

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE WYTHEVILLE TOWN COUNCIL  
HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS ON MONDAY, APRIL 13, 2020, AT 7:00 P.M.**

Members present: Beth A. Taylor, Joseph E. Hand, Jr., Mark J. Bloomfield, Cathy D. Pattison

Members absent: Jacqueline K. King

Others present: Town Manager C. Wayne Sutherland, Jr., Assistant Town Manager Stephen A. Moore, Town Clerk Sharon G. Corvin, Town Attorney Christopher R. Menerick, Assistant Director of Planning and Community Development T. Brian Freeman, C.J. Patel, Patrol Officer John Lackey

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

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

**RE: CONSENT AGENDA**

Mayor Taylor presented the consent agenda consisting of the minutes of the regular meeting of March 23, 2020, and the request of the Wythe County Public Library to conduct the Wythe County Public Library Annual Fourth of July Parade on Wednesday, July 1, 2020, at 10:00 a.m. Mayor Taylor inquired if there was a motion to approve the consent agenda as presented or to somehow be amended. Councilman Hand inquired of Mayor Taylor if this request is under the assumption that the Governor's Order has been lifted and everything is back to normal. Mayor Taylor stated that is correct. A motion was made by Councilman Bloomfield and seconded by Councilman Hand to approve the consent agenda consisting of the minutes of the regular meeting of March 23, 2020, and the request of the Wythe County Public Library to conduct the Wythe County Public Library Annual Fourth of July Parade on Wednesday, July 1, 2020, at 10:00 a.m., as presented. Mayor Taylor inquired if there was any discussion on the motion to approve the consent agenda. There being none, the motion was approved with the following voting in favor and there being no opposition: For: Beth A. Taylor, Joseph E. Hand, Jr., Mark J. Bloomfield, Cathy D. Pattison. Against: None.

**RE: OLD BUSINESS**

Under Old Business, Town Manager Sutherland reported the following:

1. The next Council Work Session will be held on Tuesday, April 14, 2020, at 7:00 a.m., in the Council Chambers.
2. The Wytheville Industrial Development Authority meeting scheduled for Wednesday, April 15, 2020, has been postponed.
3. The New River Regional Water Authority meeting scheduled for Thursday, April 16, 2020, has been canceled.
4. The Council Personnel Committee meeting scheduled for April 17, 2020, has been canceled.

**RE: CITIZENS' PERIOD**

Mayor Taylor advised that the next agenda item is Citizens' Period. She stated that Mr. C. J. Patel is attending the meeting and would be speaking on behalf of hotels located in the Town of Wytheville. Mayor Taylor explained that Mr. Patel is attending the meeting to inquire about several business questions, which may benefit more than just the hotel businesses in town, and this is why the Council invited him to attend the meeting and to ask these questions of the Council.

Mr. C. J. Patel was recognized and stated that he appreciated the Council allowing him to attend the meeting. He noted that the Patel family owns 26 hotels in Wythe County. Mr. Patel remarked that his family is struggling. He explained that since March 11, 2020, business has declined. He noted that the population of Wytheville is 7,941, and that his family's hotels roughly produce \$25 million. Mr. Patel explained that when he calculates the eight percent meals/lodging tax on that figure, it comes to approximately \$2 million in meals/lodging tax. He remarked that according to the Town's budget, the meals tax outperformed the lodging tax by \$1 million. He commented that between the restaurants and hotels, the meals/lodging tax figure

in the Town's budget is approximately \$5-\$5+ million. Mr. Patel expressed that this is a lot of tax revenue for a Town with a population of 7,941. He noted that, again, since March 11, 2020, the hotels' revenues have gone down. Mr. Patel continued to discuss his hotels' revenue with the Council and his concerns regarding the decline in revenue since COVID-19 began. He inquired of the Council how the Town plans to make up the deficit in revenue from loss of sales tax during this crisis. Mayor Taylor explained that, presently, as a locality, the Town is not receiving any of the stimulus funds. She commented that the Town has also had to close numerous facilities, and it is in the process of downsizing personnel. Mayor Taylor explained that the Town is in the process of reducing nonessential personnel and amenities. She remarked that the Town has frozen all department budgets and capital expenditures. Mayor Taylor noted that the Town has instituted a hiring freeze. She advised that the Town's cash reserves will be necessary to help the Town balance the budget this year. Mayor Taylor stated that the Town is already seeing a decrease in its revenue, as a result of the hotels and other businesses decreasing in their revenue. She noted that citizens are requesting refunds from the Wytheville Recreation Center, meals/lodging taxes are decreasing, some water bills are not being paid, there is a decrease in permits and business licenses, etc. Mayor Taylor commented that the Town, like others, did not have a backup plan because no one planned for such an event. She noted that going forward, hopefully, everyone will have a backup plan. Mayor Taylor reiterated that the Town will have to use some of its reserves to balance the budget this year, also. Mr. Patel inquired of the Council as to how they are planning to jumpstart the economy following COVID-19. He noted that he thinks Mayor Taylor may have answered him following his first question. Mayor Taylor stated that following a discussion with Director of Tourism Rosa Jude, this is really the very first event in several decades that has actually taken down the Tourism Department. She noted that the Tourism Department has managed to stay steady over the years and has grown. Mayor Taylor remarked that this is an unusual and unique event. She commented that there are very few answers, but the Town is convinced that the Convention and Visitors Bureau is researching grant opportunities relating to marketing and economic development needs resulting from the COVID-19 declines. Mayor Taylor continued to express her thoughts regarding the economy and tourism in Wytheville following COVID-19. She noted that, hopefully, if Wytheville can maintain a low number of COVID-19 cases, this will give tourists a positive way to look at the area. Mayor Taylor expressed that the Wytheville Meeting Center has 75 percent of their meetings listed as rebookings annually, therefore, the Town is hopeful that this will come into play. Mayor Taylor noted that Director Jude does not count on one single event to make the Wytheville Tourism Department successful, but she counts on numerous events, etc. Mr. Patel commented that another topic he would like to address is the streetlights coming from Travelodge/Cracker Barrel to the High Meadows Apartment Complex. He noted that the lights are not lit on the right side, and inquired of the Council as to why they are not lit. Mayor Taylor stated that the Council agrees with Mr. Patel, and they have inquired of Appalachian Power Company (APCO) several times as to why the lights still are not working. She advised that the poles are owned by APCO, therefore, the Town is at their mercy. Mayor Taylor explained that Town staff contacted APCO on Friday, April 10, 2020, again, to inquire about the poles on East Main Street and when they would have service to them. Discussion continued regarding the lightpoles. Mr. Patel inquired of the Council regarding the maintenance, etc. near the entrance corridors near the TA Truck Stop and at Econolodge. Mayor Taylor stated that the areas he is describing is not the Town's property. She advised that it is State property, therefore, it is the Virginia Department of Transportation's (VDOT) responsibility. Mr. Patel inquired of the Council if he is allowed to contact VDOT in regard to this matter. Mayor Taylor stated that he certainly could contact VDOT. Mr. Patel inquired of the Council if there would be a break in real estate and property taxes during the COVID-19 pandemic. He noted that the hotels are, basically, looking for a discount. Mayor Taylor stated that the future is uncertain, and no one knows how long this pandemic is going to last, therefore, this may be something that the Council will need to discuss later in the year. She noted that it would not only be the hotels that would receive a discount, but other businesses, as well. Councilman Bloomfield remarked that Mr. Patel would also need to contact Wythe County regarding a discount for his taxes, since he pays County taxes, as well. Mr. Patel inquired of the Council if the Town is seeking any State and Federal support programs. Mayor Taylor advised that the Town is trying. She stated that, at this time, there are no direct Federal COVID-19 Relief Programs available to the communities under a population of 500,000, however, there are some programs under development at the State level, but none have officially been announced. Mr. Patel inquired of the Council if the Town is going to be asking for relief, a grant or loans. Mayor Taylor explained that the Town will be reviewing and seeking any type of help that is available that is needed. She remarked, again, it is too early to seek funding because the programs are not available to our area. Mr. Patel inquired of the Council if the Governor declares a State of Emergency if this applies to the entire State or only portions of the State that need funding. Town Manager Sutherland advised that the Secretary of Commerce for the Commonwealth stated that Virginia has not yet promulgated any rules on how they are going to distribute the funds. He explained that the Federal funding is supposed to have regulations developed by April 27, 2020. Discussion ensued regarding the local unemployment rate. Mr. Patel inquired of the Council if there would be a rebate for lodging

tax. He inquired of the Council what the lodging tax is used for by the Town. Mayor Taylor explained that the lodging tax is paid by hotel customers and collected by the hotel owners. She noted that because the hotel owners help collect these taxes, approximately three years ago, the Town Council adopted an ordinance to allocate three percent of the lodging taxes back to the hoteliers, therefore, three percent of the eight percent that is collected in lodging taxes is already being allocated back to the hotels at that time. Mayor Taylor noted that the money which is collected, and the Town thanks the hoteliers for having good businesses and being good citizens, goes into the Town's General Fund, which pays for all of the services that the Town of Wytheville has to offer including infrastructure, repairs, road construction, vehicles, etc. She explained that the money is used for whatever is needed to keep the citizens safe and the Town operating. Mr. Patel inquired of the Council if the Town could invest in some billboards in the near future from Exit 70 to Exit 73 that display the restaurants and hotels with their logos to attract tourists from the interstates. He remarked that he has seen other localities doing this. Mayor Taylor commented that this is something that Council can share with Director Jude. Mr. Patel inquired of the Council if they would consider giving the hotels 90-120 days to pay for their business licenses or at least until the pandemic is over, since it is due May 1, 2020. Mayor Taylor advised that in the last Council Work Session, it was the consensus of the Council to extend the due date for business licenses until the end of the month, and this is for the payment and income tax report being available at that time. She commented, again, that no one is sure what the future will hold, however, the Council could review this again at the end of the month. Discussion ensued regarding the business license fee, the effect the pandemic is having on the hotels' business and the results that all of this has as a whole. Town Manager Sutherland interjected that it was May 31, 2020, that the Town Council decided to extend the due date for business licenses. Mr. Patel stated that the the Town of Wytheville is, basically, a town that relies on transient business, therefore, people come to town, eat and leave. He noted that it would be great to make Wytheville a stopover for approximately two to three days, but there has to be some type of shopping, more restaurants, etc. Mr. Patel remarked that it would be good to have something like Mt. Airy, North Carolina, Mayberry Days. He commented that this is something that has been lacking here for quite a while. Mr. Patel stated that if Director Jude needs the help of the hoteliers to go to the motorcoach conventions, etc., then the hoteliers are willing to help. Mayor Taylor commented that she is sure that Director Jude would be happy for the hoteliers to partner with the Wytheville Convention and Visitors Bureau in something like this. She noted that all of the things that Mr. Patel mentioned are on the radar for the Tourism Department, the Chamber of Commerce, the JIDA, Downtown Wytheville, Incorporated and others because everyone wants the same things that he wants. Mayor Taylor commented that she is sure his ideas would be welcomed, and, hopefully, everyone can all get together to discuss this partnership. Mr. Patel inquired of the Council if the fee that the Chamber of Commerce charges the hotels per room is a set fee or is that something that can be negotiated. Mayor Taylor explained that the Chamber of Commerce is a separate entity from the the Town of Wytheville. She advised Mr. Patel to discuss this issue with the Chamber of Commerce. Mayor Taylor explained that the Chamber of Commerce office is located in the Town Municipal Building, however, the Chamber of Commerce is not affiliated with the Town, and they have their own separate Board of Directors. She noted that Mr. Patel would need to speak to the Chamber staff and/or Board of Directors regarding his Chamber membership dues. Mr. Patel stated that his next item involves the Apex Center. He remarked that he does not even know what the Apex Center involves, therefore, he is not sure if it is not promoted the way it should be or what the problem involves. Mr. Patel commented that he thinks the Apex Center is a nice facility, but it should be promoted more. He continued to express his thoughts regarding the Apex Center. Mayor Taylor advised that she agrees with Mr. Patel and she thinks this is a nice facility, however, this is something that he will need to discuss with the County because it is a County facility and not a Town facility. Discussion continued regarding the Apex Center. Mr. Patel inquired of the Council if the budget for last year balanced. Town Manager Sutherland advised that the Town had to use reserve funds to balance last year's budget. Councilman Bloomfield explained to Mr. Patel that the Municipal budget works differently than his budget. He noted that when Mr. Patel builds a building, he capitalizes the building, however, when the Town builds a street, the street is expensed at that moment. Councilman Bloomfield stated that the Town's budget does not end until the the very last day of June each year, and it normally expects large surpluses. Mr. Patel commented that he understands. He inquired of the Council if the Town of Wytheville offers bailouts like some other localities or has it ever been discussed. Mayor Taylor stated, again, this is a unique situation that has never happened before, and there is nothing in place of that nature. She remarked that some of the separate entities such as the JIDA, Chamber of Commerce, Downtown Wytheville, Incorporated, etc. are trying to see if they can get together some type of support and funds like he is suggesting. Mayor Taylor commented that she hopes those entities will be successful. Discussion continued regarding the hoteliers' requests during the pandemic. Mr. Patel thanked the Council for making an exception and allowing him to attend the meeting on behalf of all the hoteliers and for answering their inquiries. Mayor Taylor stated that she thinks that some of Mr. Patel's inquiries will help a lot of other businesses, as well, who are watching the meeting. She noted that the Council was not

solely targeting the hotels, but they felt this would be helpful for other business owners, as well. Mayor Taylor thanked Mr. Patel for his comments, and she proceeded with the agenda.

### **RE: BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT**

Councilwoman Pattison, reporting for the Budget and Finance Committee, stated that as the Council had reported earlier, the Town provides its employees' insurance through the State health insurance system provided by Anthem Blue Cross/Blue Shield. She noted that the Town was very fortunate, this year, to have a renewal increase of only 2.3 percent. Councilwoman Pattison stated, currently, the Town pays 92 percent of the employee's portion of a monthly health insurance premium, while the employee pays eight percent of this premium. She explained that it is necessary that the Town declare to Anthem its intent to renew, and, also, to note the percentages of the employer/employee ratio. Councilwoman Pattison advised that the Council believes that providing health insurance to the Town's employees is very important, and the Budget and Finance Committee would move that the plan be renewed and that the ratio of 92 percent/employer to eight percent/employee remain and be implemented on July 1, 2020. A motion was made by the Budget and Finance Committee, which does not require a second, to approve renewing the Anthem Blue Cross/Blue Shield plan for FY 20-21 and approve the ratio of 92 percent for the employer and eight percent for the employee. Mayor Taylor inquired if there was any discussion on the motion to approve renewing the insurance plan for FY 20-21 and approving the employer/employee ratio. There being none, the motion was approved with the following voting in favor and there being no opposition: For: Beth A. Taylor, Joseph E. Hand, Jr., Mark J. Bloomfield, Cathy D. Pattison. Against: None.

Councilwoman Pattison reported that under State law, each year, it is necessary that the Town conduct an audit of all its financial accounts. She advised that State law has changed through the years, and now it requires all financial reports to be tabulated in a certain fashion prior to the audit. Councilwoman Pattison explained that the result of this is that the Town must procure accounting firms capable of performing either a.) the yearend bookkeeping activities or b.) the actual audit. She stated that Town Treasurer Michael Stephens solicited proposals from accounting firms and received three responses. Councilwoman Pattison noted that those firms were ranked, and, Robinson, Farmer, Cox Associates was ranked number one for performing the audit, while Brown Edwards was ranked number one for performing the yearend accounting services. She advised that both activities are required by law, and it would be the motion of the Budget and Finance Committee that the Council authorize the Town Treasurer and the Town Manager to proceed with the execution of the contracts necessary to perform these activities. A motion was made by the Budget and Finance Committee, which does not require a second, to approve awarding the auditing bids to Robinson, Farmer, Cox Associates and Brown Edwards and to authorize the Town Treasurer and the Town Manager to execute the auditing contracts. Mayor Taylor inquired if there was any discussion on the motion to proceed with awarding the auditing bids and authorizing the Town Treasurer and Town Manager to execute the auditing contracts. There being none, the motion was approved with the following voting in favor and there being no opposition: For: Beth A. Taylor, Joseph E. Hand, Jr., Mark J. Bloomfield, Cathy D. Pattison. Against: None. A copy of the Budget and Finance Committee report is attached and made part of these minutes.

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

Councilman Bloomfield, reporting for the Public Works Committee, stated that Town elections are scheduled for May 5, 2020, however, there is some question as to how this will be conducted. He explained that the current plan of action is that the election will be held on May 5, 2020, but the local Electoral Board is encouraging everyone to vote by way of absentee ballot, if possible. Councilman Bloomfield commented that the procedures for requesting the absentee ballot can be viewed on the Town's website or merely by calling the local Voter Registrar's Office to receive the instructions. He noted that the complicating factor in this election is that on April 22, 2020, the General Assembly will consider a proposal submitted by Governor Northam with regard to the May elections. Councilman Bloomfield advised that Governor Northam's proposal includes the following measures: 1.) There will be one ballot in November.; 2.) Voters who are qualified in November will be able to vote in November. An individual who was not qualified in May, but is qualified in November, will be able to vote.; 3.) All absentee ballots already cast will be discarded. Virginians will have an opportunity to vote for local elected officials in November.; 4.) Those officials whose terms are to expire as of June 30, 2020, will continue in office until their successors have been elected on November 3, 2020, and have been qualified to serve. He stated that regardless of whether the election is held in May or in November, the Town continues to encourage citizens to participate in the election of their local government. Councilman Bloomfield noted that, certainly, all of the matters that the Town is facing on a daily situation is creating a new normal. He commented that the Town will provide guidance to citizens as soon as it knows what route Virginia plans to take.

Councilman Bloomfield reported that the Town of Wytheville, Truliant Federal Credit Union and the Wytheville-Wythe-Bland Chamber of Commerce were coordinating to have a shredding event on May 16, 2020. He explained that under the Governor's Executive Order, Virginians are to shelter in place until at least June 10, 2020. Councilman Bloomfield stated that this makes it necessary for the shredding event scheduled for May 16, 2020, to be canceled. He noted that the event was scheduled to be held in the Wytheville Municipal Building parking lot. Councilman Bloomfield expressed that the Town's partner, Truliant Federal Credit Union, was providing the actual shredding truck. He explained that Truliant Federal Credit Union has now suggested that the activity be rescheduled for Saturday, October 3, 2020. Councilman Bloomfield advised that the Public Works Committee agrees with their plans to reschedule the event and would move to have the event at the Wytheville Municipal Building parking lot on Saturday, October 3, 2020. A motion was made by Councilman Bloomfield and seconded by Councilman Hand to approve rescheduling the Shredding Event to Saturday, October 3, 2020, at the Municipal Building parking lot. Mayor Taylor inquired if there was any discussion on the motion to reschedule the Shredding Event to Saturday, October 3, 2020. There being none, the motion was approved with the following voting in favor and there being no opposition: For: Beth A. Taylor, Joseph E. Hand, Jr., Mark J. Bloomfield, Cathy D. Pattison. Against: None. A copy of the Public Works Committee report is attached and made part of these minutes.

#### **RE: RESOLUTION – MR. SEBASTIAN LAMROUEX**

Mayor Taylor advised that the next agenda item is a resolution recognizing George Wythe High School State Wrestling Champion Sebastian Lamrouex. She noted that since Council meetings are now closed to the public because of the coronavirus, the resolution will be forwarded to Mr. Lamrouex, once it is adopted by the Council. Mayor Taylor stated that the resolution read as follows:

#### **RESOLUTION**

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Sebastian Lamrouex, a senior on the George Wythe High School Wrestling Team, is deserving of recognition for his outstanding wrestling accomplishments; and,

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Lamrouex earned the individual State Wrestling Championship four times, winning in 2017 in the 106 pound weight class; in 2018 in the 113 pound weight class; in 2019 in the 120 pound weight class; and, in 2020 in the 126 pound weight class; and,

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Lamrouex completed the 2019-20 season with 34 wins and only 1 loss; and,

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Lamrouex's wrestling career record on the George Wythe High School Wrestling Team stands at an incredible 134 wins and only 9 losses; and,

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Sebastian Lamrouex has brought great credit upon himself, the George Wythe High School Wrestling Team, and the Town of Wytheville by displaying his wrestling abilities, his spirit of team play and his sportsmanship.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Town Council of the Town of Wytheville, Virginia, officially commends and recognizes Mr. Sebastian Lamrouex for his remarkable George Wythe High School Wrestling Team wrestling career.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that copies of this resolution be presented to Mr. Lamrouex, the wrestling coaches, other George Wythe High School officials concerned and the news media.

Mayor Taylor reiterated that Mr. Lamrouex's resolution would be forwarded to him, and she proceeded with the agenda.

#### **RE: RESCHEDULING TOWN COUNCIL MEETING**

Mayor Taylor advised that the next agenda item is to consider rescheduling the Monday, May 25, 2020, Town Council meeting until Tuesday, May 26, 2020, due to the Memorial Day holiday. It was the consensus of the Council to approve rescheduling the Monday, May 25, 2020, Town Council meeting until Tuesday, May 26, 2020, due to the Memorial Day holiday.

#### **RE: MAYOR'S REMARKS**

Mayor Taylor advised that before the meeting adjourned, she would like to make a statement. She requested that all citizens please comply with the Governor's Stay at Home Order, etc.

Mayor Taylor continued to ask citizens to follow the Centers for Disease Control's (CDC) recommendations, as well. She stated that she hopes everyone will continue to stay at home and stay safe.

**RE: ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to be discussed, a motion was duly made, seconded and carried to adjourn the meeting (7:46 p.m.).

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Beth A. Taylor, Mayor

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Sharon G. Corvin, CMC, Town Clerk

## **BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT**

**APRIL 13, 2020**

1. As we had reported earlier, the Town provides its employees' insurance through the State health insurance system provided by Anthem Blue Cross/Blue Shield. We were very fortunate, this year, to have a renewal increase of only 2.3 percent. Currently, the Town pays 92 percent of the employee's portion of a monthly health insurance premium, while the employee pays eight percent of this premium. It is necessary that we declare to Anthem our intent to renew, and, also, to note the percentages of the employer/employee ratio. We believe that providing health insurance to our employees is very important, and we would move that the plan be renewed and that the ratio of 92 percent/employer to eight percent/employee remain and be implemented on July 1, 2020.
2. Under State law, each year, it is necessary that we conduct an audit of all our financial accounts. State law has changed through the years, and now it requires all financial reports to be tabulated in a certain fashion prior to the audit. The result of this is that we must procure accounting firms capable of performing either a.) the yearend bookkeeping activities or b.) the actual audit. Town Treasurer Michael Stephens solicited proposals from accounting firms and received three responses. Those firms were ranked, and, Robinson, Farmer, Cox Associates was ranked number one for performing the audit, while Brown Edwards was ranked number one for performing the yearend accounting services. Both activities are required by law, and it would be the motion of the

Budget and Finance Committee that we authorize the Town Treasurer and the Town Manager to proceed with the execution of the contracts necessary to perform these activities.

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Jacqueline K. King

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Cathy D. Pattison

## **PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE REPORT**

**APRIL 13, 2020**

1. Town elections are scheduled for May 5, 2020, however, there is some question as to how this will be conducted. The current plan of action is that the election will be held on May 5, 2020, but the local Electoral Board is encouraging everyone to vote by way of absentee ballot, if possible. The procedures for requesting the absentee ballot can be viewed on the Town's website or merely by calling the local Voter Registrar's Office to receive the instructions. The complicating factor in this election is that on April 22, 2020, the General Assembly will consider a proposal submitted by Governor Northam with regard to the May elections. Governor Northam's proposal includes the following measures: 1.) There will be one ballot in November.; 2.) Voters who are qualified in November will be able to vote in November. An individual who was not qualified in May, but is qualified in November, will be able to vote.; 3.) All absentee ballots already cast will be discarded. Virginians will have an opportunity to vote for local elected officials in November.; 4.) Those officials whose terms are to expire as of June 30, 2020, will continue in office until their successors have been elected on November 3, 2020, and have been qualified to serve.

Regardless of whether the election is held in May or in November, we continue to encourage citizens to participate in the election of their local government. Certainly, all of the matters that we are facing on a daily situation are creating a new normal. We will provide guidance to citizens as soon as we know what route Virginia plans to take.

2. The Town of Wytheville, Truliant Federal Credit Union and the Wytheville-Wythe-Bland Chamber of Commerce were coordinating to have a shredding event on May 16, 2020. Under the Governor's Executive Order, Virginians are to shelter in place until at least June 10, 2020. This makes it necessary for the shredding event scheduled for May 16, 2020, to be canceled. The event was scheduled to be held in the Wytheville Municipal Building parking lot. Our partner, Truliant Federal Credit Union, was providing the actual shredding truck. Truliant Federal Credit Union has now suggested that the activity be rescheduled for Saturday, October 3, 2020. We agree with their plans to reschedule the event and would move to have the event at the Wytheville Municipal Building parking lot on Saturday, October 3, 2020.

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Joseph E. Hand, Jr.

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Mark J. Bloomfield