Hello fellow Wythevillians,

I am so excited to hear from you through your ongoing comments and support. We had the first Coffee & Conversation with Council on January 10. It was a success. There was a small group, but lots of conversation. I look forward to seeing more of you come to our future events, share your thoughts, or just listen. The next one will be held at Cedar Bay Cafe, located at 289 W. Main Street, at 10 a.m. on Thursday, Feb. 14.

We recently had another winter storm. This time it was an ice storm and required different preparation and execution of manpower and equipment. A total of 16 personnel and about 210 work hours were utilized with 110 tons of salt being applied to asphalt surfaces. I want to thank John Bishop, Director of Public Works, and his employees for all their hard work and hours away from home to keep the roads safe for all of us. Remember, there are 185 miles of road within the town limits that qualify as VDOT Urban Maintenance Roads. Here is the sequence approach to clearing these roads:

- Principle and Minor Arterial Roads (such as US 52, US 11, US 21),
- Collector Roads and Local Streets (such as Pepper’s Ferry Road and Ridge Road)

Council, with the guidance of Town Attorney Chris Menerick, has revised the Town Code regarding the obtaining of goods and services under a certain dollar amount (Ordinance No. 1351). This parallels the recent changes in state law. For example, the threshold for goods and non-professional services previously was $50,000. Now, that amount is $100,000. The bottom line is this change will save the Town both money and time.

Another change to the Town Code is Ordinance No. 1352 that amends the general personnel rules (No. 1028). This change will allow a Town employee to donate annual leave and sick leave to another employee who may need additional leave for an illness or an accident.

Are you a new resident of Wytheville, find yourself with new responsibilities, or have made a New Year’s resolution to get informed and involved? If so, you may be wondering where do I go? What do I do? How do I learn more about this community? The Wytheville Municipal Building, located at 150 East Monroe Street, is a good place to start. Here is some information about the different departments, including the department head, located within this building.

- Mayor (Dr. Beth Taylor): Drop in or call (223-3356) for an appointment. Wytheville Town Council meetings the second and fourth Mondays of each month at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers.
- Town Manager (Wayne Sutherland): Overall operation of the Town of Wytheville through the exercising of administrative and executive powers.
- Assistant Town Manager (Steve Moore): Planning and zoning questions, administration of the Town’s facility and infrastructure projects.
- Building Official (Charles Vannatter): Apply for building permits and occupancy permits. This can be confusing if you are a homeowner doing repairs or additions. It may be wise to call and ask questions.
- Clerk of Council (Sherry Corvin): Getting involved/volunteering for a Town advisory committee, board, commission or authority.
- Computer Operations (Steve Henley): Responsible for the Town’s computer network, all computer-related equipment, and website.
Engineering (Trevor Hackler): Water and sewer questions, connections and availability, mapping and GIS questions.

Human Resources (Sheri Shelton): Questions regarding employment with the Town of Wytheville. Responsible for the hiring of Town employees and the administration of payroll and benefits.

Public Works (John Bishop): Questions regarding street maintenance, trash and brush collection, recycling, mowing regulations, signs and signals, snow removal.

Town Attorney (Chris Menerick): Legal questions involving the Town of Wytheville, ADA (American Disability Act) questions, FOIA (Freedom of Information Act) questions.

Treasurer (Michael Stephens): Obtain and pay for Town vehicle decals, purchase trash decals and find out what day trash pickup is in your neighborhood, pay water and sewer bills, pay all town taxes and mowing assessments, obtain business licenses, take care of any penalties, and purchase cemetery plots.

Town of Wytheville Departments located at other locations:

- Fire Department – 185 West Spring Street (Fire Chief Marc Brade): Providing fire response, prevention, and safety services through a combination of paid and volunteer firefighters.
- Museums – 155 West Spiller Street (Frances Emerson): Operation of all Town-owned museums, heritage education programming, preservation of historic resources.
- Parks & Recreation – 333 Community Boulevard (Rick Showalter): Operation of Town’s recreational parks, facilities, and programming.
- Police Department/Animal Control – 185 West Spring Street (Police Chief Rick Arnold): Serving and protecting the citizens of the Town of Wytheville.
- Public Information & Tourism – 333 Community Boulevard (Rosa Lee Jude): Operation of the Visitors Center, Meeting Center, tourism marketing, public/media relations for Town of Wytheville.

Collaborative Agencies:

- Downtown Wytheville, Inc. – 180 West Main Street, Suite 4 (Todd Wolford): Non-profit organization working in partnership with the Town to strengthen and revitalize the downtown district.
- Joint Industrial Development Authority of Wythe County – 190 South First Street (David Manley): Economic development agency working in partnership with the Town to develop and coordinate industrial and economic development efforts.
- Wytheville-Wythe-Bland Chamber of Commerce – 150 East Monroe Street (Jennifer Atwell) – Non-profit organization working in partnership with the Town to promote a favorable business climate within the area.

You can keep informed and updated regarding Town of Wytheville services and activities by visiting the Town’s website (www.Wytheville.org), following the Facebook page (www.facebook.com/townofwytheville), reading the newsletter included in your monthly water bill, looking for press releases and articles in the Wytheville Enterprise and listening to local radio stations, such as WYVE, WXBX, and WLOY. There is also a “Citizen’s Handbook” available at the Town Manager’s Office.

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 beth.taylor@wytheville.org.

Coffee with Council

Join Wytheville Town Council for a fresh cup of coffee & conversation.
Second & Fourth Thursdays at 10:00 AM
February 14—Cedar Bay Café
February 28—Virginia Heights
March 14—Grayson Restaurant
March 29—Olykoek Donuts
April 11—Starbucks
April 25—Wytheville Recreation Center
Mission Statement
The Wytheville Department of Public Safety exists for the purpose of safeguarding life and property and maintaining order in a professional manner that preserves a confidence in our democratic process. Each officer and employee shall be responsible for the observance of orders, proper performance of duty, and the maintenance of discipline on the part of members and employees assigned to their shift and for enforcement of the law, promotion of proper patrol, investigation of motor vehicle crashes, necessary investigation of crime, and protection of life and property. To fulfill its mission, the Wytheville Department of Public Safety is dedicated to providing a quality work environment and the development of its members through effective training and leadership.

2018 Fourth Quarter Traffic & Criminal Enforcement/Crash Statistics
Crash Reporting: October 1, 2018 through December 31, 2018

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Traffic Charges Oct – Dec. 2018
Defective Equipment 39
No Registration 27
No Operators License 24
Suspended/Revoked 43
License Plate Covered 5
Uninsured Operators 22
Fail to Obey O/L Restrict. 15
Non-Resident O/L 17
Reckless Driving 44
Seat Belt Violations 85
Inspections Violations 78
Fail to Yield Right of Way 34
Fail to Obey Traffic Signal 27
Speeding Violations 776
Texting While Driving 4
Failure to Update Address 7
Fail to Display Town Decal 21
Revoked License Arrest 3
All Other Traffic Violations 357
TOTAL 1,628

Criminal Charges Jan – Dec. 2018
Kidnapping 1
Forcible Rape 3
Sex Assault/Fondling 3
Simple Assault 21
Aggravated Assault 13
Intimidation 43
Arson 1
Burglary 13
Larceny 164
Shoplifting 37
Stolen Vehicle 18
Forgery/Fraud/Embezzle 51
Damaged/Stolen Prop 41
Drug Violations 54
Alcohol Violation 77
Contempt/Obstruction 19
Weapons Violations 8
Harassing/Dis Conduct 8
Trespassing 9
Public/Private Order Crimes 8
All Other Offenses 59
TOTAL 651
The Wytheville Police Department is pleased to announce the hiring of two Police Officers.

The first officer, Nicholas A. Stroupe, of Rural Retreat entered his employment with the Town of Wytheville November 2018. He is a graduate from Rural Retreat High School and obtained his Associates in Applied Science in Criminal Justice at Wytheville Community College. He graduated from the New River Criminal Justice Academy in Dublin, VA and has worked the past two years with the Chilhowie Police Department and the Smyth County Sheriff’s Office prior to joining the Wytheville Police Department.

The second officer, Dallas R. Shumate, of Rural Retreat entered his employment with the Town of Wytheville December 2018. He is a graduate from Rural Retreat High School and obtained his Associates in Applied Science in Criminal Justice at Wytheville Community College. He attended the New River Criminal Justice Academy in Dublin, VA and upon his graduation, joined the Wytheville Police Department.

Chief Arnold states, “We are excited to have both of these individuals join our department and provide for the safety and security of the citizens of this community. Their training will be put to good use”.

Mayor Beth Taylor swore-in both individuals during ceremonies at the Emergency Services Building.