

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE WYTHEVILLE TOWN COUNCIL  
HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS ON MONDAY, MAY 13, 2019, AT 7:00 P.M.**

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

Others present: Town Manager C. Wayne Sutherland, Jr., Assistant Town Manager Stephen A. Moore, Town Clerk Sharon G. Corvin, Town Attorney Christopher R. Menerick, David Kause, Olivia Deal, William Deal, Police Officer Blaine Grubb, Police Officer Dallas Shumate

**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 Vice-Mayor King.

**RE: CONSENT AGENDA**

Mayor Taylor presented the consent agenda consisting of the minutes of the regular meeting of April 22, 2019. Mayor Taylor inquired if there is a motion to approve the consent agenda as presented or to somehow be amended. A motion was made by Vice-Mayor King and seconded by Councilwoman Pattison to approve the consent agenda consisting of the minutes of the regular meeting of April 22, 2019, as presented. Mayor Taylor inquired if there was any discussion on the motion to approve the consent agenda, as presented. There being none, the motion was approved with the following voting in favor and there being no opposition: For: Beth A. Taylor, Jacqueline K. King, Joseph E. Hand, Jr., Mark J. Bloomfield, Cathy D. Pattison. Against: None.

**RE: CITIZENS' PERIOD**

Mayor Taylor advised the next agenda item is Citizens' Period. She noted there were no citizens attending the meeting listed on the sign in sheet who wished to address the Council during Citizens' Period, therefore, she would proceed with the agenda.

**RE: OLD BUSINESS**

Under Old Business, Town Manager Sutherland reported the following:

1. The next Council Work Session will be held on Tuesday, May 14, 2019, at 7:00 a.m., in the Council Conference Room.
2. The Public Works Committee will meet on Wednesday, May 15, 2019, at 10:30 a.m., in the Council Conference Room.
3. The New River Regional Water Authority will meet on Thursday, May 16, 2019, at 10:00 a.m., in the Council Chambers.

**RE: BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT**

Councilwoman Pattison, reporting for the Budget and Finance Committee, stated that later in the meeting, the Council will consider, on the first of three readings, the adoption of the budget for Fiscal Year 2019-20. She explained that this year's budget totals \$26,207,204, which consists of revenues and expenditures from both the General Fund and the Water/Sewer Fund. Councilwoman Pattison noted, again, this year, real estate and personal property taxes will see no increases. She commented that there are, however, proposed small increases in business license fees with an increase of three cents per category, as well as certain small revisions in water and sewer billings. Councilwoman Pattison remarked that the budget includes a 2.5 percent payroll increase for employees, and, also, includes additional funding for employee health care coverage. She stated, again, this year, there are many large projects included in the budget including the completion of work on the East Main Street Project, the Edgemont Sewer Project, as well as significant Fire Department improvements and many other large capital projects. Councilwoman Pattison expressed that the Budget and Finance Committee would like to note that the budget will be considered again at the Council meeting on May 28, 2019, at which time there will also be a public hearing. She noted that the final adoption of the budget is scheduled for June 10, 2019. Councilwoman Pattison remarked that the budget, as drafted, can be amended at any time during this adoption process. She advised that later in the meeting, when the budget is considered on first reading, it would be the recommendation of the Budget and Finance Committee that it be approved on first reading.

Councilwoman Pattison, also, reported that as a part of the annual budget process, and in preparation for the annual audit, it is necessary that the Council make certain amendments to its current budget. She explained that the State law provides that at any time appropriations exceed what was adopted by more than one percent, a public hearing must be held and the budget amended. Councilwoman Pattison stated that during this past year, there have been several large capital projects that have resulted in the expenditure of more funds than were appropriated. She noted that at this point, it is not clear exactly the amount of overages in these line items, but, clearly, it is going to exceed the one percent threshold. Councilwoman Pattison advised that it would be the recommendation of the Budget and Finance Committee that the Council set a public hearing for the evening of June 24, 2019, to consider amendments to the current year's budget. She stated that Town Treasurer Michael Stephens will provide the Council with an outline of the line items that need to be amended. Councilwoman Pattison advised having said that, the Budget and Finance Committee would move for the establishment of a public hearing for budget amendment purposes at the June 24, 2019, meeting of Town Council. A motion was made by Councilwoman Pattison and seconded by Vice-Mayor King to set a public hearing for the June 24, 2019, Town Council meeting to consider amendments to the Fiscal Year 2018-19 budget. Mayor Taylor inquired if there was any discussion on the motion to set the public hearing for the June 24, 2019, Town Council meeting. There being none, the motion was approved with the following voting in favor and there being no opposition: For: Beth A. Taylor, Jacqueline K. King, 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 next week, the much anticipated return of the Run for the Wall will take place on Wednesday, May 22, 2019, in Withers Park. He commented that this is the 19<sup>th</sup> visit to Wytheville for the cross country journey of awareness and healing. Councilman Bloomfield noted that the welcome home ceremony will begin at approximately 4:30 p.m., and there are, normally, many town citizens present to participate in the program. He explained that, as usual, it will be anticipated that many citizens will be out to welcome the group as they arrive off of Exit 70 on to North Fourth Street. Councilman Bloomfield remarked that on Thursday, as it has been the case for many years, the students of Spiller Elementary School will give an entertaining welcome to the group. He stated that after their departure from Wytheville, the riders will continue on to visit the War Memorial in Bedford County and, ultimately, on to Washington, D.C. to the Vietnam Veterans Memorial for the program there.

Councilman Bloomfield, also, reported that several years ago, the Town amended its regulations with regard to mowing. He explained that, generally speaking, the new mowing regulations require that properties be mowed three times per year - once before May 15, once before July 15 and once before September 15. Councilman Bloomfield noted that the regulations provide that when grass, weeds/vegetation and other foreign growth reach a maximum of 12 inches in height, the property owner shall mow the property. He stated that the Public Works Committee wanted to remind everyone about these mowing regulations. Councilman Bloomfield commented that in several days, the first cutting is required. He remarked that in any event, if the property is not mowed, the Town will give notice regarding the failure to mow and remove the weeds as required, and the Town will collect from the property owner the charges needed to perform the mowing. Councilman Bloomfield advised that the Public Works Committee would urge any property owners who have questions to either go to the Town's website and review the specific language set forth in Section 12-91 of the Town Code or contact Director of Public Works John Bishop at the Municipal Office Building. A copy of the Public Works Committee report is attached and made part of these minutes.

#### **RE: APPOINTMENTS – WALL OF HONOR COMMITTEE**

Mayor Taylor advised that the next agenda item is to consider the reappointment of a member to the Joint Industrial Development Authority to fill the expiring term of Mr. David Kause (term expires November 10, 2019). A motion was made by Vice-Mayor King and seconded by Councilman Bloomfield to reappoint Mr. David Kause to the Joint Industrial Development Authority for a four year term (term expires November 10, 2023). Mayor Taylor inquired if there was any discussion on the motion to reappoint Mr. Kause to the Joint Industrial Development Authority. There being none, the motion was approved with the following voting in favor and there being no opposition: For: Beth A. Taylor, Jacqueline K. King, Joseph E. Hand, Jr., Mark J. Bloomfield, Cathy D. Pattison. Against: None.

**RE: ORDINANCE NO. 1361**

Mayor Taylor presented Ordinance No. 1361, the Budget Ordinance for Fiscal Year 2019-20, on first reading. She continued to explain the budget process. A motion was made by Councilwoman Pattison and seconded by Vice-Mayor King to approve Ordinance No. 1361, the Budget Ordinance for Fiscal Year 2019-20, on first, but not final, reading. Mayor Taylor inquired if there was any discussion on the motion to adopt the ordinance on first, but not final, reading. There being none, the motion was approved with the following voting in favor and there being no opposition:

FOR: Beth A. Taylor, Jacqueline K. King, Joseph E. Hand, Jr., Mark J. Bloomfield, Cathy D. Pattison

AGAINST: None

ABSTENTIONS: None

Ordinance No. 1361 was approved on first, but not final, reading.

**RE: ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to be discussed, a motion was duly made, seconded and carried to adjourn the meeting (7:10 p.m.).

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Beth A. Taylor, Mayor

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Sharon G. Corvin, CMC, Town Clerk