Wytheville Community Center

OPEN HOUSE

Sunday, April 2
1:00 - 6:00 p.m.

Drop In!

- Free Admission
- Refreshments
- Recreation Programs/Activities
- Pictures with the Easter Bunny
- Door Prizes
- Tour the Meeting Center

276-223-3416
www.WythevilleMeetingCenter.com

276-223-3378
rec.wytheville.org
By Mayor Trenton G. Crewe, Jr.

Our winter has been mild weather wise, but the time has been full of many new initiatives and ongoing projects that Wytheville Town Council would like for you to know about.

As you can see, the work in Downtown Wytheville continues to advance. The mild weather has helped keep this project moving forward. We thank our downtown businesses for the cooperative spirit they are showing with this effort. It is an inconvenience for many, but the future benefits will create a long-term impact on our town. Work progresses behind the scenes as well with the recruitment of more businesses underway.

Progress continues toward the completion of Community Boulevard. The final phase will extend the roadway from the current terminating point near Cassell Road eastward to Lithia Road. W-L Construction of Chilhowie will build the remainder of this $6,326,000 project. All but two percent of the expense will be paid through the Virginia Department of Transportation's Urban Funding Allocations. The project will also include the installation of water and sewer lines. These improvements will be constructed with local funds. The project has an 18-month completion deadline.

The Farmers' Market shelter project was bid in February. The shelter will bring an additional dimension to the marketplace. The design of this structure has been coordinated with the work on Phase II of the Heritage Walk project. The Heritage Walk portion will be constructed by DCI/Shires Inc., the same company currently working on the downtown improvements. Construction is anticipated to begin in April. In regard to the Farmers' Market, we are also involved with the design plans for the restrooms within the building. We anticipate that Town forces will construct these facilities.

We are also excited about the progress of the Historic Truss Bridge project. The bridge on Reed Creek was originally built in the early 1880's. This improvement project will include the restoration of the bridge and making the surrounding site into a park. The site will have a walking and biking trail to include the bridge. When complete, this area will be a beautiful area for recreation and enjoyment. The contractor, Crossroads Bridge Inc., is scheduled to begin work in mid-April.

Another project addresses the East Main Street corridor. This project will upgrade East Main Street from the interstate to Cassell Road and will include curb and gutter, paving, a walking trail, new traditional streetlights, and landscaping. The bidding process has begun for this project.

Through the years, I have had the opportunity to help host many travel writers who have visited our community from around the world. Our tourism department has recently received another grant from the Virginia Tourism Corporation to create a new initiative to lure more travel writers to our town. The program will especially focus on writers who blog and use social media to tell the stories of their travel experiences. We look forward to introducing these folks to all of the great things to see and do in our area.

I welcome the opportunity to talk to you regarding your ideas and concerns. My office, at the Wytheville Municipal Building, is open prior to Council meetings on the second and fourth Monday evenings at 6:30 p.m., and other times by appointment. I can also be reached by phone at 223-3356 or via email at tcrewe@wytheville.org.

NOW AVAILABLE AT THE MUSEUM SHOP

2017 Big Pencil Historic Building

$16.00 (plus tax)

The Museum Shop
975 Tazewell Street (inside the visitors center)
276-223-3372—Open M-Sat 10-4:30