

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE WYTHEVILLE TOWN COUNCIL  
HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS ON MONDAY, JULY 28, 2008, 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., Town Clerk Sharon P. Hackler, Town Attorney Robert P. Kaase, Police Officer Heath Hyatt

**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. The invocation was given by Councilman Jones followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by Councilman Lambert.

**RE: CONSENT AGENDA**

Vice-Mayor King presented the consent agenda consisting of the minutes of the regular meeting of July 14, 2008. 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 of July 14, 2008. 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: 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 noted that no citizens are in attendance at the meeting to address the Council, so she proceeded with the agenda.

**RE: OLD BUSINESS**

Under Old Business, Town Manager Sutherland reported the following:

1. Both Council Committees will meet on their regular days and times this week.
2. Commencing next week, the National Incident Management Systems training will begin. Councilman Weisiger inquired if there will be one meeting next week on Thursday morning at 6:00 a.m. Town Manager Sutherland answered that is correct and advised that NIMS training will be held on August 7, 12, and 14 at 6:00 a.m. Councilman Jones indicated that he has one person from the Training Center who will be attending. He advised that the other person that he thought would be attending completed the training while he was in the military.
3. On Friday evening, the Council Appreciation Reception will be held for members of the Town's boards and commissions. Councilman Weisiger inquired if it would be on the second floor of the Heritage Preservation Center. Town Manager Sutherland advised that is correct.

**RE: BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT**

Councilman Jones stated he would recommend that the reports not be read, but be placed into the minutes.

The Budget and Finance Committee report was placed into the Council minutes as follows:

1. All full-time employees of the Town of Wytheville are covered by the Virginia Retirement System. A number of years ago, the Town, similar to practically all localities in Virginia, chose to pay both the employer and the employees' share of the required contribution. At the time the decision was reached to pay the employees' portion of the contribution, a resolution was adopted by the Council enacting this change. We have now been advised by the Virginia Retirement System that due to a new Internal Revenue Service ruling, each government who has elected to provide the member contribution of five percent to be treated on a pretax basis must adopt a new resolution reflecting this practice. Later this evening, the Council will consider a resolution that reflects our current practice, and it would be the recommendation of the Budget and Finance Committee that the resolution be adopted.

Vice-Mayor King remarked that later in the meeting, the Council will consider a resolution that reflects the Town's current practice, and it would be the recommendation of the Budget and Finance Committee that the resolution be adopted.

2. The Town currently uses National Bank for all banking services. Our arrangement with National Bank has been on an annual calendar year basis. Recently, the County of Wythe received proposals from all banking institutions in town and selected National Bank on the basis of a number of services that were included with little or no fee attached to them. Subsequent to this, National Bank has extended to the Town the opportunity to renew the banking relationship with them for an additional three years providing the same level of service that it will provide Wythe County. Beyond the services that we are currently receiving, National Bank has committed to institute a floor interest rate on the Town's primary account to a level of not less than 2.5 percent. In addition, they have offered additional Internet banking services and credit card services that previously have had fees associated with them. Given the level of service that is being offered by National Bank, it is the recommendation of the Budget and Finance Committee that we extend our current relationship with them for a three year period.

Vice-Mayor King advised that for Item #2, the Budget and Finance Committee has a recommendation on the banking proposals for National Bank. She indicated that this is a recommendation from the Committee that does not require a second. Vice-Mayor King inquired if the Council has read the report. Councilman Weisiger stated that is correct, and the Council knows about this recommendation. 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. A copy of the Budget and Finance Committee report is attached and made part of these minutes. ([Attachment](#)).

#### **RE: PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE REPORT**

The Public Works Committee report was entered into the Council minutes as follows:

1. Representatives from the Virginia Department of Transportation were here last week to discuss the construction of Community Boulevard. This section of roadway, previously known as the Connector Road, has been on the construction schedule of VDOT for many, many years. Because of escalating costs and declining State revenues, this project has been delayed on a number of occasions. The Department of Transportation now advises that the project is fully funded and they are in the process of acquiring right of way along the project route. They noted that they had already purchased some right of way and were in the process of performing appraisals and contacting other landowners. One significant portion of right of way for the new road crosses the property of the Wytheville Community College. When the land for the Community College was donated, there was reserved right of way across this property for a potential new street. Given that situation, the right of way across the Community College will be the result of an internal transfer from the Department of Community Colleges to the Department of Transportation. There are several minor construction issues yet to resolve, but VDOT has now stated that they are scheduling this project to be advertised for construction in October of 2009. This will be a very valuable section of roadway for which we have waited many years, and we are optimistic that it will go to construction at that time.
2. At the last Joint Governing Bodies meeting, there was a discussion about the need to perform a study about the potential for a countywide water system. As you will recall, there were certain residents who are situated between Wytheville and Rural Retreat who were experiencing water problems and were seeking the connection of all countywide systems. The Joint Governing Bodies did, in fact, appoint a committee to evaluate this matter, and it was determined that we would seek grant funds from the Virginia Department of Health to perform this study. Unfortunately, funding from the Department Health did not materialize, and no further action was taken. Wythe County, on behalf of all three governing bodies, has made an application to the Mount Rogers Planning District Commission for grant funds to perform this study. Mount Rogers Planning District Commission has indicated that they have \$60,000 available to be applied toward the study. We have received a proposal from Peed & Bortz which indicates that the study will cost \$75,000. It has been suggested that all three governing bodies contribute \$5,000 each which, when combined with the grant funds from Mount Rogers, would total the study's expenses. Our Committee believes that the availability of water throughout the county is a worthwhile venture, and it would be the recommendation of the Public Works Committee that the Town contribute \$5,000 toward this study assuming that grant funds are received from Mount Rogers Planning District Commission and provided that

both Wythe County and Rural Retreat contribute an equal amount. A motion was made by Councilman Lambert and seconded by Councilman Weisiger that the Town contribute \$5,000 toward this countywide water study assuming that grant funds are received from Mount Rogers Planning District Commission and provided that both Wythe County and Rural Retreat contribute an equal amount. 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. A copy of the Public Works Committee report is attached and made part of these minutes. ([Attachment](#)).

**RE: RESOLUTION – VIRGINIA RETIREMENT SYSTEM**

Vice-Mayor King noted the next agenda item is the consideration of a resolution regarding affirmation of authorization to pick-up the employees' contributions to the Virginia Retirement System. She noted the motion of the Budget and Finance Committee is this resolution be approved, and it already has a second. 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: ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to be discussed, a motion was duly made, seconded, and carried to adjourn the meeting (7:05 p.m.).

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Jacqueline K. King, Vice-Mayor

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Sharon P. Hackler, MMC, Clerk of Council

## **BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT**

**JULY 28, 2008**

1. All full-time employees of the Town of Wytheville are covered by the Virginia Retirement System. A number of years ago, the Town, similar to practically all localities in Virginia, chose to pay both the employer and the employees' share of the required contribution. At the time the decision was reached to pay the employees' portion of the contribution, a resolution was adopted by the Council enacting this change. We have now been advised by the Virginia Retirement System that due to a new Internal Revenue Service ruling, each government who has elected to provide the member contribution of five percent to be treated on a pretax basis must adopt a new resolution reflecting this practice. Later this evening, the Council will consider a resolution that reflects our current practice, and it would be the recommendation of the Budget and Finance Committee that the resolution be adopted.
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Jacqueline K. King

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John W. Jones, Jr.

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**JULY 28, 2008**

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recall, there were certain residents who are situated between Wytheville and Rural Retreat who were experiencing water problems and were seeking the connection of all countywide systems. The Joint Governing Bodies did, in fact, appoint a committee to evaluate this matter, and it was determined that we would seek grant funds from the Virginia Department of Health to perform this study. Unfortunately, funding from the Department Health did not materialize, and no further action was taken. Wythe County, on behalf of all three governing bodies, has made an application to the Mount Rogers Planning District Commission for grant funds to perform this study. Mount Rogers Planning District Commission has indicated that they have \$60,000 available to be applied toward the study. We have received a proposal from Peed & Bortz which indicates that the study will cost \$75,000. It has been suggested that all three governing bodies contribute \$5,000 each which, when combined with the grant funds from Mount Rogers, would total the study's expenses. Our Committee believes that the availability of water throughout the county is a worthwhile venture, and it would be the recommendation of the Public Works Committee that the Town contribute \$5,000 toward this study assuming that grant funds are received from Mount Rogers Planning District Commission and provided that both Wythe County and Rural Retreat contribute an equal amount.

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William B. Weisiger

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H. Judson Lambert