

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE WYTHEVILLE TOWN COUNCIL
HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS ON MONDAY, MAY 8, 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, Assistant Town Manager Stephen A. Moore, Rick Boyd, Trey Boyd, Cade Rouse, Josh Wynn, Ethan Martin, Ben Sowers, Devon Meredith, Ross Vier, Sebastian Lamrouex, Andrew Temple, Conner Manuel, Adam Akers, David Marable, Alyssa Waller, Micah Dunford, Matt Lamrouex, Joshua Reeves, Bryan Johnson, Pat Burnes, Tony Dunford, Tristan Boysaw, Scott Hoagland, Nash Russell, Malik Johnson, Noah Atwood, Ethan Lavalley, Julie Martin, Madalyn Dunford, Police Officer Troy Cockram, 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 Councilman Hand.

RE: CONSENT AGENDA

Mayor Crewe presented the consent agenda consisting of the minutes of the regular meeting of April 24, 2017. 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 Councilwoman Taylor to approve the consent agenda consisting of the minutes of the regular meeting of April 24, 2017, as presented. 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 – PRESENTATION OF RESOLUTION – GEORGE WYTHE HIGH SCHOOL BOYS' BASKETBALL TEAM

Mayor Crewe advised the next agenda item is the presentation of the George Wythe High School Boys' Basketball Team resolution. Mayor Crewe stated that since so many of the basketball team members were present at the meeting, he would read the resolution so that they would know exactly what it states. He presented the resolution, which read as follows:

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the George Wythe High School Boys' Basketball Team completed their 2017 season with an overall record of 25-3; and,

WHEREAS, the George Wythe High School Boys' Basketball Team was Hogoheegee Regular Season Champions for the fourth consecutive year; and,

WHEREAS, the George Wythe High School Boys' Basketball Team won their Second Conference Regular Season Championship, their third consecutive Conference Tournament Championship and made their appearance in the Final Four for the second straight year; and,

WHEREAS, the George Wythe High School Boys' Basketball Team achieved the status as the Virginia High School League State Runner-Up, and only missed becoming the Virginia High School League State Champions by one point; and,

WHEREAS, Malik Johnson was named to the 1st Team All State by the Virginia High School League and the Virginia High School Coaches Association, and was named to the 1st Team All Timesland (Roanoke) and to the 1st Team All Area (Bristol); and,

WHEREAS, Noah Atwood was named to the 2nd Team All State by the Virginia High School League and the Virginia High School Coaches Association; and,

WHEREAS, Coach Pat Burns and Malik Johnson represented George Wythe High School as a coach and a player, respectively, in the East West All Star Game; and,

WHEREAS, the players and coaches of the George Wythe High School Boys' 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 Boys' Basketball Team; its Head Coach, Mr. Pat Burns; its Assistant Coaches, Mr. Scott Hoagland, Mr. Tony Dunford and Mr. Tristan Boysaw; and, other high school officials for the outstanding accomplishment of the basketball team.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this resolution be presented to the George Wythe High School Boys' 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 24th day of April 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.

RE: CITIZENS' PERIOD - OTHERS

Mayor Crewe inquired if there are others who wished to address the Council. He noted that no one indicated on the sign in sheet that they wished to address the Council during Citizens' Period. There being no others who wished to address the Council, he proceeded with the agenda.

RE: OLD BUSINESS

Under Old Business, Town Manager Sutherland reported the following:

1. The Council Work Session will be held on Tuesday, May 9, 2017, at 7:00 a.m.
2. The Beautification Task Force will meet on Wednesday, May 17, 2017, at 2:30 p.m., in Conference Room A of the Municipal Building.
3. The New River Regional Water Authority will meet on Thursday, May 18, 2017, at 9:30 a.m., in the Council Chambers.
4. The Council Personnel Committee will meet on Friday, May 19, 2017, at 8:15 a.m., at the Heritage Preservation Center.

RE: RESOLUTION – GEORGE WYTHE HIGH SCHOOL WRESTLING TEAM

Mayor Crewe advised the next agenda item is the presentation of the resolution recognizing the George Wythe High School Wrestling Team for a successful season. He stated the resolution read as follows:

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the George Wythe High School Wrestling Team completed their 2016-17 season with an overall dual team record of 13-7; and,

WHEREAS, the George Wythe High School Wrestling Team placed 9th in the Virginia High School League State Tournament; and,

WHEREAS, the George Wythe High School Wrestling Team had accomplishments by their team members that included Zade Johnson (170 pound weight class) who placed 3rd in the State Championship; Chris Mohr (182 pound weight class) who placed 5th in the State Championship; Will Castanon (120 pound weight class) who placed 6th in the State Championship; and, Alyssa Waller, David Marable and Micah Dunford who were State Championship Qualifiers; and,

WHEREAS, Sebastian Lamrouex, a freshman on the George Wythe High School Wrestling Team, completed his 2016-17 wrestling season with an overall record of 35-3; and,

WHEREAS, Mr. Lamrouex advanced to the 2016-17 State Championship title in the 106 pound weight class and earned the 106 pound weight class individual State Championship; and,

WHEREAS, the wrestlers and coaches of the George Wythe High School Wrestling 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 Wrestling Team; its head coach, Mr. Matt Lamrouex; its Assistant Coach, Mr. Jake Lewis; and, other high school officials for this outstanding accomplishment.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this resolution be presented to the team members, 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 8th day of May in the year of our Lord two thousand seventeen.

Mayor Crewe inquired if there was a motion to adopt the resolution. A motion was made by Vice-Mayor King and seconded by Councilman Hundley to adopt the resolution recognizing the George Wythe High School Wrestling 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.

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

RE: RESOLUTION – RURAL RETREAT HIGH SCHOOL WRESTLING TEAM

Mayor Crewe advised the next agenda item is the presentation of the resolution recognizing the Rural Retreat High School Wrestling Team for an outstanding season. He stated the resolution read as follows:

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the Rural Retreat High School Wrestling Team completed their 2016-17 season with an overall record of 13-3; and,

WHEREAS, the Rural Retreat High School Wrestling Team progressed to the Virginia High School League's Group 1A State Wrestling Championship and was victorious in attaining the title of the Virginia High School League 1A State Wrestling Champions by earning 200.5 points; and,

WHEREAS, this was the Rural Retreat High School Wrestling Team's fourth consecutive overall State Championship; and,

WHEREAS, the Rural Retreat High School Wrestling Team had eight State Champions including Trey Boyd (120 pound weight class) who earned his fourth individual State Championship; Josh Wynn (126 pound weight class) who won his third individual State Championship; Trent O'Neil (152 pound weight class) who received his second State Championship; Ethan Martin (170 pound weight class) who gained his second individual State Championship; Harley Mitchell (195 pound weight class) who earned his second State Championship; Devon Meredith (182 pound weight class) who attained his first individual State Championship; Cade Rouse (220 pound weight class) who achieved his first individual State Championship; and, Ben Sowers (285 pound weight class) who won his first individual State Championship; and,

WHEREAS, the wrestlers and coaches of the Rural Retreat High School Wrestling Team, through their outstanding display of athletic ability, team play and sportsmanship, have reflected great credit upon the school and upon the Town and County.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Council of the Town of Wytheville, Virginia, officially commends the Rural Retreat High School Wrestling Team, its head coach, Rick Boyd, and, other high school officials for an outstanding season.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this resolution be presented to the Rural Retreat High School Wrestling 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 8th day of May in the year of our Lord two thousand seventeen.

Mayor Crewe inquired if there was a motion to adopt the resolution. A motion was made by Councilman Hundley and seconded by Councilman Hand to adopt the resolution recognizing the Rural Retreat High School Wrestling Team for an outstanding 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.

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

RE: BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

Vice-Mayor King, reporting for the Budget and Finance Committee, stated that at the Council Work Session last week, Town Treasurer Michael Stephens presented various delinquent taxes and charges that need to be written off of the Town's books. She noted that under Section 58.1-3940 of the Code of Virginia, it states that a collection of local taxes shall only be enforceable for five years following December 31 of the year for which such taxes were assessed. Vice-Mayor King explained that there were \$1,061.58 in 2011 for Personal Property/Mobile Home taxes; \$1.57 in 2011 for Public Services; \$16,867.61 in 2011 for Water/Sewer bills; and, \$21,447.69 in Accounts Receivable Invoices (property damage, accidents, etc.) between 1998 - 2012. She commented that every effort has been made to collect these delinquent fees, but it is now clear that they cannot be collected. Vice-Mayor King advised, therefore, it is the recommendation of the Budget and Finance Committee that the Town Council authorize the Town Treasurer to write-off the taxes and fees outlined above. A motion was made by Vice-Mayor King and seconded by Councilwoman Taylor to approve the Town Treasurer to write off \$1,061.58 for 2011 Personal Property/Mobile Home taxes; \$1.57 for 2011 Public Services; \$16,867.81 for 2011 Water/Sewer bills; and, \$21,447.69 for 1998-2012 Accounts Receivable invoices. Mayor Crewe inquired if there was any discussion on the motion to approve the Town Treasurer to proceed with the write offs. 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.

Vice-Mayor King, also, reported that, currently, the Town's Real Estate and Personal Property Taxes are due on or before December 15 of each year. She stated that Real Estate and Personal Property Taxes for Wythe County are due on or before December 5 of each year. Vice-Mayor King noted that these two different dates often result in confusion to town taxpayers who have Town and County Real Estate and Personal Property Taxes due on different days. She remarked that Town Treasurer Stephens has suggested that it may be helpful to citizens to select the date for the Town's taxes to be received to be the same date as the County is currently using. Vice-Mayor King explained that to accomplish the change in the due date, it would require that the Town Code be amended to reflect the change. She noted that the Town has not, as of yet, drafted an ordinance which would make this amendment, but the Council did want to make everyone aware that it was being considered and provide the public with the opportunity to comment on the proposed date change. Vice-Mayor King advised that there is no action required by the Council, but the Budget and Finance Committee does expect this to be a topic on the next Council agenda. 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 over the past several years, revenues the Town receives for the sale of vehicle decals have continued to decline. He noted that these revenues have declined by more than \$40,000 over the past three years. Councilman Hundley explained that there are several factors that have contributed to these reductions. He remarked that the largest factor is that Personal Property Taxes are assessed on vehicles that are located within the Town of Wytheville, but the only mechanism to determine the location of a vehicle is through the Department of Motor Vehicles. Councilman Hundley commented that the Public Works Committee has found, over the years, that many of the locations designated by the Department of Motor Vehicles are not accurate. He stated, in

other words, many vehicles that are situated within the Town's corporate limits are noted by the Department of Motor Vehicles as being outside of the corporate limits in Wythe County. Councilman Hundley noted, secondly, when Wythe County eliminated vehicle decals, many citizens assumed this action was also applicable to town citizens. He expressed that given the reduction in these revenues, it is important for the Town to take a number of actions to recover these revenues. Councilman Hundley remarked that the Council would like to encourage every citizen within the town to check their vehicle registration to determine that it is accurately describing the vehicle as being situated in the town. He advised that a failure to purchase and display a Town vehicle decal can result in receiving a ticket that has a fine of \$35.00. Councilman Hundley stated that the Council is going to ask its Police Department to take an active enforcement effort to be sure that all vehicles that should be displaying a town decal be identified. He noted, initially, the Town is going to attempt to work with the Commissioner of the Revenue and the Department of Motor Vehicles to get a more accurate location depicted on the vehicle registration. Councilman Hundley commented that, also, the Town is going to contact local dealerships to encourage them to be accurate during the transaction on a sale of a vehicle. He noted that having said that, the Public Works Committee would like to encourage the participation of citizens because the Town does not want to take unnecessary enforcement actions.

Councilman Hundley, also, reported that the Town of Wytheville Beautification Task Force is looking at a variety of things that can enhance the beauty of the town. He stated that these include enhancements in the downtown area, and, most recently, the creation of yet another park area at the old Recycling Facility located at Withers Park. Councilman Hundley noted that another topic that originated from the Task Force was improvements to sign posts and street name signs in the Town's historic area. He explained that the Town's Historic District generally includes the downtown area, as well as the streets along Church Street and Withers Road. Councilman Hundley remarked that many of these street name sign posts have been painted black, and the street names are a new, highly reflective brown sign. He commented that the new look is very attractive, and the Town has received many positive comments. Councilman Hundley stated that the Town still has a number of streets in the Historic District area to complete, and the street name signs in all other areas of the town will be replaced during the upcoming year with the regular green colored signs. He noted that the standards now require that these street name signs be made of highly reflective materials, and, as such, will replace the older street name signs. Councilman Hundley remarked that the Public Works Committee does not anticipate that it will paint all of the sign posts black, as was done in the Historic District. He advised that this is merely an informational item for the town citizens who the Committee encourages to see the new work, if they have not already done so. A copy of the Public Works Committee report is attached and made part of these minutes.

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 second reading. Mayor Crewe inquired if there is a motion concerning Ordinance No. 1317. A motion was made by Vice-Mayor King and seconded by Councilwoman Taylor 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 second, but not final, reading. Mayor Crewe inquired if there was any discussion on the motion to approve the ordinance on second, 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 second, 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 (7:25 p.m.).

Trenton G. Crewe, Jr., Mayor

Sharon G. Corvin, Town Clerk

G:\COUNCILMinutes\2017\Council Minutes 050817.doc

BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

MAY 8, 2017

1. At our Council Work Session last week, Town Treasurer Michael Stephens presented various delinquent taxes and charges that need to be written off of the Town's books. Under Section 58.1-3940 of the Code of Virginia, it states that a collection of local taxes shall only be enforceable for five years following December 31 of the year for which such taxes were assessed. There were \$1,061.58 in 2011 for Personal Property/Mobile Home taxes; \$1.57 in 2011 for Public Services; \$16,867.61 in 2011 for Water/Sewer bills; and, \$21,447.69 in Accounts Receivable Invoices (property damage, accidents, etc.) between 1998 - 2012. Every effort has been made to collect these delinquent fees, but it is now clear that they cannot be collected. Therefore, it is the recommendation of the Budget and Finance Committee that the Town Council authorize the Town Treasurer to write-off the taxes and fees outlined above.
2. Currently, the Town's Real Estate and Personal Property Taxes are due on or before December 15 of each year. Real Estate and Personal Property Taxes for Wythe County are due on or before December 5 of each year. These two different dates often result in confusion to town taxpayers who have Town and County Real Estate and Personal Property Taxes due on different days. Town Treasurer Stephens has suggested that it may be helpful to citizens to select the date for the Town's taxes to be received to be the same date as the County is currently using. To accomplish the change in the due date, it would require that

the Town Code be amended to reflect the change. We have not, as of yet, drafted an ordinance which would make this amendment, but we did want to make everyone aware that it was being considered and provide the public with the opportunity to comment on the proposed date change. There is no action required by the Council, but we do expect this to be a topic on the next Council agenda.

Jacqueline K. King

Beth A. Taylor

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE REPORT

MAY 8, 2017

1. Over the past several years, revenues the Town receives for the sale of vehicle decals have continued to decline. These revenues have declined by more than \$40,000 over the past three years. There are several factors that have contributed to these reductions. The largest factor is that Personal Property Taxes are assessed on vehicles that are located within the Town of Wytheville, but the only mechanism to determine the location of a vehicle is through the Department of Motor Vehicles. We have found, over the years, that many of the locations designated by the Department of Motor Vehicles are not accurate. In other words, many vehicles that are situated within the Town's corporate limits are noted by the Department of Motor Vehicles as being outside of the corporate limits in Wythe County. Secondly, when Wythe County eliminated vehicle decals, many citizens assumed this action was also applicable to town citizens. Given the reduction in these revenues, it is important for the Town to take a number of actions to recover these revenues. We would like to encourage every citizen within the town to check their vehicle registration to determine that it is accurately describing the vehicle as being situated in the town. A failure to purchase and display a Town vehicle decal can result in receiving a ticket that has a fine of \$35.00. We are going to ask our Police Department to take an active enforcement effort to be sure that all vehicles that should be displaying a town decal be identified. Initially, we are going to attempt to work with the Commissioner of Revenue and the Department of Motor Vehicles to get a more accurate location depicted on the vehicle registration. Also, we are going

to contact local dealerships to encourage them to be accurate during the transaction on a sale of a vehicle. Having said that, we would like to encourage the participation of citizens because we do not want to take unnecessary enforcement actions.

2. The Town of Wytheville Beautification Task Force is looking at a variety of things that can enhance the beauty of our town. These include enhancements in the downtown area, and, most recently, the creation of yet another park area at the old Recycling Facility located at Withers Park. Another topic that originated from the Task Force was improvements to sign posts and street name signs in the Town's historic area. The Town's Historic District generally includes the downtown area, as well as the streets along Church Street and Withers Road. Many of these street name sign posts have been painted black, and the street names are a new, highly reflective brown sign. The new look is very attractive, and we have received many positive comments. We still have a number of streets in the Historic District area to complete, and the street name signs in all other areas of the town will be replaced during the upcoming year with the regular green colored signs. The standards now require that these street name signs be made of highly reflective materials, and, as such, will replace the older street name signs. We do not anticipate that we will paint all of the sign posts black, as was done in the Historic District. This is merely an informational item for the town citizens who we encourage to see the new work, if they have not already done so.

Thomas F. Hundley

Joseph E. Hand, Jr.

H:\COUNCIL\PWCOMMIT.RPT\2017\PWMA8.doc