

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE WYTHEVILLE TOWN COUNCIL  
HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS ON MONDAY, APRIL 24, 2017, AT 7:00 P.M.**

Members present: Trenton G. Crewe, Jr., Jacqueline K. King, Thomas F. Hundley, Joseph E. Hand, Jr., Beth A. Taylor

Others present: Town Manager C. Wayne Sutherland, Jr., Town Clerk Sharon G. Corvin, Paul Jones, Doug Campbell, Kimberly Ingo, Makenzie Ingo, H.S. Ingo, Millie Rothrock with *The Wytheville Enterprise*, Police Officer Kelly White, others

**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 Vice-Mayor King.

**RE: CONSENT AGENDA**

Mayor Crewe presented the consent agenda consisting of the minutes of the regular meeting of April 10, 2017; the request of Downtown Wytheville, Incorporated to close Main Street from Fourth Street to First Street on Tuesday, July 4, 2017, from 9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m., to hold the Fourth of July parade and activities; and, the request of Ms. Domonique Spencer to close Main Street from First Street to Tazewell Street on Saturday, June 24, 2017, from 5:45 p.m. to 6:30 p.m., to conduct a wedding at the Bolling Wilson Hotel. He inquired of the Council if there was 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 Councilman Hand to approve the consent agenda consisting of the minutes of the regular meeting of April 10, 2017, and the request of Downtown Wytheville, Incorporated to close Main Street from Fourth Street to First Street on Tuesday, July 4, 2017, from 9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m., to hold the Fourth of July parade and activities; but, to deny the request of Ms. Domonique Spencer to close Main Street from First Street to Tazewell Street on Saturday, June 24, 2017, from 5:45 p.m. to 6:30 p.m., to conduct a wedding at the Bolling Wilson Hotel. Mayor Crewe inquired if there was 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, Thomas F. Hundley, Joseph E. Hand, Jr., Beth A. Taylor. Against: None.

**RE: CITIZENS' PERIOD**

Mayor Crewe advised the next agenda item is Citizens' Period. He noted that no one indicated on the sign in sheet that they wished to address the Council during Citizens' Period, therefore, he would proceed with the agenda. He noted that he would revisit Citizens' Period to present the girls' basketball team with their resolution since they are enroute.

**RE: OLD BUSINESS**

Under Old Business, Town Manager Sutherland reported the following:

1. The Council Work Session will be held on Wednesday, April 26, 2017, at 7:00 a.m.
2. The Willow Brook Jackson/Umberger Homestead Museum Advisory Board will meet on Thursday, April 27, 2017, at 10:00 a.m., in Conference Room A of the Municipal Building.
3. The Joint Industrial Development Authority of Wythe County will meet on Thursday, April 27, 2017, at 3:00 p.m., in the Council Chambers.
4. The Living History Celebration where children will visit the Homestead Museum will be held on Monday, May 1, and Tuesday, May 2.

**RE: BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT**

Councilwoman Taylor, reporting for the Budget and Finance Committee, stated that earlier this year, the Council requested representatives in the Virginia General Assembly to introduce a bill that would amend the Town Charter to simplify the procedure for replacing a vacancy on the Town Council. She explained that the Town has now confirmed that the Charter change, requested by the Town, has been approved by the General Assembly and signed by the Governor. Councilwoman Taylor remarked that the Governor approved the Charter change on February 23, 2017, and the change will become effective on July 1, 2017, provided that the

Council amends the Town Code to reflect these changes. She commented that the amendment removes provisions that would require a special election to fill certain vacancies in the office of the Mayor or the Town Council. Councilwoman Taylor stated that it subjects all such vacancies to existing requirements that vacancies be filled for the remainder of the unexpired term by a majority vote of the remaining members of the Council. She noted that the amendment corrects the situation that the Town had this past year when it was necessary to have a special election. Councilwoman Taylor explained that later in the meeting, the Council will consider an ordinance that modifies these changes. She advised that it would be the recommendation of the Budget and Finance Committee that the ordinance be adopted on first and final reading, with the effective date of the revision to be July 1, 2017.

Councilwoman Taylor, also, reported that the Council has been advised that Wytheville has been accepted into the HEAL Program. She stated that the Council believes that this is an exciting program, which will, hopefully, improve not only the dietary standards and degrees of exercising activity but will also improve the health of the citizens. Councilwoman Taylor explained that the Council adopted a resolution requesting to join the HEAL Cities and Towns Campaign for the mid-Atlantic to help foster health environments through the policies that increase access to healthy eating and active living for residents. She remarked that HEAL stands for Healthy Eating Active Living, which are two critical components to a healthy lifestyle. Councilwoman Taylor commented that the purpose of this program is to promote these lifestyles. She expressed that the Council believes that by encouraging the communities to be active, improving access to healthy food and promoting a physical municipal workplace, Wytheville will contribute to the physical health of its citizens, while also aiming to improve the overall quality of life and promote business investments throughout the town. Councilwoman Taylor stated that the campaign was created by the nonprofit Institute for Public Health Innovation and the Maryland and Virginia Municipal Leagues to support local elected officials in creating policies that improve access to health foods and physical activity in communities throughout our state. She noted that the Town's participation in the HEAL Program is at no cost to the community. Councilwoman Taylor explained that the campaign is administered by the Institute for Public Health Innovation and funded by private foundations. She commented that the Council looks forward to implementing a number of programs that are aimed at improving the community's health. A copy of the Budget and Finance Committee report is attached and made part of these minutes.

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

Councilman Hundley, reporting for the Public Works Committee, stated that at the meeting held on March 27, 2017, Town Council requested the Planning Commission to evaluate any potential zoning changes that would be of assistance in screening the view of stacks of used tires throughout the community. He noted that since that time, the Council has continued to evaluate the situation and believes that regulations are more fittingly placed in the Town Code. Councilman Hundley remarked that later in the meeting, the Council will consider an ordinance that will adopt new regulations concerning the keeping of waste tires. He commented that under the new definition, it will be unlawful for any person to store waste tires on public or private property without having the waste tires shielded from view from all adjacent streets, properties and alleys. Councilman Hundley explained that to accomplish this, the tires must be shielded from public view by one of several methods. He stated that one would, obviously, be to provide a fully enclosed structure or building. Councilman Hundley noted a second alternative would be to provide a completely enclosed area by either a solid, rigid or opaque fence. He expressed that, finally, a third option would be to create a significant landscaping arrangement that would block the view of the tires. Councilman Hundley stated the Council believes that it is important to adopt these regulations since the Town is spending a considerable amount of time, effort and money on improving the esthetics of the community. He advised that when the ordinance is considered later in the meeting, it would be the recommendation of the Public Works Committee that the ordinance be approved on first, but not final, reading.

Councilman Hundley, also, reported that there is yet an additional ordinance that will be considered later in the meeting concerning the use of tents for meetings. He stated that the Town Code provides for the use of a tent for church and other activities be restricted to ten days. Councilman Hundley explained that this past year, the Town had several circumstances where the ten day limit imposed a certain hardship on the persons seeking a permit. He noted that as such, the Public Works Committee believes that it is worthwhile to provide some flexibility in this program and to give the Town Manager the opportunity to extend the length of the permit, beyond ten days, at his discretion. Councilman Hundley advised that when this ordinance is considered later in the meeting, it would be the recommendation of the Public Works Committee that it be adopted on first and final reading.

Councilman Hundley stated that the Council has now been advised that all three governing bodies, Wythe County, the Town of Rural Retreat and the Town of Wytheville, have each agreed to fund the study to be performed by The Retail Coach company. He noted that under the terms of this agreement, the funding for the program will be 45 percent by Wythe County, 45 percent by the Town of Wytheville and 10 percent by the Town of Rural Retreat. Councilman Hundley explained that during this initial phase, the Town of Wytheville and Wythe County will contribute \$20,250, and the Town of Rural Retreat will contribute \$4,500. He remarked that under the provisions of the contract, the Town can withdraw from the program at any time upon giving notice. Councilman Hundley explained that the contract does provide for a year two and a year three ongoing study, if the governing bodies choose to continue with the program. He commented that the purpose of the program is to gather information and data that can be used by The Retail Coach in recruiting various retailers and restaurants to the county and town. Councilman Hundley stated that often, retailers make decisions solely on the demographics of the community and do not consider other factors. He explained that the Town, of course, has a smaller population, but it also has a tremendous tourism industry, as well as being at the intersection of two major interstates. Councilman Hundley expressed that the Council believes that these factors of being at the hub of Southwest Virginia should have meaning when retailers and restaurants are considering Wytheville. He advised that it is anticipated that the study will commence within the next few weeks with the data gathering process. Councilman Hundley stated that the Public Works Committee will keep everyone posted on the status of this initiative as it moves forward. A copy of the Public Works Committee report is attached and made part of these minutes.

**RE: ORDINANCE NO. 1316**

Mayor Crewe presented Ordinance No. 1316, an ordinance amending and reenacting Part 1. Charter, Section 2. Council Generally, of the Code of the Town of Wytheville, Virginia, on first and final reading, to become effective July 1, 2017. A motion was made by Councilwoman Taylor and seconded by Vice-Mayor King to suspend the rules and adopt Ordinance No. 1316, an ordinance amending and reenacting Part 1. Charter, Section 2. Council Generally, of the Code of the Town of Wytheville, Virginia, on first and final reading, to become effective July 1, 2017. Mayor Crewe inquired if there was any discussion on the motion to suspend the rules and adopt the ordinance on first and final reading. 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, Thomas F. Hundley, Joseph E. Hand, Jr., Beth A. Taylor

AGAINST: None

ABSTENTIONS: None

Ordinance No. 1316 was adopted on first and final reading. He noted that the Charter change will not be effective until July 1, 2017.

**RE: ORDINANCE NO. 1317**

Mayor Crewe presented Ordinance No. 1317, an ordinance amending and reenacting Chapter 12, Solid Waste Collection and Disposal, by amending Article I. In General, Section 12-3. Definitions, and by adding Article VIII. Waste Tires, of the Code of the Town of Wytheville, Virginia, on first, but not final, reading. A motion was made by Councilman Hundley and seconded by Councilman Hand to approve Ordinance No. 1317, an ordinance amending and reenacting Chapter 12, Solid Waste Collection and Disposal, by amending Article I. In General, Section 12-3. Definitions, and by adding Article VIII. Waste Tires, of the Code of the Town of Wytheville, Virginia, on first, but not final, reading. Mayor Crewe inquired if there was any discussion on the motion to approve 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: Trenton G. Crewe, Jr., Jacqueline K. King, Thomas F. Hundley, Joseph E. Hand, Jr., Beth A. Taylor

AGAINST: None

ABSTENTIONS: None

Ordinance No. 1317 was approved on first, but not final, reading.

**RE: ORDINANCE NO. 1318**

Mayor Crewe presented Ordinance No. 1318, an ordinance amending and reenacting Chapter 4, Building Regulations, Article III. Tents, Etc., for Business, Dwelling, Etc., Quarters, Section 4-49. Permit for Use of Tent for Meetings, of the Code of the Town of Wytheville, Virginia, on first and final reading. A motion was made by Councilman Hundley and seconded by Councilman Hand to suspend the rules and adopt Ordinance No. 1318, an ordinance amending and reenacting Chapter 12, Solid Waste Collection and Disposal, by amending Article I. In General, Section 12-3. Definitions, and by adding Article VIII. Waste Tires, of the Code of the Town of Wytheville, Virginia, on first and final reading. Mayor Crewe inquired if there was any discussion on the motion to suspend the rules and adopt the ordinance on first and final reading. 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, Thomas F. Hundley, Joseph E. Hand, Jr., Beth A. Taylor

AGAINST: None

ABSTENTIONS: None

Ordinance No. 1318 was adopted on first and final reading. He noted that Ordinance No. 1318 is effective immediately.

**RE: RESOLUTION – GEORGE WYTHE HIGH SCHOOL BOYS’ BASKETBALL TEAM**

Mayor Crewe advised the next agenda item is a resolution recognizing the George Wythe High School Boys’ Basketball Team for a successful season. Mayor Crewe read the resolution to the Council members. He inquired if there is a motion to adopt the resolution. A motion was made by Councilman Hundley and seconded by Vice-Mayor King to adopt a resolution recognizing the George Wythe High School Boys’ Basketball Team for a successful season. Mayor Crewe inquired if there was any discussion on the motion 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, Thomas F. Hundley, Joseph E. Hand, Jr., Beth A. Taylor. Against: None.

**RE: RECESS**

Mayor Crewe noted that the Town Council will take a short recess. He advised that the Council will reconvene after the girls’ basketball team arrives. (7:17 p.m.)

**RE: RECONVENE**

It was the consensus of the Council to reconvene the Council meeting. (7:50 p.m.)

**RE: CITIZENS’ PERIOD – PRESENTATION OF RESOLUTION – GEORGE WYTHE HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS’ BASKETBALL TEAM**

Mayor Crewe advised the next agenda item is the presentation of the George Wythe High School Girls’ Basketball Team resolution. Mayor Crewe stated that on April 10, 2017, a resolution was adopted by the Council commending the George Wythe High School Girls’ Basketball Team for an outstanding 2017 basketball season. He presented the resolution, which read as follows:

**RESOLUTION**

**WHEREAS**, the George Wythe High School Girls’ Basketball Team completed their 2017 season with an overall record of 26-4; and,

**WHEREAS**, the George Wythe High School Girls’ Basketball Team was Hogoheegee Regular Season Champions and Mountain West Regular Season and Tournament Champions; and,

**WHEREAS**, the George Wythe High School Girls’ Basketball Team advanced to become the 1A-West Regional Champions; and,

**WHEREAS**, the George Wythe High School Girls’ Basketball Team then advanced to become the Virginia High School League (VHSL) State Runner-Up; and,

**WHEREAS**, Elizabeth Jones excelled and was named All Conference Player of the Year, All Region Player of the Year and ended the season as a 1,000 point scorer and rebounder; and,

**WHEREAS**, Grayson Anders was named to the All Conference and ended an accomplished season as a 1,000 point scorer; and, Kaitlyn Pool was named to the All Conference; and,

**WHEREAS**, the players and coaches of the George Wythe High School Girls' Basketball Team, through their outstanding display of athletic ability, team play and sportsmanship, have reflected great credit upon the school and upon the Town.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Town Council of the Town of Wytheville, Virginia, officially commends the George Wythe High School Girls' Basketball Team; Head Coach Doug Campbell; Assistant Coaches Paul Jones, Thad Umberger, Ben Campbell, Rachel Artrip and Alex Cave; and, other high school officials concerned for the outstanding accomplishment of the basketball team.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that copies of this proclamation be presented to the George Wythe High School Girls' Basketball Team, the coaches, other officials concerned and the news media.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the Town of Wytheville, Virginia, to be affixed this 27th day of March in the year of our Lord two thousand seventeen.

Mayor Crewe requested the members of the basketball team and coaches to come forward for the presentation of the resolution and to have a photo taken.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to be discussed, a motion was duly made, seconded and carried to adjourn the meeting (8:00 p.m.).

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Trenton G. Crewe, Jr., Mayor

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Sharon G. Corvin, Town Clerk

## **BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT**

**APRIL 24, 2017**

1. Earlier this year, the Council requested representatives in the Virginia General Assembly to introduce a bill that would amend the Town Charter to simplify the procedure for replacing a vacancy on the Town Council. We have now confirmed that the Charter change, requested by the Town, has been approved by the General Assembly and signed by the Governor. The Governor approved the Charter change on February 23, 2017, and the change will become effective on July 1, 2017, provided that we amend the Town Code to reflect these changes. The amendment removes provisions that would require a special election to fill certain vacancies in the office of the Mayor or the Town Council. It subjects all such vacancies to existing requirements that vacancies be filled for the remainder of the unexpired term by a majority vote of the remaining members of the Council. The amendment corrects the situation that we had this past year when it was necessary to have a special election. Later in the meeting, the Council will consider an ordinance that modifies these changes. It would be the recommendation of the Budget and Finance Committee that the ordinance be adopted, on first and final reading, with the effective date of the revision to be July 1, 2017.
  
2. We have been advised that Wytheville has been accepted into the HEAL Program. We believe that this is an exciting program, which will, hopefully, improve not only the dietary standards and degrees of exercising activity but will

also improve the health of our citizens. The Council adopted a resolution requesting to join the HEAL Cities and Towns Campaign for the mid-Atlantic to help foster health environments through the policies that increase access to healthy eating and active living for residents. HEAL stands for Healthy Eating Active Living, which are two critical components to a healthy lifestyle. The purpose of this program is to promote these lifestyles. We believe that by encouraging the communities to be active, improving access to healthy food and promoting a physical municipal workplace, Wytheville will contribute to the physical health of its citizens, while also aiming to improve the overall quality of life and promote business investment throughout the town. The campaign was created by the nonprofit Institute for Public Health Innovation and the Maryland and Virginia Municipal Leagues to support local elected officials in creating policies that improve access to health foods and physical activity in communities throughout our state. Our participation in the HEAL Program is at no cost to the community. The campaign is administered by the Institute for Public Health Innovation and funded by private foundations. We look forward to implementing a number of programs that are aimed at improving the community's health.

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Jacqueline K. King

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Beth A. Taylor

## **PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE REPORT**

**APRIL 24, 2017**

1. At our meeting held on March 27, 2017, Town Council requested the Planning Commission to evaluate any potential zoning changes that would be of assistance in screening the view of stacks of used tires throughout the community. Since that time, we have continued to evaluate the situation and believe that regulations are more fittingly placed in the Town Code. Later in the meeting, the Council will consider an ordinance that will adopt new regulations concerning the keeping of waste tires. Under the new definition, it will be unlawful for any person to store waste tires on public or private property without having the waste tires shielded from view from all adjacent streets, properties and alleys. To accomplish this, the tires must be shielded from public view by one of several methods. One would, obviously, be to provide a fully enclosed structure or building. A second alternative would be to provide a completely enclosed area by either a solid, rigid or opaque fence. Finally, a third option would be to create a significant landscaping arrangement that would block the view of the tires. We believe that it is important to adopt these regulations since we are spending a considerable amount of time, effort and money on improving the esthetics of our community. When the ordinance is considered later in the meeting, it would be the recommendation of the Public Works Committee that the ordinance be approved on first, but not final, reading.

Also, there is yet an additional ordinance that will be considered this evening



concerning the use of tents for meetings. The Town Code provides for the use of a tent for church and other activities restricted to ten days. This past year, we had several circumstances where the ten day limit imposed a certain hardship on the persons seeking a permit. As such, we believe that it is worthwhile to provide some flexibility in this program and give the Town Manager the opportunity to extend the length of the permit, beyond ten days, at his discretion. When this ordinance is considered later in the meeting, it would be the recommendation of the Public Works Committee that it be adopted on first and final reading.

2. We have now been advised that all three governing bodies, Wythe County, the Town of Rural Retreat and the Town of Wytheville, have each agreed to fund the study to be performed by The Retail Coach company. Under the terms of this agreement, the funding for the program will be 45 percent by Wythe County, 45 percent by the Town of Wytheville and 10 percent by the Town of Rural Retreat. During this initial phase, the Town of Wytheville and Wythe County will contribute \$20,250, and the Town of Rural Retreat will contribute \$4,500. Under the provisions of the contract, we can withdraw from the program at any time upon giving notice. The contract does provide for a year two and a year three ongoing study, if the governing bodies choose to continue with the program. The purpose of the program is to gather information and data that can be used by The Retail Coach in recruiting various retail and restaurants to our county and town. Often, retailers make decisions solely on the demographics of the community and do not consider other factors. We, of course, have a smaller population but, we also have a tremendous

tourism industry, as well as being at the intersection of two major interstates. We believe that these factors of being at the hub of Southwest Virginia should have meaning when retailers and restaurants are considering us. It is anticipated that the study will commence within the next few weeks with the data gathering process. We will keep everyone posted on the status of this initiative as it moves forward.

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Thomas F. Hundley

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Joseph E. Hand, Jr.