

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE WYTHEVILLE TOWN COUNCIL  
HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS ON MONDAY, JUNE 28, 2010, AT 7:00 P.M.**

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

Members absent: None

Others present: Town Manager C. Wayne Sutherland, Jr., Assistant Town Manager Stephen A. Moore, Town Clerk Sharon P. Hackler, Town Treasurer Michael G. Stephens, Town Attorney Robert P. Kaase, Police Officer Chris Irvin, Danny Gordon with WYVE/WXBX, Wayne Quesenberry with *Wytheville Enterprise*, Jack Hunley, Tommy Hundley, Andrea Wilson, Dora Grubb

**RE: CALL TO ORDER, QUORUM, PLEDGE**

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

**RE: CONSENT AGENDA**

Mayor Crewe presented the consent agenda consisting of the minutes of the regular meeting of June 14, 2010. A motion was made by Councilman Weisiger and seconded by Vice-Mayor King to approve the consent agenda consisting of the minutes of the regular meeting of June 14, 2010, as presented. Mayor Crewe inquired if there is any discussion on the motion. There being none, the motion was approved with the following voting in favor and there being no opposition: For: Trenton G. Crewe, Jr., Jacqueline K. King, John W. Jones, Jr., William B. Weisiger, H. Judson Lambert. Against: None.

**RE: PUBLIC HEARING – BUDGET ORDINANCE**

Mayor Crewe stated the meeting constituted a public hearing (due notice having been given) to consider amendments to the fiscal year 2009-10 budget to include amending the Water/Wastewater Administration Department in the amount of \$1,000,000 and the loan from the General Fund line item in the amount of \$1,000,000. Mayor Crewe advised that he is assuming there is no one here to speak to that, and noted the Council would be glad to hear from anyone who would like to speak regarding the budget. Town Manager Sutherland noted he would make one comment on that. He stated that next week the Council Committees will have a complete, line by line, listing of the transfers in the General Fund, and inquired of Town Treasurer Stephens if there would be checks run this week. Town Treasurer Stephens stated the checks would be run on Wednesday. Town Manager Sutherland stated that after that, the final listing will be available, and inquired if the current listing would not be revised. Town Treasurer Stephens advised the current listing will be revised a little. Mayor Crewe inquired if there are any other comments during the public hearing on the Budget Ordinance. There being none, he declared the public hearing closed.

**RE: CITIZENS' PERIOD**

Mayor Crewe stated the next agenda item is Citizens' Period and stated if someone comes in, he will reopen the public hearing and the Citizens' Period unless someone wants to speak to Council during the Citizens' Period. There being none, he proceeded with the agenda.

**RE: OLD BUSINESS**

Under Old Business, Town Manager Sutherland reported the following:

1. The Public Works Committee will not meet this week, and Town staff will send an e-mail to remind everyone that the Public Works Committee will meet on Wednesday of next week because of the 4<sup>th</sup> of July holiday.
2. Tomorrow, at 3:00 p.m., there will be an event at the Community Center for an economic development announcement for Evatran, and the Lieutenant Governor and others will be here to announce the creation and expansion of this facility.

**RE: BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT**

Councilman Jones, reporting for the Budget and Finance Committee, noted that as the Committee reported at the last meeting, the Town has received notice from the Virginia

Retirement System noting that the Virginia General Assembly, in its 2010 Session, passed legislation implementing new plan provisions for employees hired or rehired on or after July 1, 2010, who have no prior Virginia Retirement System service. He stated this new plan is called the VRS Plan #2. He advised the legislation stipulates that Plan 2 employees will pay the five percent member contribution through salary reduction on a pretax basis according to Internal Revenue Service regulations. He stated the legislation goes on to say that a locality can elect to pay some or all of the five percent member contribution on behalf of the Plan 2 employees. He noted that regardless of the option chosen, the adoption of a resolution is required. Councilman Jones advised that after considering the options that are available, the Committee feels that the Town should continue to pay the five percent member contribution for new employees in the same manner as the Town has for the existing employees. He stated that later this evening, a resolution will be considered that sets forth that the Town will pay the member contribution on the Plan 2 employees. He stated it would be the recommendation of the Budget and Finance Committee that this resolution be adopted. Mayor Crewe noted that the Council will consider this resolution momentarily.

Councilman Jones also reported that the Virginia Retirement System has announced that they have created a Long Term Care Insurance Program for employees covered by the Virginia Retirement System. He advised that participation in this program requires a resolution of the governing body to participate. He stated that expenses associated with the long term care insurance are borne by the employee, but the employer is required to payroll deduct the premiums and forward them to the Virginia Retirement System. Councilman Jones noted that the enrollment period has begun, and if the Town is to participate, it is necessary to declare the Council's intent with the adoption of a resolution. He stated the Budget and Finance Committee thinks this is a worthwhile program to offer the Town's employees, but, additionally, it can be offered with no expense to the Town. He advised that later this evening, the Council will consider a resolution that declares its intent to provide the Long Term Care Insurance Program to the Town's employees, and it would be the recommendation of the Budget and Finance Committee that the resolution be adopted. Mayor Crewe advised that the Council will consider adoption of this resolution, as well, later in the meeting.

Councilman Jones also reported that earlier this evening, there was a budget hearing to consider amendments to the budget for fiscal year 2009-2010 to make line item adjustments that would balance the budget. He stated it would be the recommendation of the Budget and Finance Committee that the amendments recommended by Town Treasurer Mike Stephens be adopted and approved. Mayor Crewe noted that is the amendment with the \$1,000,000 loan from the General Fund to the Water and Sewer Fund. He stated the motion would be that the Council amend and appropriate the 2009-2010 Water/Wastewater Administration Department in the amount of \$1,000,000 and the loan from the General Fund in the amount of \$1,000,000, and this is the motion he understands from the Budget and Finance Committee, so it has a second. Mayor Crewe inquired if there is any discussion on the motion. There being none, the motion was approved with the following voting in favor and there being no opposition: For: Trenton G. Crewe, Jr., Jacqueline K. King, John W. Jones, Jr., William B. Weisiger, H. Judson Lambert. Against: None. A copy of the Budget and Finance Committee report is attached and made part of these minutes. [Click @ ^} dE](#)

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

Councilman Weisiger, reporting for the Public Works Committee, reported that the 2010 Session of the General Assembly of Virginia adopted legislation that was subsequently signed into law by the governor to allow for a maximum speed limit of 70 miles per hour for interstate and other highways after a proper traffic engineering study and the analysis of available and appropriate accident information from law enforcement data. He advised the Virginia Department of Transportation is in the process of conducting engineering studies for portions of interstates around the Commonwealth, but of particular interest to the Town is the study for the I-81 and I-77 Corridors in and around Wytheville. He stated the Department of Transportation has solicited comments and concerns that the Council may have with these proposed changes in the speed limits. Councilman Weisiger noted the Committee continues to review this topic and has not, as yet, developed a recommendation for consideration by the Council. He stated the Committee would note that an initial concern that has been identified is any changes in the speed limit on the curve located at milepost 76 on the southbound lane of I-81. He noted that obviously, any increases in the speed limit on this curve would result in additional accidents. Councilman Weisiger advised that the Committee would be happy to hear comments from citizens before making a final recommendation. He stated the Department of Transportation did note, however, that just because these segments of interstates are being studied, it does not necessarily mean that the speed limit will be increased. Mayor Crewe requested that if anybody has comments, please let the Council know.

Councilman Weisiger also reported that the Committee recently had several inquiries with regard to security at the Community Center, particularly the lack of security cameras in the parking lot. He advised that in one incident, a vehicle's window was broken, and a pocketbook was stolen from the car. He stated the Committee has asked the Town staff to get estimates on the cost of installing security cameras in the parking lot, and, hopefully, this information will be available to the Council in the very near future. Councilman Weisiger noted with regard to this topic, the Committee thinks it is important to emphasize to everyone that regardless of where the vehicle is parked, being at the Community Center or otherwise, that valuables not be left in plain view in a vehicle. He stated that, clearly, the safest situation is that any valuables be locked in a trunk and out of view. He noted the Committee would urge everyone to secure any valuables in a vehicle in a location that is out of sight. Councilman Weisiger advised that in any event, the Committee will have information regarding the cost of installing security cameras in the very near future. A copy of the Public Works Committee report is attached and made part of these minutes. [Click here to view the report](#)

### **RE: RESOLUTION – VIRGINIA RETIREMENT SYSTEM**

Mayor Crewe stated the next agenda item is that of resolution, and the first resolution in the packet is the Virginia Retirement System resolution regarding how the five percent member contributions will be paid for the Plan 2 employees. He stated that the recommendation and motion from the Budget and Finance Committee is that it be adopted so that the Town would pay the five percent share for the members' contributions. He inquired if there is any discussion on the motion to adopt that resolution. Councilman Jones noted that the legislation does say that the Council can, each year, pass a resolution or change their election. He stated he thinks that is one of the areas where many localities or states are in trouble, and it is just one of the areas where, at some point, just as the State is doing now, employees may have to bear part, or all, of the cost. Mayor Crewe noted that this option must be done in full percentage points, so the Town could pay anywhere from one percent to the full five percent or the employee could pay, and it would be however the Council would want to divide it. He stated it can be done annually, but once this resolution, as authored now, passes or is adopted, it stays in effect until the Council changes it. He noted this resolution would only affect people who were hired after July 1, 2010, and it does not apply to present employees. He inquired if there is any other discussion. There being none, the motion was approved with the following voting in favor and there being no opposition: For: Trenton G. Crewe, Jr., Jacqueline K. King, John W. Jones, Jr., William B. Weisiger, H. Judson Lambert. Against: None. Mayor Crewe advised the resolution is adopted.

### **RE: RESOLUTION – LONG TERM CARE INSURANCE PROGRAM**

Mayor Crewe advised that the next resolution also comes with a recommendation from the Budget and Finance Committee that it be adopted, and it would authorize the Town Manager to enter into the Employer Adoption Agreement for the Commonwealth of Virginia Voluntary Group Long Term Care Insurance Program so that it will be available to the Town's employees. Mayor Crewe stated that the employee would pay the share and not the employer. He inquired if there is any discussion on that motion from the Budget and Finance Committee to adopt the resolution. There being none, the motion was approved with the following voting in favor and there being no opposition: For: Trenton G. Crewe, Jr., Jacqueline K. King, John W. Jones, Jr., William B. Weisiger, H. Judson Lambert. Against: None. Mayor Crewe advised the resolution is adopted.

### **RE: CITIZENS' PERIOD**

Mayor Crewe greeted citizens arriving at the meeting and advised he has already passed Citizens' Period, but if they wish to address Council, the Council will be glad to hear from them, and he thanked them for attending the meeting. He stated he does not know if they had something they want to talk about. The citizens indicated they would like to speak. Mayor Crewe stated that Ms. Wilson is first on the list, and if she would like to come forward to the microphone where the sound system will pick up her voice, the Council will be glad to hear from her.

Ms. Andrea Wilson stated she is attending the meeting because she lives at 310 Madison Street, and she is here because she grew up around here, and when she was a child, she ran in the streets here and played, and now she is very furious because things have changed. Ms. Wilson stated that there should be a zone 25 miles an hour. She stated her home is in a residential area. She stated people are going by there at 80 or 70 miles an hour, and there are still children out there playing in the street, and she inquired what it takes. She stated they called the police, and they called everybody, and inquired what it takes. She inquired if someone has to get killed before the authorities take note. Town Manager Sutherland advised that he does know that Mr. Arnold sent an e-mail to all patrol officers to run stationary radar in

that area. Mayor Crewe stated he does not know how to answer Ms. Wilson's question because he does not know what the problem is, and he can look at a map, but he is 99.9 percent sure the speed limit is 25 miles per hour. Ms. Wilson stated there is no speed limit sign. Mayor Crewe explained that if there is no otherwise posted speed limit, the speed limit is 25 miles per hour. Ms. Wilson stated she does not see it around that area. Mayor Crewe explained that she does not have to see it to have a 25 miles per hour limit. Ms. Wilson stated the drivers are not doing it. Mayor Crewe advised that there are problems with speeding everywhere, and not just in Wytheville, and he has seen complaints from all over, but there are problems in many areas in town. He stated the problem is that people slow down when they see a police car, and the police do not catch a lot of people, but they are running radar, and Mr. Sutherland has confirmed that today there will be added enforcement. Mayor Crewe stated he does not know why they are not catching anybody, and all he can say is the police try to enforce the speed limit. Ms. Wilson noted there are stop signs around there, and they are running them. She stated they do not even stop. She stated she lives on the corner where there are two stop signs, and there is a hill, and they are running them. Vice-Mayor King inquired if it is people in Ms. Wilson's neighborhood. Ms. Wilson stated that it is. Ms. Dora Grubb stated it is not the people in the neighborhood. Ms. Wilson stated it is some people in the neighborhood, but it is just ongoing traffic, too. Mayor Crewe stated the only thing he can tell Ms. Wilson is that the Police Department can heighten the enforcement, and the Town has done that in various places in town, and when it improves, it improves for a short period of time, and then it gets back to the same way. Mayor Crewe stated he appreciates Ms. Wilson bringing it to the Council's attention, and noted she has already heard that added enforcement is going out as of today. He stated he does not know what result that will bring, but the police can certainly monitor the situation. Ms. Wilson inquired in regard to what it takes, and if it takes kids getting killed or family pets getting killed. Mayor Crewe noted he does not know how to answer Ms. Wilson's question because speeding cannot be stopped, and people cannot be stopped from running a traffic sign. Ms. Wilson noted that today, she came from Roanoke, and she pulled up, and where she has to park there was a motorcycle, and she had her door open to unload her purchases, and the motorcycle was flying through there, like going 80 miles an hour. She inquired in regard to what if he hit her. Vice-Mayor King inquired if Ms. Wilson knows who these people are. Ms. Wilson stated that she does not know who they are. Councilman Lambert inquired if they are not repeat offenders and if there is anybody she can identify who does this time after time. Ms. Wilson stated she just knows this motorcycle goes through there a lot. Mayor Crewe advised that if the police can catch him, they can write a ticket and let the judge decide, but noted he does not know what else the Town can do but provide added enforcement. He noted the Council will be, certainly, more than happy to try to do that, and as Ms. Wilson has heard, that has already been implemented, and the e-mail went out today. Mayor Crewe noted the Town has that problem in lots of places, and Ms. Wilson's is not the only neighborhood it is happening in. Ms. Wilson stated she just wants to speak out for everybody who has a loved one or kids in the neighborhood, and people are speeding through the area. Mayor Crewe stated the Council certainly appreciates Ms. Wilson bringing it to their attention, and the Council will certainly try to address it. Mayor Crewe noted to Ms. Grubb that he is not trying to cut her off, and he knows she signed up to speak, too, but Ms. Wilson may have stated what Ms. Grubb wanted to state, and noted he does not know.

Ms. Dora Grubb introduced herself and stated she lives at 380 West Madison Street, and it has gotten real bad, and it got real bad about a year ago. She stated they do not do it all the time, but at certain times. She stated the speed limit is supposed to be 25 miles per hour, and when they hit where she lives, they are doing every bit of 70 miles per hour. She advised she has seen three little cats, and one of them was her grandson's that he raised from a kitten, and a truck had run over the cat. She stated the cat was just playing on the side of the road, and they just hit him, and it broke her little grandson's heart. She stated they hit him and just kept on going. She stated that one day, there was a cat run over out there, and it was gray, and she does not know who the cat belonged to, but, anyway, the car that hit it and killed it did not even break. Ms. Grubb stated the rest of the cars, nobody bothered to get out and get it out of the road, and they just kept running over it, until there was not a piece that big of it left. She stated that, like she said, she did not know whose cat it was, but it broke her little grandson's heart when his little cat was run over. She continued that, then, she has great grandkids that live right up the street on Madison Street. She noted that one of them is not but two, and he will be three years old in December. She stated that what she worries about is this little fellow who has darted out in that road time and time again, and, of course, he has gotten his tail busted for it, but he does not know any better. Ms. Grubb advised then there was one who was seven, and there was an incident one morning that scared her to death. She stated that her grandson was at her house, and he was getting on the school bus, and he is fourteen. She stated that the kids across the road, and there were three of them, that get on the bus there on 4 ½ Street. She stated the school bus had just pulled out from loading those kids, and there was a car that came down that hill, she guesses at 4 ½ Street, and the car was moving on and ran the stop sign at about 70 miles per hour, and he missed the school bus, it had just pulled out with those kids on it. She stated that is her concern, really, is the children. Mayor Crewe

stated he knows the school bus drivers have either radios and/or cell phones, and they report any incident like that, but all he can tell Ms. Grubb is that the police can try to enforce it, but he does not know what result they will get. He reiterated that the police can certainly try. Ms. Grubb stated she understands, and they explained that to her. She stated she knows they cannot watch. Mayor Crewe stated they slow down when they see a police car. Ms. Grubb stated they slow down and almost stop. She stated that last night her grandson, who is fourteen, had been down to Chautauqua and got one of these things, you know, that light up, and he said, "Granny, what if I take that out there near the street?" She stated he laid the thing up on the back of her daughter's car, and it was like blue lights flashing. She stated the Council should have seen the cars breaking and slowing down. She stated they were breaking and slowing down, and even the girl that lives across the road from her, she went the other direction when she saw it, and she thought it was a blue police light. Town Manager Sutherland inquired regarding Ms. Grubb's address and apologized. Mayor Crewe stated the address is 380. Ms. Grubb stated it is 380 West Madison. Mayor Crewe stated he appreciates Ms. Grubb letting the Council know, and the Town will certainly do what they can. Ms. Grubb stated she thanks the Council. Mayor Crewe thanked Ms. Grubb again, and noted the police will see if they can slow folks down and make them stop. Councilman Jones inquired if the police could put the radar system out there just to check. Town Manager Sutherland stated they can do that, and it is still on Mountain View Drive, but they can send it over to Madison Street. Mayor Crewe stated they can probably run it both places for a while and get the reports to see what kind of average speeds they get. Vice-Mayor King inquired if they slow down when they see the device. Mayor Crewe stated that it cannot be seen. Town Manager Sutherland inquired if Vice-Mayor King was asking about Mountain View Drive. She stated that is correct. Town Manager Sutherland stated that, interestingly, they recorded in one direction for five days, and of 93 vehicles, 89 were below 30 miles an hour, and there were about two between 30 and 35 miles an hour, and there was one at 55 miles per hour. He stated there was a speeder, but it was an isolated incident. Mayor Crewe noted it would probably be good to get that information on both directions and on Madison Street and 4 ½ Street. He stated he is sure a motorist can make some time coming down that hill and can pick up speed pretty easily. He noted they have been checking speeds everywhere, and they move it from place to place. Mayor Crewe thanked Ms. Wilson and Ms. Grubb for letting the Council know.

#### **RE: APPOINTMENTS – PLANNING COMMISSION**

Mayor Crewe advised the next agenda item is that of Appointments, and because of the fact that Mr. Jones will not be able to serve as the Council liaison and Mr. Hunley is, and they are both certified Planning Commissioner members, the Council must change both terms. Mayor Crewe noted that Mr. Hunley has resigned, but could be appointed as the Council liaison, and Mr. Jones could be appointed to Mr. Hunley's position to take the unexpired term. Mayor Crewe inquired if there are any motions in that regard. Councilman Weisiger moved that the Council make the appointments as outlined by Mayor Crewe. Mayor Crewe inquired if that would be, basically, to switch places. Councilman Weisiger stated that is correct. Vice-Mayor King seconded the motion. Mayor Crewe thanked Councilman Jones and Mr. Hunley for their willingness to serve and inquired if there is any discussion on the motion to appoint them to the Planning Commission. Mr. Hunley stated he would note that his resignation was only from the position of Vice-Chairman of the Planning Commission. Mayor Crewe noted that is correct and thanked Mr. Hunley for this clarification. Mayor Crewe noted the motion would be to appoint Mr. Hunley as the Council liaison and Mr. Jones to fill the unexpired term of Mr. Hunley. Mayor Crewe 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: Trenton G. Crewe, Jr., Jacqueline K. King, William B. Weisiger, H. Judson Lambert. Against: None. Abstentions: Councilman Jones advised that he will abstain from voting on himself as it would be a conflict of interest.

#### **RE: RESOLUTION – COUNCILMAN JOHN W. JONES, JR.**

Mayor Crewe noted this is, indeed, a sad occasion, and the Council wishes both members well, but this is the official last scheduled meeting of Mr. Jones and Mr. Weisiger. Mayor Crewe stated that to make sure that he is correct, Committee appointments are not made until July 1, and, therefore, there will be no meeting until after the appointments have been made. He stated that the Public Works Committee will meet next Wednesday morning, July 7, 2010, and the Budget and Finance Committee will meet next Thursday morning, July 9, 2010.

Mayor Crewe read a resolution in appreciation for the service of Councilman John W. Jones, Jr. to the Wytheville Town Council. Mayor Crewe inquired if there is a motion to adopt that resolution. Vice-Mayor King moved and Councilman Weisiger seconded the motion to adopt the resolution in appreciation for the service of Councilman Jones to the Wytheville Town Council. 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, William B. Weisiger, H. Judson Lambert. Against: None. Abstentions: Councilman John W. Jones, Jr. Mayor Crewe noted that Councilman Jones will still be on the Planning Commission and will still be around, and requested that he not be a stranger. Mayor Crewe noted the Council will miss Mr. Jones and appreciates his eighteen years of service. Mayor Crewe thanked Mr. Jones and presented him with the resolution. Councilman Jones thanked the Council and noted he is glad Mayor Crewe took the older of the two first. Mayor Crewe advised that he took the resolutions alphabetically.

**RE: RESOLUTION – COUNCILMAN WILLIAM B. WEISIGER**

Mayor Crewe then read a resolution recognizing the service to the Wytheville Town Council of Councilman William B. Weisiger. Mayor Crewe inquired if there is a motion to adopt this resolution. Vice-Mayor King moved and Councilman Jones seconded the motion to adopt the resolution in appreciation for the service of Councilman Weisiger to the Wytheville Town Council. 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: Councilman William B. Weisiger. Mayor Crewe noted that the Council will miss Mr. Weisiger, as well, and wishes Mr. Weisiger the best of success in his future endeavors. Mayor Crewe thanked Mr. Weisiger and presented him with the resolution. Councilman Weisiger advised that first, he would like to thank the citizens of the town of Wytheville for putting their trust in him for the past sixteen years. He stated that while he has been on Council, he thinks the members, as a Council, have made some great progress in several projects for the town. He noted he does not think there could have been a better group of people to work with. He stated he has enjoyed his time on Council, learned a lot, had some good opportunities, and he will always remember this time on Council, at least until the next time he serves. Mr. Weisiger thanked the members of Council. Mayor Crewe inquired if there are any other items to be brought before the Council. Councilman Jones expressed his appreciation for the card he received from Vice-Mayor King. Mayor Crewe noted the Council wishes both Councilman Jones and Councilman Weisiger well.

**RE: ADJOURNMENT**

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

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Trenton G. Crewe, Jr., Mayor

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Sharon P. Hackler, MMC, Clerk of Council

## **BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT**

**JUNE 28, 2010**

1. As we reported at the last meeting, the Town has received notice from the Virginia Retirement System noting that the Virginia General Assembly, in its 2010 Session, passed legislation implementing new plan provisions for employees hired or rehired on or after July 1, 2010, who have no prior Virginia Retirement System service. This new plan is called the VRS Plan 2. The legislation stipulates that Plan 2 employees will pay the five percent member contribution through salary reduction on a pretax basis according to Internal Revenue Service regulations. The legislation goes on to say that a locality can elect to pay some or all of the five percent member contribution on behalf of the Plan 2 employees. Regardless of the option chosen, the adoption of a resolution is required. After considering the options that are available, our Committee feels that the Town should continue to pay the five percent member contribution for new employees in the same manner that we have for our existing employees. Later this evening, a resolution will be considered that sets forth that the Town will pay the member contribution on the Plan 2 employees. It would be our recommendation that this resolution be adopted.
2. The Virginia Retirement System has announced that they have created a Long Term Care Insurance Program for employees covered by the Virginia Retirement System. Participation in this program requires a resolution of the governing body to participate. Expenses associated with the long term care

insurance are borne by the employee, but the employer is required to payroll deduct the premiums and forward them to the Virginia Retirement System. The enrollment period has begun and if we are to participate, it is necessary to declare our intent with the adoption of a resolution. Our Committee thinks this is a worthwhile program to offer the Town's employees, but, additionally, it can be offered with no expense to the Town. Later this evening, the Council will consider a resolution that declares our intent to provide the Long Term Care Insurance Program to our employees, and it would be the recommendation of our Committee that the resolution be adopted.

3. Earlier this evening, there was a budget hearing to consider amendments to the budget for fiscal year 2009-2010 to make line item adjustments that would balance the budget. It would be the recommendation of our Committee that the amendments recommended by Town Treasurer Mike Stephens be adopted and approved.

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Jacqueline K. King

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John W. Jones, Jr.

## **PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE REPORT**

**JUNE 28, 2010**

1. The 2010 Session of the General Assembly of Virginia adopted legislation that was subsequently signed into law by the governor to allow for a maximum speed limit of 70 miles per hour for interstate and other highways after a proper traffic engineering study and the analysis of available and appropriate accident information from law enforcement data. The Virginia Department of Transportation is in the process of conducting engineering studies for portions of interstates around the Commonwealth, but of particular interest to us is the study for the I-81 and I-77 Corridors in and around Wytheville. The Department of Transportation has solicited comments and concerns that the Council may have with these proposed changes in the speed limits. Our Committee continues to review this topic and has not, as yet, developed a recommendation for consideration by the Council. We would note that an initial concern that we have identified is any changes in the speed limit on the curve located at milepost 76 on the southbound lane of I-81. Obviously, any increases in the speed limit on this curve would result in additional accidents. We would be happy to hear comments from citizens before making a final recommendation. The Department of Transportation did note, however, that just because these segments of interstates are being studied, it does not necessarily mean that the speed limit will be increased.
2. Recently, we had several inquiries with regard to security at the Community Center, particularly the lack of security cameras in the parking lot. In one incident, a vehicle's window was broken, and a pocketbook was stolen from the car. We have asked the

Town staff to get estimates on the cost of installing security cameras in the parking lot, and, hopefully, this information will be available to the Council in the very near future. With regard to this topic, we think it is important to emphasize to everyone that regardless of where the vehicle is parked, being at the Community Center or otherwise, that valuables not be left in plain view in a vehicle. Clearly, the safest situation is that any valuables be locked in a trunk and out of view. We would urge everyone to secure any valuables in a vehicle in a location that is out of sight. In any event, we will have information regarding the cost of installing security cameras in the very near future.

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William B. Weisiger

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H. Judson Lambert