they will start publicizing this more, and they will be back for a letter of support for their grant application. She noted this project is moving along a little slowly, but it is coming together. Mayor Crewe thanked Ms. Gibson for attending the meeting, and noted that the Council appreciates Ms. Gibson's and the Chamber of Commerce's efforts.

Mayor Crewe inquired if there are others who wish 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. This week, the Public Works Committee will not meet, but the Budget and Finance Committee will meet on Thursday morning, June 29, 2006, on its regular date and time.
2. Next Tuesday is July 4 and will be observed as a holiday by the Town employees. On the evening of July 4, there will be the activities and the After Hours Concert at Withers Park followed by fireworks.

Mayor Crewe requested the Council members to adjust their schedules according to the Committee meeting schedule this week, and noted only one Committee meeting will occur this week.

RE: BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

Vice-Mayor King, reporting for the Budget and Finance Committee, reported that earlier in the meeting, a public hearing was held to consider amending the budget for fiscal year 2005-2006. She noted State law provides that any revision to a municipal budget in excess of one percent requires a public hearing. Vice-Mayor King advised that during this past year, bond proceeds in the amount of \$2.1 million were received and used for the installation of the water line to Progress Park serving the Gatorade facility. She stated that in addition to the bond proceeds, the Town was also the recipient of a Tobacco Commission grant in the amount of \$350,000. Vice-Mayor King explained that the total proceeds received for this project were \$2,450,000. She noted it would be the recommendation of the Budget and Finance Committee that the budget for fiscal year 2005-2006 be amended to reflect the receipt of this \$2.45 million and that an equal value be appropriated, designated, and expended in a line item called "Lot 31 Water Extension." Vice-Mayor King indicated that the effect of this revision is that the Water and Sewer Budget will be revised from \$4,685,034 to \$7,135,034. She pointed out that this is a lot of money. Vice-Mayor King remarked that the General Fund totals will remain the same, and the new total budget will rise from \$29,156,796 to \$31,606,796. A motion was made by Vice-Mayor King and seconded by Councilman Jones to amend the budget for fiscal year 2005-06 to reflect the receipt of this \$2.45 million and that an equal value be appropriated, designated, and expended in a line item called "Lot 31 Water Extension." Mayor Crewe noted the motion is to add \$2.45 million to the revenue side of the budget because of the two grants, and also to add the same amount on line item "Lot 31 Water Extension" on the disbursement side of the budget. Mayor Crewe pointed out that the General Fund total will remain the same. He 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., H. Judson Lambert. Against: None. Mayor Crewe noted that the budget will be so amended.

Vice-Mayor King noted that secondly, during this past year, there were a number of improvements performed at the West End Cemetery. She explained that the total cost of these improvements was approximately \$68,000. Vice-Mayor King noted that funds from the Cemetery Trust Fund in the same amount need to be transferred from the Cemetery Trust Fund into the General Fund. She stated it would be the recommendation of the Budget and Finance Committee that the Council authorize Town Treasurer Mike Stephens to take the appropriate steps to request these funds from the Trustee and that, once received, these funds be placed into the General Fund. A motion was made by Vice-Mayor King and seconded by Councilman Jones to authorize Town Treasurer Mike Stephens to request and accept funds from the Cemetery Trust Fund and to place them into the General Fund for the improvements performed at the West End Cemetery. 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., H. Judson Lambert. Against: None.

Vice-Mayor King stated that finally, the Committee would note that there are a number of line items within the current budget for fiscal year 2005-2006 that are in excess of the monies that were appropriated. She indicated that as in past years, it would be the recommendation of the Budget and Finance Committee that the Council authorize the Treasurer to make line item revisions within the current budget transferring monies as may be necessary to balance each departmental budget. A motion was made by Vice-Mayor King and seconded by Councilman Jones to authorize the Treasurer to make line item revisions within the current budget

transferring monies as may be necessary to balance each departmental budget. Mayor Crewe indicated that the motion from the Committee is the line item revisions within the current budget be made transferring from categories, but it does not change the total amounts. Vice-Mayor King stated that is correct. 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., H. Judson Lambert. Against: None.

Vice-Mayor King also reported that this past week, each Committee had the opportunity to review contracts for certain work that is to be performed at the Wastewater Treatment Plant. She noted that one contract is with the Siemens Corporation at a cost of \$92,915. Vice-Mayor King indicated that there are a number of improvements under way at the Wastewater Treatment Plant, and the work by Siemens Corporation will be to install the large electrical components needed to control this new equipment. She stated the project that is under way at the Wastewater Treatment Plant also involves the installation of new aeration units. Vice-Mayor King remarked that pumping air into raw sewage is an important component of the treatment process. She stated the contract that both Committees reviewed is from Structure & Utilities Company, Incorporated at a price of \$49,479. Vice-Mayor King noted that this contract is for the installation of piping needed within the treatment basins for the new aeration system. She stated it would be the recommendation of the Budget and Finance Committee that the Council authorize the Town Manager to execute these contracts. A motion was made by Vice-Mayor King and seconded by Councilman Jones to authorize the Town Manager to execute the contracts with Siemens Corporation in the amount of \$92,915 to install large electrical components at the Wastewater Treatment Plant and with Structure & Utilities Company, Incorporated in the amount of \$49,479 to install new aeration units at the Wastewater Treatment Plant. Mayor Crewe indicated that the motion would be to authorize the Town Manager to execute the two contracts, one with Siemens Corporation for \$92,915, and one with Structure & Utilities, Incorporated for \$49,479. 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., H. Judson Lambert. Against: None. 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, stated that on November 14, 2005, the Council approved the installation of stop signs at three of the four approaches at the intersections of Mountain View Drive and Fisher Road. He noted that the stop signs are currently installed on both approaches of Mountain View Drive to Fisher Road, and Fisher Road has a stop sign at Mountain View Drive for traffic proceeding south. Councilman Lambert advised that it was the consensus of the Council, at that time, that the efficiency of this intersection should be reviewed in six months. He remarked that the Committee has observed this intersection over this period of time and find it is working very well and does, in fact, improve the safety of this intersection. Councilman Lambert stated that unless the Council would direct otherwise, the Committee would recommend that the current stop sign configuration remain. Mayor Crewe noted that he takes this as the Council needs to do nothing and will leave the situation as it is unless someone makes a motion to change it. He inquired if there is any such motion to change the stop sign configuration. Vice-Mayor King stated she is still opposed to it very much and so is Ms. Rhonda Lefler, who lives at the stop sign. She advised that she knows how all the other Council members feel. Councilman Lambert indicated that he feels this way. Councilman Jones stated if Vice-Mayor King had made a motion, it would have died from lack of a second. Vice-Mayor King remarked that there were no wrecks at this intersection before, and noted she does not know who is observing this stop sign situation, but there has been one accident since the stop sign was erected. Mayor Crewe indicated that he thinks the Town has figures, but noted he has not seen them since he missed the meeting. He noted he believes there was a report from the Police Department. Vice-Mayor King noted that the report shows there were no accidents prior to the stop sign installation. Councilman Jones stated that someone ran the stop sign on Mountain View Drive and hit Ms. Barbara Goins' car. Vice-Mayor King stated that someone ran the stop sign. Councilman Jones noted that the motorist was coming out of Mountain View Drive, and Ms. Goins was coming up Fisher Road. Mayor Crewe stated this stop sign has been there a long time. Councilman Jones stated that is correct, and noted that the person took off. Mayor Crewe remarked that hearing no motion, he thinks the consensus from the Council is they will leave the stop sign configuration as it is for the time being. Vice-Mayor King inquired if she did not get to vote nay. Mayor Crewe noted that Vice-Mayor King's objection is duly noted, but this stop sign configuration will remain. Councilman Jones advised that he has been on the receiving end of a 4-1 vote. Vice-Mayor King noted that it does not hurt Councilman Jones' feelings, but it hurts her feelings because she lived there for 30+ years.

Councilman Lambert also reported that about the same time last year, a fence was erected around the property of the Wytheville Training Center at the northeast corner of Fifth and Franklin Streets. He stated the fence that was erected encroached onto the Town's right-of-way, and the Committee concluded that they would observe this situation for a six month period to see if its encroachment posed any problems. Councilman Lambert noted that since that time, the Town has had several comments concerning lack of visibility that has resulted because of the installation of the fence. He advised that when the Council discussed this, they looked at the potential to create a four-way stop sign situation at this location. Councilman Lambert remarked that essentially, there are only two ways to correct the lack of visibility. He noted one would be to have the Training Center remove and relocate the fence at a location off the right-of-way, and the other would be to create a four-way stop situation where sight distance would not be a problem. Councilman Lambert stated it is the opinion of the Committee that the Council should create a four-way stop situation at this location and observe movement of traffic at this intersection for a six month period. He noted if the Council determines that the four-way stop configuration is not effective, the Council will necessarily have to require the Training Center to relocate their fence. Councilman Lambert remarked that, therefore, it is the recommendation of the Public Works Committee that the intersection of Fifth and Franklin Streets be made a four-way stop configuration. Mayor Crewe inquired if anyone objects to making this intersection a four-way stop configuration. Vice-Mayor King stated she thinks this is worth a try. Mayor Crewe inquired if the Council would like to try this four-way stop situation for six months and see what happens. He noted since there is no objection, the Town can monitor this to see what happens, and if it does not work, it appears the only thing left to do is take down the fence or move it.

Councilman Lambert also reported that the Committee received an inquiry, this week, from Mr. Tom Smith who is acting as the coordinator for a proposed 5K Run on September 23, 2006. He noted that Mr. Smith would propose that this be the first in a series of annual events that would raise money for the benefit of the American Cancer Society. Councilman Lambert advised that the 5K Run that is proposed is entirely within the downtown district and has been reviewed by the Police Department. He advised that the Police Department has reported that they do not see any problems associated with this run, and, therefore, it would be the recommendation of the Public Works Committee that the Council authorize this 5K Run to be conducted on September 23, 2006. Mayor Crewe inquired if there are any objections to authorizing this 5K Run. He inquired if the Council needs to take formal action on it since it is a little further out. Mayor Crewe noted that hearing no objections, his read on Council is it is the consensus of the Council to authorize the 5K Run to be conducted on September 23, 2006, to raise money to benefit the American Cancer Society. A copy of the Public Works Committee report is attached and made part of these minutes. ([Attachment](#)).

RE: CLOSED MEETING

Town Attorney Kaase stated he would request the Town Council to consider a brief closed meeting under Section 2.1-344(A)(7) of the Code of Virginia for a report with reference to pending litigation. A motion was made by Councilman Jones and seconded by Councilman Weisiger to hold a closed meeting pursuant to Section 2.1-344(A)(7) of the Code of Virginia for the purpose of a report from the Town Attorney with reference to pending litigation. 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., H. Judson Lambert. Against: None. (7:25 p.m.)

Mayor Crewe advised that what this means is the Town Council will be going into a closed meeting, and no one in the audience will be able to attend. He noted that from what Town Attorney Kaase has indicated, he does not think it is going to be particularly lengthy, and noted he also does not think there is going to be any action taken when they come out of the closed meeting. Mayor Crewe informed Mr. Justin Harmon with the Wytheville Enterprise that there may be some action taken, but the Town staff could call him tomorrow, or he could call the Town Office. He reiterated that he does not think it would be worth staying for, and that the closed meeting should not be too long. He thanked everyone for attending the meeting.

RE: RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION

A motion was made by Councilman Lambert and seconded by Councilman Jones to reconvene to open session. 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., H. Judson Lambert. Against: None.

RE: CERTIFICATION OF CLOSED MEETING

A motion was made by Councilman Jones and seconded by Councilman Lambert that nothing was discussed in the closed meeting except the matter or matters (1) specifically identified in the motion to convene in a closed meeting and (2) lawfully permitted to be so discussed under the provisions of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act cited in that motion. 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., H. Judson Lambert

AGAINST: None

ABSTENTIONS: None

A copy of the certification is attached and made part of these minutes. (7:39 p.m.)

RE: ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to be discussed, a motion was duly made, seconded, and carried to adjourn the meeting (7:40 p.m.).

Trenton G. Crewe, Jr., Mayor

Sharon P. Hackler, MMC, Clerk of Council

BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

JUNE 26, 2006

1. Earlier this evening, a public hearing was held to consider amending the budget for fiscal year 2005-2006. State law provides that any revision to a municipal budget in excess of one percent requires a public hearing. During this past year, bond proceeds in the amount of \$2.1 million were received and used for the installation of the water line to Progress Park serving the Gatorade facility. In addition to the bond proceeds, the Town was also the recipient of a Tobacco Commission grant in the amount of \$350,000. The total proceeds received for this project were \$2,450,000. It would be the recommendation of the Budget and Finance Committee that the budget for fiscal year 2005-2006 be amended to reflect the receipt of this \$2.45 million and that an equal value be appropriated, designated, and expended in a line item called "Lot 31 Water Extension." The effect of this revision is that the Water and Sewer Budget will be revised from \$4,685,034 to \$7,135,034. The General Fund totals will remain the same, and the new total budget will rise from \$29,156,796 to \$31,606,796.

Secondly, during this past year, there were a number of improvements performed at the West End Cemetery. The total cost of these improvements was approximately \$68,000. Funds from the Cemetery Trust Fund in the same amount need to be transferred from the Trust Fund into the General Fund. It would be the recommendation of our Committee that we authorize Town

Treasurer Mike Stephens to take the appropriate steps to request these funds from the Trustee and that, once received, these funds be placed into the General Fund.

Finally, we would note that there are a number of line items within the current budget for fiscal year 2005-2006 that are in excess of the monies that were appropriated. As in past years, it would be the recommendation of the Budget and Finance Committee that we authorize the Treasurer to make line item revisions within the current budget transferring monies as may be necessary to balance each departmental budget.

2. This past week, each Committee had the opportunity to review contracts for certain work that is to be performed at the Wastewater Treatment Plant. One contract is with the Siemens Corporation at a cost of \$92,915. There are a number of improvements under way at the Wastewater Treatment Plant, and the work by the Siemens Corporation will be to install the large electrical components needed to control this new equipment. The project that is under way at the Wastewater Treatment Plant also involves the installation of new aeration units. Pumping air into raw sewage is an important component of the treatment process. The contract that both Committees reviewed is from Structures & Utilities Company, Incorporated at a price of \$49,479. This contract is for the installation of piping needed within the treatment basins for the new aeration

system. It would be the recommendation of the Budget and Finance Committee that the Council authorize the Town Manager to execute these contracts.

Jacqueline K. King

John W. Jones, Jr.

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PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE REPORT

JUNE 26, 2006

1. On November 14, 2005, the Council approved the installation of stop signs at three of the four approaches at the intersection of Mountain View Drive and Fisher Road. The stop signs are currently installed on both approaches of Mountain View Drive to Fisher Road, and Fisher Road has a stop sign at Mountain View Drive for traffic proceeding south. It was the consensus of the Council, at that time, that the efficiency of this intersection should be reviewed in six months. We have observed this intersection over this period of time and find that it is working very well and does, in fact, improve the safety of this intersection. Unless the Council would direct otherwise, we would recommend that the current stop sign configuration remain.

At about the same time last year, a fence was erected around the property of the Wytheville Training Center at the northeast corner of Fifth and Franklin Streets. The fence that was erected encroached onto the Town's right-of-way, and our Committee concluded that we would observe this situation for a six month period to see if its encroachment posed any problems. Since that time, we have had several comments concerning lack of visibility that has resulted because of the installation of the fence. When we previously discussed this, we looked at the potential to create a four-way stop sign situation at this location. Essentially, there are only two ways to correct the lack of visibility. One would be to have the Training Center remove and relocate the fence at a location out of the right-of-way, and the other would be to create a four-way stop situation where sight distance would not be a problem. It is

the opinion of our Committee that we should create a four-way stop situation at this location and observe movement of traffic at this intersection for a six month period. If we determine that the four-way stop configuration is not effective, we will necessarily have to require the Training Center to relocate their fence. Therefore, it is the recommendation of the Public Works Committee that the intersection of Fifth and Franklin Streets be made a four-way stop configuration.

2. Our Committee received an inquiry, this week, from Mr. Tom Smith who is acting as the coordinator for a proposed 5K Run on September 23, 2006. Mr. Smith would propose that this be the first in a series of annual events that would raise money for the benefit of the American Cancer Society. The 5K Run that is proposed is entirely within the downtown district and has been reviewed by our Police Department. The Police Department has reported that they do not see any problems associated with this run, and, therefore, it would be the recommendation of the Public Works Committee that the Council authorize this 5K Run to be conducted on September 23, 2006.

William B. Weisiger

H. Judson Lambert