

A G E N D A TOWN COUNCIL MEETING At Richlands Town Hall June 14, 2022 6:00 P.M.

- I. Call the Meeting to Order
- II. Invocation
- III. Pledge of Allegiance
- IV. Additions/Deletions to Agenda (Includes the removal/transfer of Consent Agenda items as needed.)
 - a. Approval of Agenda
- V. Consent Agenda
 - a. Authorization to Pay Bills (May)
 - Minutes- Regular Meeting May 10th, 2022, Public Hearing- May 24th, 2022, Regular Meeting- May 24th, 2022
 - c. Authorize Line of Credit Drawdown Number #21 from National Bank for Water Treatment Plant Upgrades and Improvements (\$19,546.36).
- VI. Wastewater Project Update and discussion- Rick Chitwood
- VII. Scheduled Public Comment (Five Minute Maximum)
 - a. Laura Mollo-Dispatch
- VIII. Unscheduled Public Comment (Three Minute Maximum)
 - IX. Executive/Closed Session Pursuant to VA Code Section (If needed)
 - X. Return to Open Session, Certification, Report on Action (If needed)
 - XI. Agenda Items
 - a. ATV Ordinance Discussion- Shanna Plaster and Rick Wood
 - b. Economic Development Department Discussion
 - c. Proposed 2022-2023 Budget- Second Reading and Adoption
 - O-2022-05-03 Utility Schedules and Riders
- XII. Town Manager Report
 - a. Planning Commission Request for Public Hearings
 - b. Engineering RFP
 - c. Board member Update and New Appointments
 - d. Property and Liability Insurance Renewal

- e. Year End Reporting Contract Agreement (6/27/2022)
- f. Miscellaneous

XIII. Council Member Reports (Non-voting Items)

- a. Darrell Addison
- b. Doug Ratliff
- c. Mike Street
- d. Kristen Thompson-Whitt
- e. Seth White
- f. Jeff Hurst

XIV. Mayor's Comments

XV. Adjourn Meeting

Next regular meeting date is June 28, 2022, at 6:00 pm (if needed) or July 12, 2022, at 6:00pm.

		Town of Richland							
	MARIE A	PAID CHECKS REPC	RT						
Check#	Paid To	6/14/2022 Amount	Description						-
	ADVANCE AUTO PARTS		Description ADVANCE-ALL	DEPTS		-			
	ALERT-ALL CORP.		ALERT-ALL-FIR		/ENTION M	ATERIALS P	O F2069		
	ALTEC INDUSTRIES, INC.		ALTEC-EL#980			THEMPLOT	1		
	AMAZON WEB SERVICES, INC.		AMAZON WEE			1AY 2022			
	APPALACHIAN AGENCY FOR SENIOR CITIZENS		AASC-JUNE 20			T			
11964	APPALACHIAN AGGREGATES, LLC		APP AGG-STRE						
11965	APPLIED INDUSTRIAL TECHNOLOGIES-DIXIE	_+	APPLIED-ST/S/		LUID, WAT	ER, BATTER	IES		
11966	ARAMARK UNIFORM SERVICES	\$1,199.96	ARAMARK-AL	. DEPTS-UN	IFORMS, DI	JST MOPS,	RUGS		
11967	BLUE RIDGE AUTO GROUP	\$1,214.63	PD-#57 -TOW	ING, REPL	FUEL PUMP	/TRANSFER	PUMP PO 3	05284	***************************************
11968	BLUE RIDGE POWER AGENCY	\$7,225.91	BRPA-APRIL'2	2-ENG/LGL/	CONSULTIN	IG			
11969	BLUE WOLF SALES AND SERVICE, INC.	\$204.74	BLUE WOLF-R	ESCUE-TIRE	DRESSING,	CAR WASH	SOAP PO R	3375	
11970	C.W. WILLIAMS FIRE EQUIPMENT	\$456.65	CW WILLIAMS	-FIRE-4 SUI	NIVOR LED	ORANGE A	LKALINE FLA	SHLIGHTS P	O F2066
	CARTER MACHINERY COMPANY, INC.	\$5,612.91	CARTER-WWT	P-GENERA	OR-REPAIR	S, WTP-GE	N MAINT, ST	LOADER, SE	AL O RING
11972	CLINCH VALLEY MEDICAL CENTER	\$552.00	CVMC-PD-DEI	IVER, N-FIR	E, BALDWIN	I, D NEW H	IRES, DRUG	TESTING, PH	YSICALS
	CLINCH VALLEY REPAIR, INC.		CV REPAIR-W					CHARGE	
	CMC SUPPLY, INC.		CMC SUPPLY-				ERIALS	ļ	
	COCA-COLA BOTTLING CO, INC.		COCA-COLA-R						
	COOKE SHORTT & KEENE		COOKE SHOR					ļ	
	CREATIVETIME SOLUTIONS		TIME & ATTEN						
	DDP LLC		FIN OFFICE-EN	AND THE RESIDENCE WHEN THE PARTY OF THE PART					
	DIVERSIFIED INTEGRATION, INC.		WWTP-CALIB						-
	DOMINION OFFICE PRODUCTS		FIRE-CLIPBOA						
	ELECTRONIC SYSTEMS, INC.		ESI-IT-ALL DEF						
	FRAZIER TIRE AND AUTOMOTIVE		SANT-GRAPPL	-					1
	FREEDOM FORD		EL #955-C/R T				OVED FR FA	N SHIELD A	55Y
	GALLETON GLOVES AND SAFETY PRODUCTS		GALETON-ST/			14544	-		-
	GALLS		RESCUE-JACK			0.305363			
	GONZALEZ LAW, PLLC		GONZALEZ LA				-	 	-
	HACH COMPANY		HACH-WWTP				DAIDC	-	
	JIRRY'S AUTO SERVICE JIM'S PRECISION BODY WORKS INC.		LINES #808-C			*****************			
			RESCUE #552						
	KEN CONSTRUCTION CO, INC. KIDD TIRE AUTO PARTS		KEN CONSTRU SANT #625-6		-				
	LAWSON PRODUCTS, INC.		ALL DEPTS-NU	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·					
	LEE SUPPLY CO. INC	_	ST-100 FT 10						-
	LOWE'S		LOWE'S-ALL				TOPE FIFE D	DL WALL	
	LUSK DISPOSAL SERVICE, INC.		LUSK-WWTP/				-		
	MARK E. ISON		MARK E. ISON				 >T		
	MATTHEW BENDER & CO., INC.		MATTHEW BI					L Va	
	MCCLURE CONCRETE PRODUCTS, INC.		MCCLURE-ST				ICIA ZCIAIIAIN	1	
	MINEQUEST, INC.		BOBCAT-HOS				MALE JIC CAR	PO 14583	
	MOBILE COMMUNICATIONS AMERICA, INC.		MOBILE COM						5267
	MSC INDUSTRIAL SUPPLY CO.		MSC IND SUP			•			
	OLD DOMINION SLUSH PUPPIE		OLD DOMINI					DISC 1 G 24.	
	PACE ANALYTICAL SERVICES, LLC		PACE-WWTP			1	1 2000	+	
	PRIORITY MEDICAL CLAIMS, INC.		PMC-RESCUE			NS			
	PYLE SOLUTIONS LLC		PYLE SOLUTION				54	1	
	QUADMED, INC.		QUADMED-R					1	1
	RAMEY RICHLANDS		RESCUE #556					371	1
	RAVEN SUPER MARKET		WWTP-SUPP						
~~~~~~~~~~	RICHLANDS FARM BUREAU		ALL DEPTS-SU			-	1		1
	ROBINSON AUTO PARTS	<del></del>	ROBINSON A		***********	SCREWDRIN	ER PO WW	31752	1
	SD MYERS, LLC		SD MYERS-EL						
~~~	SILVER SPUR SUPPLY, INC.		SILVER SPUR-						
	SNAP-ON INDUSTRIAL		SHOP-SOFTW						
~=~	SPEEDY LUBE, INC.		SPEEDY LUBE						1
	STATE ELECTRIC SUPPLY COMPANY	\$1,993.77	STATE ELECT	RIC-EL-WIR	, STREE LIG	HTING			
	SWVRJA ACCOUNTING DEPARTMENT		SWVRJA-PD-		·		22 PO 3052	65	
	TEEN VENTURE		TEEN VENTU						
12018	The state of the s		THI-ST-REPAI				O 14593		
	THOMPSON & LITTON, INC.		T & L-MAY 20					EXPENSES,	LABOR
12020	TRACTOR SUPPLY COMPANY	\$224.95	SHOP COMP-	OIL,UT BLA	DES, MOWI	NG TR-RED	LIGHT, PUM	IP TO WATE	R FLOWERS
1202:	1 TRI-CITY BUSINESS MACHINES CO	\$39.70	PD-COPIER C	ONTRACT E	W, COLOR	COPIES PO	305275		
1202	TRUCKPRO, LLC	\$150.88	TRUCKPRO-S	ANT #625-	HOOD LATO	H, KEEPER,	LATCH PO S	T14592	
12023	B ULINE	\$2,243.78	LITTER GRAN	T-20 BOX 3	3 GAL 1.5 N	IIL ORANGE	TRASH LINE	R PO ST146	19
12024	4 ULTRA PETROLEUM	\$27,908.13	ULTRA-ALL D	EPTS-FUEL					
1202	USABLUEBOOK	\$1,318.49	USABLUEBO	OK-WTP-CH	EMICALS PO	O WTP0059			
1202	VANCE GRAPHICS	\$60.00	VANCE GRAP	HICS-SECTI	ON HS-4 LA	SER ENGRA	VING ON BR	ICKS PO ST1	4625
1202	7 VIRGINIA UTILITY PROTECTION SERVICE, INC.	\$23.10	VUPS-MAY 2	022- 22 TR	NSACTION	S			
12028	WYTHEVILLE OFFICE SUPPLY, INC.	\$298.16	WYTHEVILLE	OFFICE-PD	BINDER, PR	OTECTOR S	HEET, TONE	R PO 30526	1
12029	O ZOLL DATA SYSTEMS	\$604.94	ZOLL-RESCUE	-MAY 2022	-EMSCHAR	TS-GROUNI	BASE POR	S3376	
	TOTAL CHECKS	\$227,584.29							
	AMP (APRIL 2022)	441,491.0	3						
	CONSTELLATION ENERGY (APRIL 22)	\$27,604.80)						
	ANTHEM BC/BS (APRIL 2022)	\$102,374.00)						
	MDC (MANDCH 2022)	¢c0 125 20		1	1	1	1	1	1
	VRS (MARCH 2022) GRAND TOTAL	\$69,135.30 \$868,189.42							

		Town of Rici	lands	
		PAID CHECK 5/11/2022 t	S REPORT 0 6/10/2022	
	Paid To	Check Date	Amount	Description
11845	ALTEC INDUSTRIES, INC. APPLIED INDUSTRIAL TECHNOLOGIES-DIXIE	5/12/2022 5/12/2022		EL #980-2 EA-PIVOT PIN, BEARING, FLANGED BEARING, POLE GUIDE RET, CAPSCREW APPLIED-SHOP-5 BOXES WIPING CLOTHS PO 14476
11846 11847	DALERAY TANK SERVICE FEDEX	5/12/2022	\$224.00 \$18.42	DALERAY TANK SVC-FIRE-8 HYDROSTATIC TEST-SCBA PO F2064 FEDEX-WWTP-TELEDYNE-SHIPPING
11848	JEFF LESTER	5/12/2022	\$106.00	JEFF LESTER-ST-SHOP-BOOT ALLOWANCE PO ST14585
11850	LOWE'S NICK DENVER	5/12/2022 5/12/2022		REC-121 SS GERM BLEACH, BRUSH SET, PAINT CUP, 121 MOXIE OUTDOOR BLEACH NICK DENVER-ACADEMY-PER DIEM PO 305226
	NOAH BROWN QUIKRETE COMPANIES	5/12/2022 5/12/2022		N BROWN-ACADEMY-PER DIEM PO 305225 QUIKRETE COMPANIES-ST/LINES-COMMERCIAL BLACKTOP PATCH PO L83S71
11853	SEGRA	5/12/2022	\$2,255.41	SEGRA-PHONE SERVICE-ALL DEPTS
	SPECTRUM BUSINESS SUBURBAN PROPANE	5/12/2022		REC-CREDIT GIVEN TWICE FOR ONE PAYMENT 12/8/22 SUB PROPANE-FIRE/RESCUE-MINIMUM BILL APPLIED, FUEL SURCHARGE
11856	VERIZON VERIZON BUSINESS	5/12/2022	\$50.09	VERIZON-2026 SCHOOL TANK VAULT
11858	VERIZON WIRELESS	5/12/2022 5/12/2022	\$1,441.38	VERIZON BUSINESS-PD-LONG DISTANCE VERIZON WIRELESS-PD/DTF/FIN/RESCUE/W/S/E CELL PHONES
	CLERK, CIRCUIT COURT OF TAZEWELL COUNTY POSTMASTER	5/13/2022		CLERK, CCTC-LIEN FOR UTILITIES POSTMASTER-MAY 22 DELINQ UT BILLS, R/E FOR JUNE 22
11861	BOYD, CHARLES N.	5/19/2022	\$62.46	Utility Refund for 505222,00 98
11862	CARROLL, DAVID ANDREW CHRISTOPHER MICALE, TRUSTEE	5/19/2022		Utility Refund for 202442:00 95 GARNISHMENT
	FRANCIS, THOMAS SCOTT GILLESPIE, HART, ALTIZER & WHITESELL, P.C.	5/19/2022		Utility Refund for 605771.00 92 APRIL 2022-TOWN ATTORNEY FEES
11866	GIOVANNI'S PIZZA	5/19/2022	\$125.00	Utility Refund for 1402203.00 98
	JESSICA REYNOLDS-LAWRENCE JOYCE, DONNA M	5/19/2022		REC-CONCESSION, PLANNER PO RP2836 Utility Refund for 17023590.00 97
11869	KEENE, RITA RENEE	5/19/2022	\$138.22	KEENE, RITA-808170.0096-OVER PMT ON UT BILL
11871	KENDALL ELECTRIC INC. LOONEY PROPERTY HOLDINGS LLC	5/19/2022	\$17.98	KENDALL ELECTRIC-EL-TESCO DISCONNECT SLEEVES Utility Refund for 404230.00 93
	MYERS, KRISTINA MARIE	5/19/2022	\$215.72	Utility Refund for 101036.00 94
11874	NICK DENVER NOAH BROWN	5/19/2022	\$260.75	NICK DENVER-PD-ACADEMY PER DIEM PO 305226 NOAH BROWN-PD-ACADEMY PER DIEM PO 305225
	RICOH USA INC. SMITH, ESTATE OF LINDA S	5/19/2022		RICOH-PD-COPIER-SQUAD ROOM PO 305266 Utility Refund for 13021026.00 98
11877	SUESS, AUSTIN WALTER	5/19/2022	\$22.40	Utility Refund for 404232,00 94
	TARRENCE, STEVEN THOMAS TWIN ENTERPRISES, INC.	5/19/2022		TARRENCE, STEVEN T-OVER PMT OF REAL ESTATE TAXES 105A403010001-0002 COUNCIL-HEAT PUMP-HVAC SERVICE/MAINT TO REPLACE PHASE 3 CONTACTOR
11880	UPS	5/19/2022	\$41.82	ITRON/BADGER-WATER METERS/ERTS-SENDING BACK DEFECTIVE FOR REPL
11882	WADE, MICHAEL LYNN SUNNY COMMUNICATIONS, INC.	5/19/2022	\$1,065.00	Utility Refund for 11012064.00 96 SUNNY COMMUNICATIONS-RESCUE-QUANTAR VHF REPEATER PO RS3367
11883	BLUEFIELD DAILY TELEGRAPH CLERK, CIRCUIT COURT OF TAZEWELL COUNTY	5/26/2022		BLFD DAILY TELEGRAPH-WTP-ADV FOR BIDS FOR UPGRADE CLERK, CCTC-UT-LIEN
11885	CLERK, CIRCUIT COURT OF TAZEWELL COUNTY	5/26/2023	\$2.00	CLERK, CCTC-UT LIEN
	EARL COLE INC. DBA-THE VOICE FIRST COMMUNITY BANK	5/26/202		PUBLIC HEARING/IOB AD/ZONING/BUDGET ADS FIN/RESCUE/POLICE-SUPPLIES & MATERIAL
11888	FRANK MONTOYA	5/26/202	\$121.00	F MONTOYA-WWTP-REIMBURSE FOR WWTP CLASS 2 EXAM FEE PO WW81759
	JERRY GILBERT MATTHEW PUCKETT	5/26/202		J GILBERT-PD-MASTER LEADER SCHOOL-TRAINING-LUNCH PER DIEM 5.23-5.27.22 M PUCKETT-DTF-4.840 GALS UNL GAŞOLINE
11891	NATIONAL BANK NICK DENVER	5/26/202 5/26/202	\$3,504.69	NATIONAL BANK-WWTP/WTP LOC INT PMT DUE 6.1.22 NICK DENVER-PD-ACADEMY PER DIEM PO 305226
11893	NOAH BROWN	5/26/202	\$201.75	NOAH BROWN-PD ACADEMY-PER DIEM PO 305225
	POINT BROADBAND RICOH USA INC.	5/26/202		POINT BROADBAND-DTF-OPTINET SVC PO 305280 RICOH-PD-COPIER LEASE PMTS PO 305276
11896	SPECTRUM BUSINESS	5/26/202	\$222.92	WWTP-395 SCOTCH RD-TELEMETRY, MIDDLE CREEK
	TOWN OF RICHLANDS TRI-CITIES/SW VA REGIONAL GROUP	5/26/202		TOR-INGRID MULLINS-R/E PMT POSTED TO UTILITIES DIR OF ECON DEVEL, VBIDS FOR WTP UPGRADE
11899	VERIZON	5/26/202	\$285.13	TN HALL/FIRE/RESCUE FAX RAMEY-2022 CHEVY COLORADO-METER READER PO FIN6196
	ARMEY RICHLANDS APPALACHIAN POWER	5/26/202 6/1/202	\$1,097.20	AEP-WWTP PMP ST, LINES, PUMP ST, FIRE/RESCUE TOWER
	BILLY SHELTON BRADLEY BEAVERS	6/1/202		BILLY SHELTON-LINES-CELL PHONE ALLOWANCE BRAD BEAVERS-WTP-CELL PHONE ALLOWANCE
11904	CHRISTOPHER MICALE, TRUSTEE	6/1/202	\$225.67	GARNISHMENT
	GEORGE WEST	6/1/202		SECTION HS-REFINISH/PRESERVATION OF RR MURAL ON FR STREET GEORGE WEST-ST-CELL PHONE ALLOWANCE
11907	HEATHER PERRY	6/1/202	2 \$60.00	H PERRY-FINANCE-CELL PHONE ALLOWANCE
	JAMES NEWBERRY JEFF LESTER	6/1/202	2 \$60.00	JAMES NEWBERRY-EL CELL PHONE ALLOWANCE JEFF LESTER-ST-CELL PHONE ALLOWANCE
	JIMMY KEENE, JR. KEITH REYNOLDS	6/1/202	2 \$60.00	JIMMY KEENE-WYTP-CELL PHONE ALLOWANCE K REYNOLDS-FIRE-CELL PHONE ALLOWANCE
	NICK DENVER	6/1/202	2 \$260.75	N DENVER-PD-ACADEMY-PER DIEM PO 305226
	NOAH BROWN RICKY SHELTON	6/1/202		N BROWN-PD-ACADEMY-PER DIEM PO 305225 VOIDED & REISSUED-PRINTER JAM
1191	TAZEWELL CO PUBLIC SERVICE AUTHORITY	6/1/202	2 \$0.00	VOIDED & REISSUED-PRINTER JAM
1191	TAZEWELL COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS TAZEWELL COUNTY DISTRICT COURT	6/1/202		VOIDED & REISSUED-PRINTER JAM VOIDED & REISSUED-PRINTER JAM
	TOWN OF RICHLANDS	6/1/202		VOIDED & REISSUED-PRINTER JAM
	TOWN OF RICHLANDS TRAVIS MITCHELL	6/1/202	2 \$0.00	VOIDED & REISSUED-PRINTER JAM VOIDED & REISSUED-PRINTER JAM
	TREASURER TAZEWELL COUNTY ZOLL DATA SYSTEMS	6/1/202		VOIDED & REISSUED-PRINTER JAM VOIDED & REISSUED-PRINTER JAM
1192	RICKY SHELTON	6/1/207	2 \$60.00	R SHELTON-ST-CELL PHONE ALLOWANCE
	TAZEWELL CO PUBLIC SERVICE AUTHORITY TAZEWELL COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS	6/1/202		TC PSA-WWTP-LIFT STATION RETURNED-LIBRARY DONATION
1192	TAZEWELL COUNTY DISTRICT COURT	6/1/202	2 \$47.94	TCGDC-GARNISHMENT
1192	TOWN OF RICHLANDS TOWN OF RICHLANDS	6/1/202	2 \$400.00	EMPLOYEE UTILITY PMT EMPLOYEE UT PAYMENT
1192	TRAVIS MITCHELL TREASURER TAZEWELL COUNTY	6/1/202	2 \$60.00	TRAVIS MITCHELL-LINES-CELL PHONE ALLOWANCE TREAS, TAZ CO-APRIL 2022 CONSUMER UT TAX
1193	1 ZOLL DATA SYSTEMS	6/1/202	2 \$298.00	ZOLL DATA SVCS-APRIL 2022 EMS CHARTS PO RS3374
	DAVE ASCUE DYE, CLAUDE DOUGLAS	6/2/202	2 \$50.50 2 \$94.37	DAVE ASCUE-REC-INK FOR PRINTER PO RP2841 Utility Refund for SOS004.00 98
1193	4 HALE, ANDREW	6/2/202	2 \$8.02	Utility Refund for 17026240.00 97
1193	6 LEWIS, SEAN MICHAEL	6/2/202		Utility Refund for 404506.00 95 Utility Refund for 605942.00 96
1193	7 LOWE, RICKEY WILLIAM 8 MCCLANAHAN, TEDDY D.	6/2/202	2 537.78	Utility Refund for 10010790.00 97 Utility Refund for 505108.00 96
1193	MCCLOUD, AJANI ELUAH	6/2/202	2 \$203,70	Utility Refund for 404224.00 93
	0 VANHUSS, JENNIFER LYNN 1 WHITED, HAYLEIGH PEYTON	6/2/20		Utility Refund for 12012948.00 95 Utility Refund for 403869.00 92
1194	2 WILLARD, PATRICIA GLENNA	6/2/20	\$178.75	Utility Refund for 909607.00 93
1194	3 FIRST SENTINEL BANK-FLOWER FUND 4 AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES, INC.	6/3/20: 6/7/20:	\$134.00 22 \$1,999.29	EMPLOYEE FLOWER FUND AMAZON-ALL DEPTS-LIGHTS, OFFICE SUPPLIES, TONER CART
1194	S CLERK, CIRCUIT COURT OF TAZEWELL COUNTY	6/9/20	\$1.00	CLERK, CCTG-REL LIEN-UT LEAF-PD-COPIER LEASE-RECORDS SECTION PO 305285
1194	6 LEAF 7 LUSK DISPOSAL SERVICE, INC.	6/9/20	2 \$1,544.12	LUSK-WAYTP-HAUL SVC
1194	B NICK DENVER 9 NOAH BROWN	6/9/20	\$260.75	N DENVER-PD-ACADEMY PER DIEM PO 305226 N BROWN-PD-ACADEMY PER DIEM PO 305225
1195	O PACE ANALYTICAL SERVICES, LLC	6/9/20	\$560.10	PACE-WTP-VA TOC SAMPLES PO WTP0065
	1 PROFESSIONAL MAIL SERVICES, INC. 2 PROFESSIONAL MAIL SERVICES, INC.	6/9/20		B PMSI-JUNE '22 COMM UT BILLS D PMSI-JUNE'22 POSTAGE COMM BILLS
1195	3 RICOH USA, INC.	6/9/20	\$194.97	7 RICOH-FIN OFFICE-COPIER LEASE PO 6059
	4 SEGRA 5 SPECTRUM BUSINESS	6/9/20	\$55.69	L SEGRA-ALL DEPTS PHONE SERVICE D SPECTRUM-WWTP-INDIAN CREEK RD TELEMETRY
1195	6 CHRISTOPHER MICALE, TRUSTEE	6/9/20	22 \$225.67	7 GARNISHMENT 3 DMV-#919-2022 CHEV COLORADO-TAGS
	7 DMV-RECEIPTING CENTER 8 PAUL LITTLE	6/9/20	22 \$963.50	PAUL LITTLE-PD-REFUND-OVER PMT ON VRS
-	Total Checks:		\$106,790,88	8
	GRAND TOTAL		\$106,790.88	s

Town of Richlands, VA

Memo

To:

Mayor and Town Council

From:

John O'Daniel

Date:

6/10/2022

Re:

May Check Registry

Due to illness the check registry for May will be delivered next week and posted on the Town's website prior to the meeting.

The Richlands Town Council held a "Regular Meeting" on May 10th, 2022, in the Richlands Council Chambers at 6:00 pm with the following present:

Mayor: Rod D. Cury

Town Manager: John O'Daniel

Town Clerk: Rebekah Hackworth

Council Members: Jeff Hurst, Doug Ratliff, Kristen Thompson-Whitt, Darrell Addison, Mike Street, and Seth White.

Town Attorney: Michael Thomas and Will Hunter

Mayor Cury opened the meeting.

Mayor Cury gave the invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Cury- Is there any additions/deletions to the agenda? I will entertain a motion to approve the agenda.

Jeff- I make a motion to approve the consent agenda was amended. Darrell seconded the motion.

Mayor Cury- We have a motion and a second, any further discussion? All those in favor of the motion say yes. All those that oppose say no. Roll Call- Jeff- Yes, Doug- Yes, Kristen- Yes, Darrell- Yes, Mike- Yes, Seth- Yes. Motion carries -6/0.

Mayor Cury- Next, we have the approval of the minutes from the special called meeting on April 19, 2022.

Jeff- I make a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Mike seconded the motion. Mayor Cury- We have a motion and a second, any further discussion? All those in favor of the motion say yes. All those that oppose say no. Roll Call- Jeff- Yes, Doug- Yes, Kristen- Yes, Darrell-Yes, Mike- Yes, Seth- Abstained. Motion carries -5/1 abstention.

Council approves of Seth's abstention with a census.

Mayor Cury- Moving on, we have budget public comment period with a limit of 5 minutes.

Ms. Mollo will you be our timekeeper for the evening? We will time you, and you can time everyone else.

Laura Mollo- Yes sir, I will.

Laura Mollo- 262 Linwood Drive, Richlands, Va.

"At the last meeting the council directed the Town Manager to hold another public hearing yet here we are with no public hearing. You can call it what you want but this is not a properly advertised public hearing, meaning citizens were not given adequate notice to participate tonight.

I'm sure you will say it doesn't matter because you already held a public hearing but only two members of this council were in attendance. Two of you had not been appointed yet, two of you

showed up, and the other two were no-shows. The entire point of a public hearing is so that you can hear the public. We have another regularly called meeting on May 24th, the right thing to do here is to call a properly notified public hearing and let the public speak to a full council after being given adequate notice in the newspaper.

In the event that you will do the right thing, I will continue with what I would have said at a properly advertised public hearing.

We, once again, have a sitting council member on the delinquent tax list. Ethically, you should not even be sitting on this council and should not be voting on our budget. I'm asking you to not only pay your delinquent taxes but also to abstain from voting on this budget and any tax, rate, or fee increase.

I spoke to you guys a few weeks ago regarding the collection of delinquent taxes. I was asked about this again recently and I said I would bring it back before council. I spoke about a company, TACS, that would collect these delinquencies. Abingdon just implemented the use of TACS last month.

TACS is a law firm in Virginia that assists government entities in managing account receivable and revenue cycles.

We have such a large amount of delinquent taxes, some dating back 20 years. We are losing the ability to collect on these taxes because of the statute of limitations.

The cost incurred by using TACS is added to the bill of the delinquent taxes so this will cost the town nothing. It will ensure a fair, unbiased collection of taxes based on length of delinquency as well as the amount.

I hope you will consider using TACS to help collect these delinquent taxes otherwise, it is unfair to expect citizen to continue to pay higher rates when you won't even try to collect on those who don't pay, and that one of you here is not paying yourself.

Please do not raise any taxes and fees right now. It's unnecessary. Put the time into fixing the budget without raising anything. Don't take the easy way out."

Mayor Cury- Thank you, Ms. Mollo. Next, we have scheduled public comments and Ms. Mollo, you are listed to speak on this as well.

Laura Mollo- 22 Linwood Drive.

"First, I need to address the Resolution on the agenda for tonight. Given the threat that a citizen is receiving for speaking out against the state of the town, I'm asking that you remove the requirement of stating your address at the podium. Stating the town where you live should suffice.

Also, taking away the ability to sign up prior to a meeting should be reconsidered. Lately, the doors are locked on citizens entering a meeting until just a short time before the meeting starts. Then you must stand in line to sign up on the sheet if it's even out there. Both things I've discussed are discouraging to citizens who want to speak. The goal of this council should be to

not only welcome public participation but to encourage it with easy access. Do not pass this resolution tonight. Make things easier for the citizens to participate.

Another thing that needs to be addressed is the swearing in of the IDA members. Virginia Code 15.2-4904 requires each member of the IDA to be sworn in by the clerk of the court prior to taking their seats. However, a majority of our IDA member aren't sworn in, making the business conducted by the IDA null for who knows how long. This is a huge problem for the town considering this council has been given quite a bit of federally given money to the IDA which they are about to disburse. Virginia Code 15.2-490 also requires a Fiscal impact statement before money is granted to the IDA which was not presented prior to the money being promised."

Mayor Cury- Thank you Ms. Mollo. We are now on unscheduled public comments, and Ms. Mollo will you please be the timekeeper. We have Morgan Earp.

Morgan Earp- 1618 6th Street, Richlands Virginia.

Before I start reading this paper, I am going to have to agree with Laura. You don't know how many threats have been made towards me. Now I don't care, and they can come at me all they want. It is not going to stop me.

"The People of this town have suffered under poor leadership by council, not only do people suffer from the high taxes that the council burdens them with but also with the willful ignorance to not listen to the people's cry for help. This government ignores its citizens while it lines its own pockets with the money of citizens who can barely afford to survive with little income they are receiving. It is disguising for this government to watch its people suffer.

Let it known on this day. I, Morgan L. Earp as a citizen of the Town of Richlands and citizen of the State of Virginia will use the constitutional right bestowed upon me by the State General Assembly to ask the citizen to invoke Article I, Section III to reform the Town of Richlands for causes of maladministration and should majority of the populace present so choose to invoke, the Town of Richlands will be reformed best suited for the people."

Mr. Mayor, Do you understand what I ask?

Mayor Cury- I do Morgan, thank you. All I can say is that I will defer to the Town Attorney to comment on your invoking on your constitutional amendment.

Michael- As legal counsel, we would need time to review that prior to giving a legal option on that today.

Morgan- May I make this aware if council does not choose to enforce what I have asked... this is a constitutional rights problem and will be brought towards the state. But if you do choose to enforce this then the fate of this town will lie within its people.

Mayor Cury- Thank you, Morgan and I will comment that you are evoking the Consitution and I understand that. Please provide a copy of that for the clerk and for the attorneys. Does council have any comments on this particular issue?

Seth- I assume we are going to be getting a legal opinion.

Mayor Cury- I think we need a legal opinion. How quickly would you be able to provide that?

Michael- I don't know about the length of that, we can get back to the Town Manager and council on that and you as Mayor.

Mayor Cury- Okay. As exponentially as possible. Next, we have Barbara Cook.

Barbara Cook- 264 Planation Drive, Richlands, Virginia.

- I see on our town website that our motto for Richlands is the center of a friendly circle so I wanted to keep looking to try to find the vision for the town or the vision for the town council and I couldn't find anything.
- What is our vision? What is the council's vision? What are you expecting to happen in this town? What goals do you have as council members?
- Everyone needs to have a vision and what steps are being taken to achieve that vision?
- I think we all need to take a step back and look at the whole picture to see what's going on. So that we can all obtain our goals and hopefully they are common goals.

Mayor Cury- Thank you, Barbara. Okay, that is all that is signed up for the public hearing. We do appreciate all the inputs from the citizens and all the comments. Next, we have Executive/Closed Session Pursuant to VA Code Section 2.2-3711(A)(8) FOIA.

Mayor Cury-Council will recess into the side chamber so that the citizens can have a place to sit down.

Jeff- I make a motion that we move to Executive/Closed Session Pursuant to VA Code Section 2.2-3711(A)(8) FOIA. Mike seconded the motion.

Mayor Cury- We have a motion and a second, any further discussion? All those in favor of the motion say yes. All those that oppose say no. Roll Call- Jeff- Yes, Doug- Yes, Kristen- Yes, Darrell- Yes, Mike- Yes, Seth- Yes. Motion carries -6/0.

Mayor Cury- We are back in regular session. I will entertain a motion that we are back in regular session and by so moving you are voting that we only discussed VA Code Section 2.2-3711(A)(8) FOIA.

Mike- I make that motion that we only discussed VA Code Section 2.2-3711(A)(8) FOIA. Seth seconded the motion.

Mayor Cury- We have a motion and a second, any further discussion? All those in favor of the motion say yes. All those that oppose say no. Roll Call- Jeff- Yes, Doug- Yes, Kristen- Yes, Darrell- Yes, Mike- Yes, Seth- Yes. Motion carries -6/0.

Members and citizens here in the council room, we were given this as Chapter 37 of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act. It is public knowledge on what we were given, and we can provide anyone a copy of it upon request.

Michael- Mayor, that is also online for anyone that would like to access it online as well. It is the Virginia Code. The Website is law.lis.virginia.gov and then go to title 2.2 Administration of

Government and subtitle 2 administration of State Government and Chapter 37 Virginia Freedom of Information Act and its that whole chapter 2.2 3700 all the way to 2.2 3715.

Mayor Cury- Thank you very much. Those copies will be forthcoming. We are now on the agenda items- Electric Regulation Discussion presented by Alice Wolfe from Blue Ridge Power and Thomas Dick from Municipal Electric Power Association of Virginia.

John-Before we start, I have a letter from both of these organizations. At our last meeting, the topic of SCC (State Corporation Commission) regulations came up and I wasn't sure where to start so I reached out to these two organizations that represent the other municipal owned electric systems in the state of Virginia. I wanted to get them to give their thoughts on whether they are for it or opposed. They both provided a letter and then Alice and Thomas are here to speak on that and if council has any questions for them, they are open to questions. Hopefully, I can get some direction on whether council wants to pursue this or not.

Alice Wolfe- John recently inquired what the Blue Ridge Power Agency's position would be if Town of Richlands were to pursue regulations of its electric rates by the Virginia State Corporation Commission (SCC). After discussion with the Blue Ridge Board of Directors, the Agency would be strongly against such regulations.

Like the Town of Richlands, each Blue Ridge member is an electric distribution utility. We understand the challenges and benefits of providing reliable electric services to residents, business, and industry. Like Richlands, five members are also municipal electric utilities, governed by city and town councils.

We are deeply opposed to SCC regulation for the following reasons:

- Precedent. We understand that the Town Council would only seek for this regulation to apply to the Town of Richlands. If Richlands were successful, however, it opens the door to other electric municipal utilities being brought under SCC regulations. We are the peers most likely to be effected once SCC regulations of any municipal electric utility begins.
- Loss of local control. This local control gives our customers a real voice in the utility's operations, far more than Appalachian Power's 1 million Virginia, Tennessee, and West Virginia customers have. It means residents can walk to the town or city hall to offer their thoughts, rather than driving to Richmond. Blue Ridge members have far greater public participation than private companies do.
 - Local control also provides municipalities with true flexibility. For instance, Richlands adjusted its electric department budget for the upcoming fiscal year and held its rates steady. The budget review and council decision were made in a matter of weeks. To pursue a rate change at the SCC usually takes several months.
- Expense. Presenting a rate case to the SCC requires support from specialized rate consultants and legal counsel. In addition to being a slow process, rate cases are expensive, potentially running \$150,000-\$200,000. These charges would be a new cost to

Richlands that would be paid by electric customers. Should other Blue Ridge members be brought under SCC regulations, our customers would also have to bear these costs.

SCC oversight does not stop at the electric rates themselves. The SCC can also require utilities to provide data on outage management or devote a certain amount of money to trimming trees in the right-of-way. These requests can take a lot of time to answer. Writing reports for Richmond pulls local utility staff away from their first job: providing reliable electric services that puts their communities and customers first.

We appreciate the Town Council's desire to control costs and lower rates. These goals are shared by all Blue Ridge members. However, we do not feel that SCC regulation would achieve those goals.

Like Richlands, most BR members take transmission services from American Electric Power (AEP), and we have seen transmission bills rise substantially over the last 10 years. We are deeply concerned about having to raise rates to cover these costs. This is why 6 communities are exploring the use of utility scale batteries. The number one purpose of these batteries will be to lower transmission bills.

We believe it is worth exploring additional opportunities for rate relief. I would appreciate the chance to work with Richlands on measures such as energy efficiency or peak-shaving programs.

Richlands was a foundering member of the BRPA. The Town has a long history of working with other members of the Agency to the benefit of both Richlands and the other members. We are glad to be in this partnership, and we hope to continue the relationship well into the future.

Doug- Why should all other citizens other than Richlands have the protection of SCC in the whims of raising rates or lowering them. Why should they have the protection, and we don't? Our rates are much higher than AEP which is a mile away. Why are they special and we are not, and we can't have protection?

Alice- I would say that you all operate under a different business model than APCO's customers do. So APCO is a for-profit company. They are there to make money on their system. They are there to earn a return on their investment and provide a return to their shareholders. That is not why Richlands was formed as a public utility. That is not why the electric cooperatives were formed as utilities. Instead, historically speaking municipalities formed where the investors on the utilities didn't see it profitable to install lines. So instead, the towns came together on their own and built their own systems. Because you are owned by the town, you are regulated by the town and the town council has position to say this is what works best for our community. You really don't have an incentive to collect more money than you need. That is very different from the APCO business model.

Doug- But we do. We take off the top \$700,000, and Richlands is in for the profit because they use that to run the finance office and all the other departments. So, Richlands makes more money than AEP. So, it is in the same boat as AEP. It is ran for a profit so they can take the money and use it elsewhere. So that puts us in the same boat as AEP, running it for a profit. So, we are divided into two groups of people: Hidden Valley and Old Town Richlands. Hidden Valley

enjoys protection of SCC and they have much lower rates. Richlands is much higher and pays much higher rates than AEP and that profit that it takes off the top is used in the budget to finance the whole town which in my opinion would be illegal if taken to court. Do you have an answer for that?

Alice- Sure, I think what you are referring to is the shared salaries and the money that is collected in the electric rates and is used to pay for a part of the Town Managers salary and a part of the finance office salaries that is a standard accounting practice for municipal utilities and the reason that is done is to prevent subsidization. So that the electric system customers are paying their fair share of the Town Manager's salary and the finance office salaries. It is actually preventing the town as a whole from subsidizing the electrical system or vis versa. So, it is making sure that all the customers are paying a fair share of that cost.

Doug- If you look at it, \$700,000 is a rather large amount of shared expenses. If you look back at one of the videos from one of the meetings, the Town Manager says that if our budget runs short then we will just take it out of the electric fund. That's how it is used. If the budget runs short the electric system is used as a piggy bank and when you use it as a piggy bank for half the town and the other part doesn't have to pay it, I don't think that's very fair for the whole town.

Alice- Well Sir, I am going to have to say I would defer to John. I don't deal with the matters on how the town deals with its cost. Really the area I look at with Blue Ridge is on the wholesale side of things so your energy bills, your capacity, your transmission bills, it is a pretty significant portion of your overall bills. It's different from the town's cost.

Doug- If it is run properly, we could have cheaper rates than AEP. But in my opinion, Richlands is mismanaged and the only way that we can cure that is to have SCC look into that and protect the citizens from the higher rates than AEP. I agree with your scenario, but it doesn't work for Richlands, because we are so mismanaged.

Mayor Cury- Thank you, Doug.

Seth- I have a question. Alice, you represent this Blue Rudge Power Agency, correct?

Alice-Yes.

Seth- Out of this group of towns and loyalties does all of these have power generation abilities or are some just transmission only like Richlands.

Alice- Across the US there are about 2,000 public power utilities and the majority of them are very similar to Richlands. Similar in size, the number of customers that they serve, and similar in having a large amount of residential customers and comparable in that they do not have generation. That is across the entire country. The vast majority of public power communities do not have generation setting on their lines. In terms of Blue Ridge, we actually do have several members that do own generation. I would say that it is almost unique within public power as a whole because there are so many members that do not have generation.

Seth- I am just curious in Virginia because I'm under the impression that most of the folks in this group do have power generation.

Alice- So for the BR members, most communities do have some type of generation. What's important to understand about that is this generation that they have does not supply all their generational needs. The vast majority of their power supply is coming from outside of the town and coming over the wires.

Seth- So out of this group, does anyone other than Richlands have zero generation?

Alice- Yes, most do not have any generation.

Seth- We have a broader issue in that we are trying to offer a commodity of power at a comparable price to AEP. Our goal is to not make a profit, but the issue is we are offering a commodity at a greater price than AEP. Our issue is not an SCC issue, our issue is we need to look at what can we do to get our rates to match AEP? My vision certainly isn't for us to do something that cost our citizens more. We are in a situation where we are paying more for power because we live in the town of Richlands. We need to look at fixing this whether it is generating our own power or through divesting our power to AEP. This is their territory, they would be the people we would do that with.

Doug- Richlands is even more complex than any other community in Virginia, in that most systems give the whole town power. Here, we are split in two groups, half the town is on the system which pays a higher price, while Hidden Valley is on AEP and it pays a lower price so its even more complex than any other community.

Seth-No, I understand what Doug is saying. We have half the town that is under the town's system and paying higher rates and the other half that is under AEP and paying lower rates, and the entire town is subsidizing services for the entire town which includes people who are not paying to subsidize that service. I think is what Doug is trying to say.

Doug- By the way, I live in Hidden Valley, so I am one of those people who is getting subsidized.

Mayor Cury- Alice, do you have any comments?

Alice- You are on the right track in terms of looking at what things you can do overall and try to get competitive as you can in comparison to AEP. That definitely is a challenge that you have a split town where the rates are different. That is part of how BR can help, we would focus on those wholesale cost and opportunity to reduce them. That's why the town council got into the utility scale of battery storage last fall. We are looking into what that cost would be if you were to install a large battery in town and you could use that as peak-shaving. That would also help lower the transmission bill. We will be looking for other opportunities out there. I think the council can also be looking for ways to help their citizens in how they might could manage their own power bills.

Seth- It is mainly a residential issue, but it does also effect businesses as well. There is no comparison on the cost that I can get from AEP and the cost that I am offered to from the town. That puts us at a disadvantage in the town. If you have someone who is a heavy power user, they can make a contract with AEP, a long-term power agreement. I understand that the town can't go into a long-term agreement for 5 years. But that puts the town at a disadvantage. Do you see

that? You become a complete disadvantage inside the town in an area and with the county when they are with AEP.

Alice- It is a challenge and I think it is something that utility managers and council members need to watch very closely to see if we are going to be competitive or what are the local rates going to be. I don't have an easy solution for you. It's good that you have your eye on the ball and want to look for those solutions as a council member.

Mayor Cury- Thank you, Alice.

John- We actually have Thomas Dick on as well. He represents the same issue but with a separate organization that we are a part of.

Thomas- I am with Municipal Electric Power Association of Virginia and we have 16 members, 7 towns, 7 cities, 1 attorney, and 1 state agency that operates their own electric utility. Several of them buy their power from Dominion and have very little generation of their own. I would say 95% is purchased power by Dominion. Those contracts are at a federal level. So those contacts are not subjected to SCC.

Please know that MEPAV has consistently opposed state regulation of the electric rates of municipally owned utilities. We believe that responsibility appropriately lies with locally elected officials.

It should also be noted that the Virginia Municipal League adopted in their 2022 Legislation Program in support of localities' right to manage the operation of utilities without state interference. VML's General Laws Policy Statement for 2022 states that "Municipal utility systems must continue to have the authority to set their own rates. Any attempts by the State Corporation Commission to regulate rates for utility services furnished by local governments would violate the Virginia Constitution." MEPAV concurs with VML's opinion that SCC regulation of municipal utilities are unconstitutional.

In addition to the constitutional issue, there are a number of reasons why SCC regulation of any municipal utility is a bad idea.

- Even if the scope of the SCC's regulation was limited to the Town of Richlands, this would set a precedent that would open the door to the regulation of other municipalities.
- SCC regulation of municipalities would come at a cost. A rate case filed at the SCC could easily cost a municipality \$150,000 or more in legal and consulting fees. Such costs would need to be recovered in rates. Additionally, it is unclear what the total extent of SCC regulation would be and how such regulations would impact utility operations.
- To increase or lower rates, a municipality would have to initiate a proceeding by requesting a new rate in a filing with the SCC. Municipalities have more flexibility now to change rates than they would under the SCC. Local control over rates means the ratepayers can have their concerns heard locally, not in Richmond, with elected officials who know the community and are more accountable to the people being served.

- The cost of purchased power is the most significant expenditure of municipal electric utilities. The SCC has no jurisdiction over wholesale power contracts- that authority lies with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC).
- For a municipal utility, since costs have to be recovered, there is no guarantee that SCC regulations would lower rates.

There are just a few of the reasons why SCC regulations of municipal utilities has always been opposed by MEPAV.

Mayor Cury- Thank you, Thomas. How many meetings do you have with us regularly?

Thomas- Our board of directors meet later this month, and we meet quarterly. However, I am available anytime. I want to be as helpful to you all as I can be.

Doug- I don't think our citizens would object if our rates met AEP. That wouldn't be a problem at all. Unless the town moves to match our rates with AEP there will be a movement to either sell the system or to get regulation. Because it's not fair to the citizens who have to pay a higher price than the other part of the town.

Thomas- I'm not sure all the details on what's going on in Richlands, but I know in other localities like Danville they have a very good record to keeping their power on. You may have to pay a little extra to get that.

Doug- I live in Hidden Valley and we have AEP and they have no trouble keeping the power on. In the history of Hidden Valley we don't lose power very much. Some of the citizens here have paid an average of \$800 one their power bill and one person had a \$1,900 bill, while in Claypool Hill they are paying \$300. Our bills in Old Town are double what our neighbors' bills are with AEP. Our citizens are not going to stand for that very long.

Mayor Cury- Thank you, Doug. Does anyone have any more questions for Thomas?

John- Can I get some direction on this? At this point we have had two organizations speak about this and oppose it. I just need to know if this is something council wants to continue looking into.

Doug- May I ask a question of the town manager?

Mayor Cury- Yes.

Doug- On your shared expense you say you spend 29% of your time in the electric system per day. That's approximately 2.5 hours of your day. What do you do for 2.5 hours every day on the electrical system.

John- That was a study done before I came... I have not ever sat down and assessed my own day to day...

Doug- Well that is what you gave us.

John- That's the projections that they gave us prior to me coming on.

Doug- Well if you know that you don't spend 2.5 hours every day on the electrical system, then then why do you hand those out...

John- I don't know that it's not true. I would have to sit down...

Doug- I would know if I spent 2.5 hours every day on something. What do you do for the power system every day?

John- It just depends. We have meetings...

Doug- Every day?

Mayor Cury- May I interject something. Your questions are valid. I think they would better addressed in executive session it seems like to me. I don't know how other members of council feel... if its an employee issue.

Doug-It is not. This was given as public knowledge. It was given as an excuse on why they are taking so much out of the electrical system every year. For the public I am asking... what are you doing for 2.5 hours every day for the electrical system. I just don't understand. If someone has an issue and calls in and wants to see you about their increase in power bills, since you have so much time spent in the power system that you would speak to them.

John- My office is always open.

Doug- And you will see them?

John- If I am available.

Doug- okay, I invite all those people that are having problems with their electric bills being so high to come and see our Town Manager and see if he can help you. Thank you.

Mayor Cury- Thank you for your question. Are we ready to move on?

John- I still need direction. Do we want to move forward with being a part of the State Cooperation Commission?

Doug- I mean we should explore every avenue to help our electric rates. If the town can't manage to get our electric rates equal to AEP then there is nothing that we shouldn't explore to try to solve the problem to help the citizens. We had 80 people cut off their power system. We should have had maybe 3 or 4. When you have 80 cut off with no heat, no lights, no power. I think you have a real problem and I think you owe it to the citizens to try to solve the problem.

Mayor Cury- Thank you, Doug. Is there any further comment from members of council on our pursuing SCC being a part of it?

Jeff- Looks like from these letters they made it very clear when I read this...

Doug- That's like the wolf guarding the hen house...

Mayor Cury- Just a minute Doug... Actually, you made some good points...

Doug- Could I say one more thing?

Mayor Cury- No. Just a minute please. I want to give other people a chance to have the floor.

Doug- May I speak after they are done?

Mayor Cury- Maybe.

Doug-Gosh.

Mayor Cury- Anyone else?

Seth- Mayor, I appreciate them coming to speak to us tonight. I don't think the issue is SCC. I think the issue is a much deeper issue because our town is split. I understand what they have told us tonight, but I think our greatest regulation comes from right here, from this board. We are given the power to regulate. We should not charge a higher rate than AEP. The time that I spend on this board, I want to save money in whatever way possible. Whether it's cutting cost or whatever that looks like. If we can't operate an electrical system at a equal amount or a less amount than AEP then we are no longer fit to run an electrical system.

Mayor Cury- What I gather is this, SCC can regulate but apparently the regulations of SCC, if we approach them, is a lot more detail involved. Whereas, here in our town, the council has the responsibility to control/regulate our utility rates and that comes down to our responsibility. From what I am going by, and I may be wrong, is that the council, a smaller group, that regulates itself has the ability to work much more quickly and efficiently than working through the SCC. I want to ask you for an agreement or disagreement. That is just my understanding. Doug, I know you want to say something, and you will have that opportunity but not yet. Does any other member of council want to speak on this issue so that John will have direction on what to do?

Darrell, I agree with Seth. We should be able to match AEP. AEP is getting ready to do some rate increases also. So how much higher will the town be than AEP then. I think that is something the town should do, is to try to stay as close to AEP as they can.

Mayor Cury- Thank you, Darrell. Anyone else on council? Doug, you get your last statement.

Doug- With all do respect to Blue Ridge, it is like the wolf guarding the hen house. Of course, they don't want this. They don't want regulated. So, God forgive, forgive me. They would never say they would want to be regulated. They don't want someone looking over their shoulder just like this town doesn't want someone looking over their shoulder, but when the council proves their self-unfit and mismanages a system like ours, then they either correct it or they need to be regulated.

Mayor Cury- Thank you, Doug. I will ask for a census of council. Move forward or not?

John- Would it be okay for a vote?

Mayor Cury- I will ask for a motion one way or another. Is there a motion to proceed regulations with SCC?

Doug- I make a motion that we explore every avenue. We don't necessarily have to go with the SCC, but why not explore every avenue to help bring our citizens equal to AEP rates.

Mayor Cury- Doug, I appreciate the motion. Does your motion give him direction about the SCC?

Doug-Yes.

Mayor Cury- It does?

Doug- Yes. I said explore all avenues.

Mayor Cury- Okay, there is a motion on the floor to explore all avenues as direction to the manager on SCC. There is a motion on the floor.

There is no second. Motion fails for lack of a second. Is there a motion to not pursue the regulations with the SCC?

Seth- I don't think you need a motion to not pursue.

Mayor Cury- Make it your way.

Seth- I am not against what Doug is saying on pursuing all avenues. I think we are all on the same page, but I just don't think this is the way to do it. We can do that right here with the citizens. This is opportunity. When I agreed to serve on this council, I spoke with several of the members who came and talked to me and I said if you put me on council, I am going to come and we are going to explore this. This is why we are setting up this conversation with AEP and exploring different avenues. Whatever that avenue is. I don't know what that answer maybe, but I think we do all have the same goals and that is we do need to have the same or lower electric rates. That is very simple. If we are going operate a power system that should be our goal. I don't want to support us pursuing SCC regulations. I don't think you need a motion to not pursue it. That's a double negative. Does that make sense?

Mayor Cury- It does. John, do you feel that you have direction?

John- I do. I just want to be clear that we are putting this aside to focus on the other avenues so that we don't keep backtracking. I just want to be clear that was the decision being made and we can now focus on something different.

Doug- May I say something?

Doug- Cool it, Mayor.

Mayor Cury- No, I am trying to hear you over and over again...

Doug- Okay, this is something...

Mayor Cury-Just a minute please. What I am trying to say is I have your point. Does anyone not have Doug's point?

Doug- This is a different point.

Mayor Cury- Just a minute please.

Doug- This is a different point.

Mayor Cury- Just a minute please.

Doug- I have a right as council to speak.

Mayor Cury- Your rights have responsibilities. You may speak.

Doug- If we could put a time limit on the study that you do, I ask that the council have a plan within two months to get our rate down to AEP. If we do not put a time limit on it, this will drag on for years and nothing will be done. All I am asking is for the council to ask Mr. O'Daniel to set a time for two months. That's 60 days and that shouldn't be a problem.

Mayor Cury- Thank you, Doug. Let's move forward please.

Doug- Can we have a census with the council or are we just going to pass on by?

Mayor Cury- Is there a census with a two-month time limit?

Mike- No.

Seth- We have our first meeting tomorrow with AEP. I think after that meeting, I will have a better understanding of what we can do, and we meet again on the 24th. I think I can speak to that more after that meeting. We all have the same goal, but I don't know if that can realistically happen in two months. I will know more after we speak with AEP tomorrow.

Mayor Cury- Seth, let me ask you directly, census or no on us having this done in two months?

Seth- I don't know if I can give you a census or not...

Mayor Cury- Okay we can't do it then. Jeff, census or no?

Jeff- I don't think we could do it in two months.

Mayor Cury- Kristen?

Kristen- No.

Mayor Cury- Darrell?

Darrell- I agree with Seth. We need to wait until after the meeting with AEP. Then we will know more of a time frame.

Mayor Cury-Mike?

Mike-No.

Mayor Cury-Okay, there is no census.

Jeff- I think we need to be cautious and not be exclusively dealing with just one company.

Seth- Oh that's okay. We can be exclusive. This is AEP's territory, and we exist inside that territory because of a special prevision in the State of Virginia. It is proper to have all the conversation that we want to with AEP because they are the only entity that we could sell to.

Mayor Cury- Thank you everyone for your input. It makes a difference and I hope that we can be as concise as possible. Okay, I think we are now ready to move on to discussion of proposed Solar Study and Ordinance presented by Alice Wolfe.

Alice Wolfe-

- GDS provided a proposal to help Richlands with their solar rates. So, the total cost for this work is estimated at \$11,000 and there are two components to this proposal. \$5,000 is to help develop a solar rate.
- Right now, Richlands is charging customers per KW hour. With solar, your customers would be generating energy. So, you would pay them or credit them for the energy that they are generating.
- It sounds like a simple decision, but it has to do with the complexities of accounting. You are charging a variable rate and some of your fixed cost is within that variable rate. So, it is important to ensure that you are going to collect enough money to cover your fixed cost.
- Over the last few years, the electric industry has moved to ensure fairness for customers when it comes to solar rates. So, it is often that more affluent customers are choosing to install solar. So, you want to ensure that you are still collecting enough from them to cover their cost of using the system. If you didn't then you would have the less affluent customer subsidizing the solar customers.
- Some rates are considered more solar friendly then others. Some are less so. So, these are some things the council needs to think about and that is what that \$5,000 to GDS covers. They would help you work through that analysis and develop what that rate should be.
- The remaining \$6,000 is to develop interconnection procedures and documents. Right now, your customers are connected to your electrical grid, and they are all using the energy, but again with solar, they are going to be producing their own energy and that will be going back into the grid. So, it's a two-way flow of energy instead of a one-way flow.
- One of the most important things is to make sure their solar system would shut off when the rest of the system does or you would have lineman working on the system and if the solar produced some energy, the lineman could be hurt.
- These are pretty hefty documents and run usually between 60-70 pages worth of material. They address the technical requirements, safety, application forms, the types of fees the town would collect, how long the town must review applications, and how to make sure other customers on your system are protected.
- I would say that most people in the town who are considering solar would be small roof top solar panels and in the 70 page document, there would be a small subset of that would address the small solar systems. There is still important technical and safety requirements, but typically those don't require near the review and study as a larger system would.
- The procedures would address the billing policies for those small solar customers. So, it is timely to do the work together, at the same time that you are looking at the solar rate.

- So again, it is \$11,000 and \$5,000 of that is to develop the solar rate and \$6,000 is to develop interconnection procedures and documents.
- I would have to check with Blue Ridge, but I think you could have this done pretty quickly. I would say within 2-3 months.

Mayor Cury- Okay, thank you. Members of council, do you all have any questions or thoughts?

John- We have had people state that they are interested in putting solar panels on their house or their property. So, if this is something that council wants to allow then we need to go ahead and get a policy in place so that when they look into spending thousands of dollars on their house with these solar panels that they don't think they are going to be able to sell back their power at a retail rate. We either don't allow it or buy back at a different rate. I would rather they know and have all the information and regulations on what our expectations are before they spend that kind of money on solar panels. If this is something council is going to allow, I think this is the route we go. Or if they don't want to allow it then we would do it. I just need some direction.

Mayor Cury- Thoughts or questions on solar panels?

Seth- Do you all do an RFP for this study?

Mayor Cury- I am not aware of an RFP.

Seth- Why would you not do a request for proposal? If you are going to do this... I think you cannot... unless I misunderstood.... Is there a way you can just arbitrarily pick somebody?

John- I would think it would fall under professional services and doing it through Blue Ridge, there is a set cost savings. Because other organizations are having the same study done and we are joining in on theirs.

Seth- I just think we might be...

John- Alice, did y'all do an RFP before y'all selected Blue Ridge?

Alice-Honestly Blue Ridge has been working with GDS for a long time. Since back before I joined Blue Ridge in 2016. So, there is a long history there of working with GDS. So, if there was one it was quite a while ago. So, I understand there was a RFP conducted back to work on rate study and GDS won that, but I am not sure when that RFP was conducted.

So, there are other Blue Ridge members looking at this type of rates and procedures. So, you do get the benefits of some discounted pricing because you are working with other organizations.

Seth- What's the cap for professional services that you do not have to do an RFP for?

John- I don't know off the top of my head, but I can look into it and let you know.

Seth- I am not trying to say this is bad or anything. I am just saying there is a way you do business and a way you do things. We are talking about RFP, if you are going to pay \$11,000 for a study...

John- We can have legal look into it, if this is something council wants to move forward with.

Seth- I just think we need to look into it to make sure we are doing everything correctly. One of the things I would like to look at is our policy on requesting bids or proposals. I would like to go over that and maybe make some modifications and things that we do at the county that I think would maybe be good for us. One of those things is using Electronic Virginia. When we started using Electronic Virginia and putting our bids on their not just in the newspaper, we started saving money on everything with the proposals we were getting. Because you open that up to anyone in the state that is on Electronic Virginia, and you get proposals from them.

Mayor Cury- So, Seth are you suggesting that we make sure we are following RFP guidelines before we move forward with an ordinance?

Seth- Yes, this is for the study, right?

Mayor Cury- Study and Ordinance.

Darrell- I think we can be looking at the ordinance.

Seth- I think we need to allow it; we just need to make sure we are within RFP's guidelines.

Darrell- I know one group that is going to lease the top of their building to a solar panel company and sell all their power to the town. So, I think we need to pursue the ordinance.

Doug- In your proposal could you give two proposals: what the power really cost from Blue Ridge and what our rates are. If people were to put them on their house, I wouldn't want them to be over charged.

John- I think that their intent is to give us a couple options and come in for discussion with council and explain what each of them means. It would be up to council which ones you all want to put in place.

Mayor Cury- On the agenda it says study and ordinance. Are we ready to provide an ordinance?

John- Well it is part of their study. One is for the ordinance and the other is to develop interconnections procedures and documents. We would pay them, and they would make it. We don't have just a copy of the ordinance.

Mike- I agree with Seth. As long as it is below that cap, I don't think we hold it up.

John- Yes, we will make sure it is within those guidelines. I would like a vote since you all are approving to spend funds.

Mayor Cury- Is there a motion to pursue solar study and ordinance with the prevision that it does not exceed the proposed amount of \$11,000 and is within the RFP guidelines?

Mike- I make a motion to pursue a solar study and ordinance with the prevision that it does not exceed the proposed amount of \$11,000 and is within the RFP guidelines. Darrell seconded the motion.

Mayor Cury- We have a motion and a second, any further discussion? All those in favor of the motion say yes. All those that oppose say no. Roll Call- Jeff- Yes, Doug- Yes, Kristen- Yes, Darrell- Yes, Mike- Yes, Seth- Yes. Motion carries -6/0.

Mayor Cury- Alice, thank you very much for your time and research that you have done for our town.

Seth- Mr. Mayor, we have Mr. Danielson here from the county. I would like a motion that you suspend Robert's Rule of order and that will allow you to move that item up on the agenda so he can go. He has a long drive to get back home.

Darrell- I second the motion to amend the agenda and allow Mr. Danielson to come at this time.

Mayor Cury- We have a motion and a second, any further discussion? All those in favor of the motion say yes. All those that oppose say no. Roll Call- Jeff- Yes, Doug- Yes, Kristen- Yes, Darrell- Yes, Mike- Yes, Seth- Yes. Motion carries -6/0.

Tim- Hello, I am Tim Danielson. I am the director for economic development in Tazewell County. I personally feel that I work for everyone in Tazewell County as well as you guys. Our offices are always here to anyone in Tazewell County.

Darrell- I asked Tim to come, because we had talked about hiring another economic developer and Tim had agreed to help us out some with any needs that we may have.

Tim-I am aware that I hired y'all's economic developer to be my manager with economic development in Tazewell County. But my feels are that y'all can lean on us for help if you have any needs. Please feel free to use our office or me if you have any economic questions or issues.

Seth- We had looked in to hiring an economic developer and looking at ways to save in our budget. So, if we can utilize you guys, which all our citizens are contributing to through our taxes or whatever and not have to hire someone that would save the town some money. We talked about shared services a lot, and this is a way that we can do that and take advantage of something the county is paying for. It doesn't mean that we cannot go back and hire someone if we felt like that need was there.

Tim- Absolutely. Our office is here to help anyway we can.

Darrell- I just think it is a good way to save the town some money. I am on the IDA board, and I will have to say Tim always reaches out to everyone. He doesn't just focus on one group. He makes sure he is doing what is best for everyone and I think this would be a great resource for the town.

Mike- As far as economic development and grants, would y'all help us this that?

Tim- In the area of grant writing, Cumberland Plateau is also supposed to be offering those services to help with the grant writing. We hire a firm to write grants for us. I would be happy to take a look at grants. I have written grants before and I would be happy to look at those for you.

John- Mike is referring more to the administration of the grant, if we have already applied and received a grant is that something you would pick up for us?

Tim- Probably. I have to do that now in some areas.

Seth- I have always found the county to be very open to working with the town.

John- If we don't hire someone, it is either them or we don't have someone to do these things and we can't just stop doing things around town that we have always done.

Mike- I think it would be good for John and Tim to connect and figure out what the county would be willing to do for us before we decide if it is going to be feasible.

Mayor Cury- Thank you very much, Tim, for joining us and we hope that we can be an integral part of one another.

Okay we are moving on to Invoice Cloud presented by Adam Ek.

John- Adam, can you just give us a 1,000-foot overview of what you are presenting to refresh everyone's memory and for those that were not here.

Adam- Sure, I have been working with Heather, Amanda, and Frank about the challenges they have in relation to providing a better online experience for your utility bills. What Heather and Amanda were trying to do was essentially free up some time and focus on other responsibilities. A lot of their time is spent on dealing with customers service type issues and challenges that their utility online customers are having.

- Invoice cloud has been around for over 13 years. Well over 2,000 partners, local government and utilities that use our online services.
- Our goal is to cut some fees and try and make it cheaper and more convenient for the customers.
- When you can drive your customers to pay online it cuts out your manual processing time in office.
- Going paperless makes it more cost effective.
- We have a monthly active fee of \$125 a month \$1,500 a year to use the program. That would be charged to Richlands. We are not looking to charge any upfront implementation cost to Richlands.
- Invoice cloud makes it very simple to enroll in paperless billing. People can pay right from their phone. We also offer a 24/7 phone line for people who are not very tech savvy and want to pay over the phone.
- Raising customer satisfaction as well as thriving cost efficiency.

Mayor Cury- Thank you, Adam. Any questions from council?

Adam- I know in the last meeting there were some discussions about the processing fee with credit cards. I just wanted to add that for both credit and debit card processing cost as well as us being able to provide an electronic check possessing. We are coming in lower on both fronts. When your utility customers use our platform, they would be able to process their payment significantly cheaper, while being provided a more intuitive online experience. Regardless of

what payment method they choose. This would be cheaper than the convenience fees that are in place now.

Jeff- I was definitely impressed with his presentation last time and I think it is something we need to move forward with.

Mike- I would like to hear Heather's opinion.

Heather- I just wanted to mention that we would not have to pay anything until they got all their software set up and we made sure everything works correctly.

Adam- Thanks for bringing that up. What we do to protect our clients, is that we do not charge any upfront implementation cost. This is really important. It also would allow you guys to be protected in an event that Invoice Cloud would be unable to successfully complete an integration and go live on behalf of Richlands. We make sure that you guys are protected from all that risk. The resources that we have at our disposal, the expertise that we have, and our implementation and integration. The only time a bill will come from invoice cloud is after we are live for 1 month and we have begun to provide that platform that drives the benefits for the customers and staff as well.

Mike- What is the annual difference from what we have now and what this will be?

Heather- For the customers it will definitely be cheaper. For the town it will vary because it will depend on how many checks we will process. I do want to move forward with this because we are charged fees from the banks as well, and this would eventually save us money. Will it save us money immediately? No, but it will eventually. It will take some time for people to get used to it. However, it is very user friendly, just a couple clicks, and you are done. It will hopefully stop some people from driving down here with checks and in the long run lower our processing fees.

Mike- So potentially it will save the town some money as well as saving the customer money.

Mayor Cury- Thank you. Any more questions from council?

Seth-I make a motion to move forward with Invoice Cloud. Mike seconded the motion.

Mayor Cury- We have a motion and a second, any further discussion? All those in favor of the motion say yes. All those that oppose say no. Roll Call- Jeff- Yes, Doug- Yes, Kristen- Yes, Darrell- Yes, Mike- Yes, Seth- Yes. Motion carries -6/0.

Doug- Will this save time in the finance office?

Heather- Yes. It is hopeful.

Mayor Cury- Now we are on committee member update. These are for commission updates on appointing someone to the Rec Commission. I spoke with Jeff and he is willing to move from the Planning Commission to the Rec Commission. Jeff are you still willing to do that?

Jeff- Yes, so far I am. Over the last few days, I have maintained the course.

Mayor Cury- Okay, so I will appoint you, Jeff, as council's representative on the Recreational Commission. I also spoke with Kristen, and she is willing to accept the appointment to be council's representative on the Planning Commission Board. Kristen, are you still willing to do that?

Kristen- Yes.

Mayor Cury- John, will you please take care of all the appropriate measures and documents.

John-Yes. As we are on that, if you will look to the list of all the members on those advisory board and commissions, we have several that will expire next month. If you would like to go ahead and renew those for the next term, we can go ahead and do that at this time. I haven't reached out to all these individuals to make sure they are good with that, but I haven't heard anyone say they do not want to serve.

Mayor Cury- I suggest that we reach out to these members personally and see if they want to be members or not.

Michael- Mayor, if I may, according to the charter you have the ability to recommend if the council would approve those changes.

Mayor Cury- I would entertain a motion to accept Jeff Hurst as our representative on the Recreational Commission.

Mike- I make a motion to approve Jeff Hurst as our representative on the Recreational Commission. Darrell seconded the motion.

Mayor Cury- We have a motion and a second, any further discussion? All those in favor of the motion say yes. All those that oppose say no. Roll Call- Jeff- Yes, Doug- Yes, Kristen- Yes, Darrell- Yes, Mike- Yes, Seth- Yes. Motion carries -6/0.

Mayor Cury- I would entertain a motion to accept Kristen Thompson-Whitt as our representative on the Planning Commission.

Jeff- I make a motion to appoint Kristen Thompson-Whitt as our representative on the Planning Commission. Mike seconded the motion.

Mayor Cury- We have a motion and a second, any further discussion? All those in favor of the motion say yes. All those that oppose say no. Roll Call- Jeff- Yes, Doug- Yes, Kristen- Yes, Darrell- Yes, Mike- Yes, Seth- Yes. Motion carries -6/0.

John- The topic of the swearing in has come up and I just wanted to let everyone know that we will be going through and making sure everyone is sworn in before our next meeting.

Mayor Cury- Now we are on appointment of Vice-Mayor. Typically, we have an appointment and a second to appoint a Vice- Mayor. Mary Ann was our Vice-Mayor, and she resigned so we will need to appoint someone.

Mike- I make a motion to appoint Seth White as Vice-Mayor. Darrell seconded the motion.

Mayor Cury- We have a motion and a second, any further discussion? All those in favor of the motion say yes. All those that oppose say no. Roll Call- Jeff- Yes, Doug- Yes, Kristen- Yes, Darrell- Yes, Mike- Yes, Seth- Yes. Motion carries -6/0.

Mayor Cury- Congratulations Seth, you are now Vice-Mayor. Moving on, we have R-2022-05-01 Public Comment Policy and Procedures

R-2022-05-01 Public Comment Policy and Procedures was read by Mayor Cury.

Mayor Cury- I have my own comments about this, but I will ask for comments from members of council before we entertain a motion.

Seth- Just as a fundamental of freedom of speech, I really have an issue with this. I think it is okay to establish time limits and I think we do that. I don't have an issue with that. It is just that this is a very slippery slope. What if I show up late and I want to be able to speak and I hope I would be able to do, but I may not if we have these rules. What if I want to present a document, but I don't have 10 copies with me? I understand the idea of what you are trying to do. We are either elected to this position or appointed... and when you are a public capacity, you have to have thick skin. Everybody has an opportunity to say whatever it is that you want to say, there are consequences to those actions. Most people have enough personal responsibility to keep some decorum in their actions. I would have a real hard time supporting this. Most of the time, people just really need to speak what is on their minds. The problems that I run into is when a member of council tries to engage that person. I just feel like this is very rigid and maybe not conducive to freedom of speech and I just don't feel like I could support it.

Mayor Cury- Thank you, Seth. I will go ahead and add my thought. One thing that I want to bring out is that if someone wants to speak, they must sign up prior to the meeting starting, and what if you didn't know to sign up? And I think that limits free speech. I am just concerned about that particular part.

As far as the ten copies, I think that was in the prior embedded resolution and the idea of that although it may not be practical, was to make them readily available for members of council, the town attorney, town manager, the clerk, and any staff members that want them. Sometimes that isn't always possible for people. That is something I have always questioned. To my knowledge, we have never had someone come to speak and we ask them if they had their 10 copies and we said you are out of order.

Jeff- We had that tonight. Someone came and presented a document and we had to go make copies of it for everyone.

Mayor Cury- So do we really need that in there? Can we just strike that members of council?

Members of Council- I think so, we are not enforcing that anyways.

Doug- What about what Seth said. I think it is limiting freedom of speech. I think that's the mayor's call when you are running the meeting to decide if someone is out of order.

Mayor Cury- Which part?

Doug- Public discord, undue repetition, extended discussion of irrelevancies, use of obscenities, and/or personal attacks, that is your call as mayor.

Mayor Cury- I think, and this is just a thought, this is the council's decision. But leave that in there so that gives the mayor opportunity for backing. But it is up to the mayor to enforce that or not. The 10-copy thing, I do not think we have ever really enforced that. We copy for people all the time. That's just my thoughts.

Jeff, do you have any comments?

Jeff- Yes, I think we have been overly accommodating and I think we need to stay that way. If they show up late or didn't see the sign-up sheet out there, we still let them speak. We have done that several times.

Doug- I think the 5-minute thing is fine. We want to keep this as open as we can to the citizens, to let them speak when they want to. I don't think we should limit anything. That is up to you, as the mayor, to make that call if someone is out of order. I could not vote for anything on this except for the 5-minute thing.

Kristen- I think on this where it says to provide 10 copies, and if possible 1 electronic copy. I think we need to put "if possible" on both of those.

Darrell- I think anything you are not enforcing should be taken out.

Mike- I agree with council. I think it is important to have a process. Do we currently have an embedded resolution?

Mayor Cury- We do.

Mike- So besides changing the 3 minutes to 5 minutes on allowing someone to speak, what is different?

John-That's really it.

Mike- So essentially, we could just make a vote to change our current embedded resolution to say 5 minutes instead of 3 minutes.

John- I would rather it be separate because it is like hidden in there.

Mike- Right. But I am saying hypothetically.

John- I have a copy of what we already have in place.

Mayor Cury- Mike, one significant difference, an embedded resolution is an unusual word. Resolutions at their best should have a number and should be properly recorded. The embedded resolution was voted on, but it was placed inside the minutes. It is less than open. You can find it but you have to hunt for it and that's essentially what we are trying to avoid.

Seth, further questions?

Seth-Yes, looking through this, I think item A is okay, because I think that is where your problems arise, but I really think B and C, you are getting into some grey areas and infringing on freedom of speech. The reality is we live in America. You may not like what I have to say, but I have a right to say it. Just like anyone can come in here and they may not like you or me or any of us but that is part of serving in a public office. I understand the idea of but I can't support anything that infringes on anyone's ability to speak and say whatever they want, whether I like it or not.

Mayor Cury- Okay, lets look at item B- "The Town Council requests civility in public discourse"

I think that's a reasonable thing. That is subject to what is civil, but it gives whoever is conducting the meeting something to stand on.

...."requires that speakers refrain from language which would incite an immediate breach of the peace and further requires that speakers refrain from undue repetition, extended discussion of irrelevance, use of obscenities, and/or personal attacks."

I just think put a period right there after peace and just leave the rest of that out.

C- Any person who violates these rules can be declared out of order by the Mayor, and a person who persists in violating these rules can be removed from the meeting.

Mayor Cury- I think C is okay, that could actually happen. Here is my suggestion. Can we ask that this resolution be rewritten with our suggestions and represented to the council?

John- What changes is our census on?

Mike- Mayor, why do not you, John, and Seth work together. We are all in an agreement on what we want to do. So, why do not you all work on this resolution together, to make it right.

Mayor- Okay, that is fine. We will get together on a time when we can all meet and work on this. Moving on to Re-Zoning Request Ordinances. We have two and they are O-2022-05-06 and O-2022-05-07.

Jeff conducted the first reading on O-2022-05-06.

Mayor Cury- This is the first reading and since there all no changes what would you like for us to do?

Michael- You can dispense of the second reading and pass it tonight as an emergency ordinance. It needs to be an affirmative vote of at least 4 members of council.

Mayor Cury- Is there a motion to dispense with the second reading of the ordinance and it will be passed as an emergency ordinance.

Jeff- I will make a motion that we dispense with the second reading of the ordinance of O-2022-05-06 and pass this as an emergency order. Darrell seconded the motion.

Mayor Cury- We have a motion and a second, any further discussion? All those in favor of the motion say yes. All those that oppose say no. Roll Call- Jeff- Yes, Doug- Yes, Kristen- Yes, Darrell- Yes, Mike- Yes, Seth- Yes. Motion carries -6/0.

Mayor Cury- Now we need a motion to pass it as an ordinance.

Jeff- I make a motion that we accept the ordinance of O-2022-05-06. Seth seconded the motion.

Mayor Cury- We have a motion and a second, any further discussion? All those in favor of the motion say yes. All those that oppose say no. Roll Call- Jeff- Yes, Doug- Yes, Kristen- Yes, Darrell- Yes, Mike- Yes, Seth- Yes. Motion carries -6/0.

Mayor Cury- The next ordinance is O-2022-05-07. Kristen, will you read this ordinance publicly?

Kristen conducted the first reading of ordinance O-2022-05-07.

Mayor Cury- Is there a motion to dispense with the second reading of ordinance O-2022-05-07?

Jeff- I make a motion to accept the first reading of ordinance O-2022-05-07. Kristen seconded the motion.

Mayor Cury- We have a motion and a second, any further discussion? All those in favor of the motion say yes. All those that oppose say no. Roll Call- Jeff- Yes, Doug- Yes, Kristen- Yes, Darrell- Yes, Mike- Yes, Seth- Yes. Motion carries -6/0.

Mayor Cury- Now we need a motion to pass it as an ordinance.

Jeff- I make a motion that we accept the ordinance of O-2022-05-07. Kristen seconded the motion.

Mayor Cury- We have a motion and a second, any further discussion? All those in favor of the motion say yes. All those that oppose say no. Roll Call- Jeff- Yes, Doug- Yes, Kristen- Yes, Darrell- Yes, Mike- Yes, Seth- Yes. Motion carries -6/0.

Mayor Cury- Next, we have appointment of Town FOIA Officer.

John- Essentially, about a year ago, Wayne was doing this job and it got to be to much on him, so at that time council instructed me to start doing that work but it was an official vote. So, I was just cleaning that up to get that officially on record.

Seth- And you are going to undergo some training for that?

John- I have already completed the training.

Mayor Cury- I will entertain a motion to appoint John O'Daniel as Town FOIA Officer. It goes along with his duties as manager.

Darrell- I make a motion to appoint John O'Daniel as Town FOIA Officer. Mike seconded the motion.

Mayor Cury- We have a motion and a second, any further discussion?

Doug- Do you have enough time to do this job, Mr. O'Daniel?

John- No, but things have to be done. I will make the time.

Mayor Cury- We have a motion and a second, any further discussion? All those in favor of the motion say yes. All those that oppose say no. Roll Call- Jeff- Yes, Doug- Yes, Kristen- Yes, Darrell- Yes, Mike- Yes, Seth- Yes. Motion carries -6/0.

Mayor Cury- Next we have proposed 2022-2023 Budget- First Reading. First up is Real Estate and Personal Property Tax.

John- Mayor, as I may before we start. We were not able to have a public hearing tonight because we didn't get that in the newspaper on time. We have had a public hearing on three of the four budget ordinances. On the fourth one there was a clarification that we put out in the newspaper on the water and sewage rates. Originally, we just put out the percentage or what the residential rate was but since it impacts all the rate classes, we put another ad in there and you will see that on the timeline. So, we did want to hold off on that one and wait until we could have another public hearing on May 24th. So, we are completely covered on that one.

Mayor Cury- I have a suggestion, should we wait and have a public hearing on all these and have the first reading on all 4 of these on May 24th?

John- If you do that then they will all 4 have to be passed as an emergency ordinance in June. If you pass them this month then they will go into effect in 30 days. If you pass them in June, then they would have to go into effect sooner. So, you run into that situation of not having a full 30 days. So, if you wanted them to go into effect July 1st you would have to pass them as an emergency ordinance.

Mayor Cury- I would rather not do that. So, the one we are waiting on will have to be passed as an emergency ordinance?

John- Or the rates would not be in effect for 30 days. That is what we are running into. So, we may miss a month of revenue.

Mayor Cury- If we meet on May 24th like we are scheduled to do, what is the last possible day that we could meet and have a second reading and not have to pass this as an emergency ordinance?

John- It is supposed to be at a regular scheduled meeting so that is the issue.

Doug- How much revenue are you going to lose in 30 days?

John- I don't know, but it is still revenue that we are trying to build up for those water and sewer reserves for those projects that we are doing. Last year we were three months behind so when Seth asked about the revenue projections for next year and why they were off it is because we missed those three months of that additional revenue in year so far. So, every month it puts us further behind on building those reserves.

Mayor Cury- What are councils wishes? Should we go ahead with Real Estate and Personal Property Tax?

Seth- If it is not changing, I think we could go ahead.

Mayor Cury- Okay, Mike will you please read the first ordinance O-2022-05-01.

Mike conducted the first reading of the Real Estate and Personal Property Tax O-2022-05-01.

Michael- Once the ordinance is read, for the second reading, if there are any changes you only have to read that section. If there are no change the second reading can be dispensed.

Mayor Cury- So, we have had the first reading of ordinance O-2022-05-01. We will begin with the first reading of the second one which is cigarette tax O-2022-05-02. Jeff, would you like to read this one?

Jeff conducted the first reading on the cigarette tax O-2022-05-02.

Mayor Cury- Thank you, Jeff. Okay we are going to pass over O-2022-05-03 until the next meeting on the 24th. So, we are on O-2022-05-04.

Mayor Rod Cury conducted the reading of the ordinance O-2022-05-04.

Mayor Cury- So, we will take up the second reading which we will dispense with on May 24th and we will need to have a first reading of O-2022-05-03 on May 24th. Moving along on our agenda. We are on Manager reports. John, do you have anything you would like to report?

John- In the very back of your packet should be the agreement letter with Robinson, Farmer, Cox Associates, about a month ago council gave us the go ahead to engage with them. So here is their letter of engagement and it has been signed but as part of that we were supposed to give all of you a copy of that so you all will understand what services they will be providing.

Mayor Cury- Okay, now we are on council member reports. These are non-voting items. Darrell?

Darrell- I appreciate Seth bringing up AEP and maybe buying the town's power and when you all meet with them, I would like for you to check and see what rate increases they might have coming.

Mayor Cury- Thank you, Darrell. Doug?

Doug- One of the citizens came up with TAC's to collect back taxes. Could we ask the Town Manager to pursue that?

John-If that is something council would like, sure.

Council- Sure

Doug- Can we ask that we have an answer to that at our next meeting?

Mayor Cury- I do not know that we could have time to do that, maybe our meeting in June.

John- Yes, I will reach out to them and get them as soon as I can.

Mayor Cury- Thank you, Doug. Mike?

Mike- Nothing from me tonight.

Mayor Cury- Thank you, Mike. Seth?

Seth- Why is the lobby closed still?

John- We just haven't opened back up yet.

Seth- Can we open back up? It is very frustrating. The President said the pandemic is over so if we could open back up, I would be real happy with that. With the town of Abingdon, we can pay our taxes online...

Heather- I took care of that.

Seth- You took care of that. So, we are squared away?

Heather-Yes.

Seth- It just makes it super easy to pay your taxes online rather than coming in here or anywhere else. I guess that is all I have. We do have our first meeting with AEP tomorrow and I will report back to you on that.

Mayor Cury- Thank you, Seth. Kristen?

Kristen- I would just like to take the opportunity to thank everyone for giving me this opportunity to serve. I really appreciate it.

Mayor Cury- Thank you, Kristen. Jeff?

Jeff- I would just like to thank the town. They had the prom last weekend and they had to relocate last minute, and I just want to thank the police station for opening their doors for the high school prom.

Mayor Cury- I just want to add that I too am very appreciative of the town for their help with the high school prom. I also want to add that on May 3rd, the town was invited to join the county and other counties in Tazewell to honor Jim Baldwin and here is what I presented:

"The Richlands Town Council desires to recognize and honor James "Jim" Baldwin, Executive Director of the Cumberland Plateau Planning District Commission, and Cumberland Plateau Planning District Commission was founded in 1968 to improve the quality of life of the citizens in Buchanan, Dickenson, Russell and Tazewell counties, and James "Jim" Baldwin was hired in February 1972, by the Cumberland plateau and has devoted 50 years of dedicated service to the agency, and during the past five decades, Mr. Baldwin has worked to advance and facilitate the completion of countless community betterment projects within the planning district. Including substantially increasing the availability of clean drinking water, expansive deployment of high-speed broadband internet and improved wireless connectivity, as well as numerous downtown improvement initiatives that have transformed the economic prospects of towns throughout the district, among many other projects, and Mr. Baldwin plans to retire on June 30, 2022, from his position as Chief Executive Officer of Cumberland Plateau Planning District Commission. Now, therefore, be it resolved that the Richlands Town Council honors James "Jim" Baldwin with sincere gratitude in recognition of his 50 years of exceptional achievements, outstanding leadership and dedication to improving the quality of life of the citizens."

Signed Rodney D. Cury, Mayor

Mayor Cury- I did have help with that. It is not entirely my work.

Okay, Is there any further business before council? I will entertain a motion to adjourn.

Mike- I make a motion to adjourn this meeting. Kristen seconded the motion.

Mayor Cury- We have a motion and a second, any further discussion? All those in favor of the motion say yes. All those that oppose say no. Roll Call- Jeff- Yes, Doug- Yes, Kristen- Yes, Darrell- Yes, Mike- Yes, Seth- Yes. Motion carries -6/0.

This meeting is Adjourned.

Next meeting will be May 24th at 6:00 in council's chambers.

	Rodney D. Cury, Mayor
Rebekah Hackworth, Clerk	

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The Richlands Town Council held a "Public Hearing" on May 24th, 2022, in the Richlands Council Chambers at 5:30 pm with the following present:

Mayor: Rod D. Cury

Town Manager: John O'Daniel

Town Clerk: Rebekah Hackworth

Council Members: Jeff Hurst, Doug Ratliff, Kristen Thompson-Whitt, Darrell Addison, Mike Street, and Seth White.

Town Attorney: Michael Thomas and Brad Pyott

Mayor Cury opened the meeting.

This meeting is for proposed Rate Schedule Ordinance O-2022-05-03.

Mayor Cury asked if anyone else would like to speak that may have missed the sign-up sheet. Since there are no additional comments or members that would like to speak, we will proceed to Laura Mollo.

Laura Mollo- 262 Linwood Drive

"Job loss and tax increase should always be a last resort yet we're watching you dwindle down our town staff in secret while still including tax increases in this budget.

In a time of record high inflation coupled with a 28% poverty rate in town, you all should be losing sleep on how to cut this budget to give our employees a raise and not increase our taxes.

There are areas of the budget where you can make cuts without burdening the town employees or the citizens. You've sat here and heard these employees in most of the departments tell you how understaffed and underpaid they are. You've also heard citizens practically beg you not to raise taxes, rates, and fees at this time. We keep looking at you to study this budget and make these cuts, yet it still looks as if you're going to take the easy way out.

Of course, you all won't answer this, but I'm curious to know how many of you sitting here know the differences between the original budget proposal compared to what you've been given now. I know every single change made on that budget and they've not all been told to you publicly or highlighted in yellow. For a quick example, every department either stayed the same salary wise in the new proposal or they decreased significantly. Even departments with 3-4 people in them decreased tens of thousands of dollars in some cases. Yet the Town Manager's salary only decreased by \$5 per year.

It isn't to late to do the right thing and stop the job loss, stop the tax increases, stop the fee increases, and stop the wasteful spending. If you pass this budget tonight you've made it too late. The budget shouldn't be passed tonight anyway because you're going to approve a budget with a rate increase inside of it that you have not had two readings on. If you pass this budget with this increase in it without having both duly called readings, you are going against the Town Charter.

You were told numerous times to look at how well Botetourt is doing with their grid. How many of you actually looked? What AMP failed to mention is that Botetourt is regulated by the SCC. You may not allow the SCC to regulate you with these ridiculous electric rates, but we have something more powerful than the SCC to regulate you and that is the citizens, and they will regulate who are in those seats during the election this year. There will be no more choosing who you want there, no stacking the council. The citizens will decide, and we won't forget the decision made here tonight."

Mayor Cury- Thank you, Ms. Mollo. The next person who signed up for public comments is Barbara Cook.

Barbara Cook-

"This is going to be short and sweet, but I am going to plead that you please do not raise the utility rates. Most of the people of Richlands are not rich and they cannot afford the rates in addition to the increased inflation and the increase cost in everything else in their lives. You can't get blood out of a turnip, and you can't get more money out of people that don't have any. You will and up running people out of town to some place they can afford better. Thank you."

Mayor Cury- Thank you, Barbara. That is all that has signed up for the comment period. Is there anyone else who would like to speak?

Since no one else would like to speak, I would entertain a motion to close this public comment period.

Jeff- I make a motion that we close this public hearing. Mike seconded the motion.

Mayor Cury- We have a motion and a second, any further discussion? All those in favor of the motion say yes. All those that oppose say no. Roll Call- Jeff- Yes, Doug- Yes, Kristen- Yes, Darrell- Yes, Mike- Yes, Seth- Yes. Motion carries -6/0.

This public hearing meeting is Adjourned. Regular meeting will start at 6:00pm.

	Rodney D. Cury, Mayor
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The Richlands Town Council held a "Regular Meeting" on May 24th, 2022, in the Richlands Council Chambers at 6:00 pm with the following present:

Mayor: Rod D. Cury

Town Manager: John O'Daniel

Town Clerk: Rebekah Hackworth

Council Members: Jeff Hurst, Doug Ratliff, Kristen Thompson-Whitt, Darrell Addison, Mike Street, and Seth White.

Town Attorney: Michael Thomas and Brad Pyott

Mayor Cury opened the meeting.

Mayor Cury gave the invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Cury- First up on the agenda is addition/deletions to the agenda. I have some comments so we can have a better order of business. Councilman Seth White suggested, and we have approval from our attorney that while the members of council are in executive session that the ordinance O-2022-05-03 (water, sewer, garbage, and electric rates) be read to the public. So, I would request that we move items A, (Amended Section 125 Plan Renewal Approval) C, (Proposed 2022-2023 Budget- Second Reading and Adoption of O-2022-05-01, O-2022-05-02, and O-2022-05-04) and D (Proposed 2022-2023 Budget- First Reading of O-2022-05-03) from roman numeral X to go under roman numeral VII. We will call it roman numeral VII (A). Next, I would ask that we move roman numeral XIII Mayor's Comments to go before Council Member's Reports. So, Mayor Comment's will become roman numeral XI (A) and Council Member's Comments will remain roman numeral XII if that is approved.

Is there any other additions or deletions to the agenda?

Seth- I make a motion to approve the amended agenda. Mike seconded the motion.

Mayor Cury- We have a motion and a second, any further discussion? All those in favor of the motion say yes. All those that oppose say no. Roll Call- Jeff- Yes, Doug- Yes, Kristen- Yes, Darrell- Yes, Mike- Yes, Seth- Yes, Motion carries -6/0.

Mayor Cury-Next we have the approval of minutes from the Public Hearing on April 12th, 2022, the Special Called Meeting (Budget Workshop) on April 27th, 2022, and the Special Called Meeting on May 3rd, 2022.

Mike- I make a motion to adopt all three sets of minutes. Jeff seconded the motion.

Mayor Cury- We have a motion and a second, any further discussion? All those in favor of the motion say yes. All those that oppose say no. Roll Call- Jeff- Yes, Doug- Yes, Kristen- Yes, Darrell- Yes, Mike- Yes, Seth- Yes. Motion carries -6/0.

Mayor Cury- Next on the agenda is the scheduled Public Comments with Laura Mollo.

Laura Mollo- 262 Linwood Drive.

"I think some of you have forgotten that the council must work together as one, not as six individuals doing what they want. Citizens are being told that Point Broadband is coming and it's a done deal. As a citizen, it isn't fun for me to have to point out the things that are being disregarded by this administration. These are things you all should know. You may want to ask the Town Attorney to educate you on the Virginia Public Procurement Act, Virginia Code 2.2-4300, specially 2.2-4303 E & F.

You can't make a deal with Point Broadband without putting this out for public bid when you have no written procedure stating otherwise. If you continue with this, you will knowingly be violating Virginia Code. You also spoke with Blue Ridge Power at the last meeting about a solar ordinance and have already agreed to allow GDS to provide the study. This must be placed for bidding as well as the aforementioned code applies.

Another ball being dropped is your FOIA training. Our Town Manager went a year filling FOIA requests despite having no required training. While I appreciate the fact that he has now completed the training once I asked about it, again, I shouldn't have to point these things out. Most of our council has not received proper training either. You went into closed session to get a printout of the VA FOIA law. That is not FOIA training. You were in that room for 11 minutes and you're now calling that FOIA training. And speaking of that closed session, you cannot go into closed session just because you want to talk to the attorney. VA Code 2.2-3711 (8)- which is what you cited, specially states that "Nothing in this subdivision shall be construed to permit the closure of a meeting merely because an attorney representing the public body is in attendance or is consulted on a matter."

You not only cited an improper code, but you went into closed session for the wrong reason, and to add insult to injury the mayor explained, in detail, what you were voting on with that certification vote and every single one of you still voted yes that you were in that room for the proper reason, which tells me your 11 minute "FOIA Training" wasn't very effective.

The citizens of this town are suffering for your poor decisions. Our parks are falling apart, our sidewalks are impassable in a lot of areas, our bridges are crumbling, businesses are leaving to open outside of town limits, citizens are moving and most of the ones who are staying are suffering, realtors often use phrases like "Not in Richlands town limits" and "Not on Richlands electricity" as selling points in their listings and whether you want to take responsibility for it or not, the responsibility for thus rests in the hands of the six of you sitting there. It's time for you all to take your positions a little more seriously or step aside and let people who see this position as more than a notch on their belt, step in."

Mayor Cury- Thank you, Ms. Mollo. Next, we have unscheduled public comments. We have Barbara Cook, Morgan Earp, and Blake Ray. Is there anyone else who would like to speak that may have missed the sign-up sheet?

Since there is no one else that would like to speak, we will start with Barbara Cook.

Barbara Cook- 264 Plantation Drive

"Richlands- the center of a friendly circle. Since moving into Richlands, I have indeed found many friendly people, people that really care about Richlands, but there are many people that are upset about the town's budget. Last year 2021-2022, the town's budget increased one million thirty-four thousand nine hundred and forty-one dollars from the previous year. This year's proposed budget is almost \$1.2 million more than last year's budget. That is a 7% increase. I would like to say every citizen's payday or check increased by the same percentage, but I know that is not true. In addition, the cost of inflation has made a large impact on everyone's finances and will continue to do so. We can't increase our budget by this amount. The poverty rate in Richlands is 20 some percent. The average household income (from what I got on the internet) is \$44,055, and the population is around 5,000 and that means this budget is about \$3,680 per person. The people cannot afford this budget. I urge you members of council to trim the surplus out of this budget. The citizens of Richlands need a budget that is not increasing around \$1 million every year as it has occurred over the last two years. Please, help your citizens."

Mayor Cury- Thank you, Barbara. Next, is Morgan Earp.

Morgan Earp- 1618 6th Street.

"Last time I was at the meeting I talked about the citizens invoking Article 1 Section 3 of the Virginia Constitution for cause of maladministration. The citizens of Richlands need proper leadership. So, as you discuss today, hopefully, you realize that the citizen's voice is not looked over.

I am going to give you a little bit of wisdom, so bear with me here. Everybody thinks their ideas are right, that's why the people we call terrorists call themselves freedom fighters, the fundamentalists think they are right, the capitalists think they are right, and the communists think they are right. No one will convince anyone of anything. All of these honorable men and women lecturing the people in council and in congress, whose time has long since passed, refuse to admit publicly at least, ideas don't determine who's right, power does, and the citizens of Richlands has that power. So whatever decision they make, they are right. People say the pen is stronger than the sword, but the pen has support of a battle ax that could break the sword, and the citizens represent that battle ax, but if that battle ax ceases to support that pen, then the pen will break. I do not want to see that pen break here in Richlands. However, if that time has come, then that time has come."

Mayor Cury- Thank you, Morgan. Next is Blake Ray.

Blake Ray- "First off, we just had awards for pop-up Richlands. Thank you to everyone that came out for that. We had a total of 5 participants, one participant decided to take their business to an online platform. The other 4 participants plan to open their businesses by summer. Thank you for the funding. We were able to fund 3 of the 4 business that will be opening. Thank you to Virginia Community Capital, they donated an additional \$3,000 that was to be given from their economic equity award fund. That will be funding at a \$1,000 a piece to the 3 women participants who went through that program. So, thank you guys for your support. We are working on scheduling things for the fall. The fall round is funded. One thing I will ask of you guys as you go through the economic development discussion. There is a lot happening right now. We must have our own

economic development person in-house. Based on one of those grant applications that we had. It was so well written, the USDA came back and said instead of giving you \$75,000 for revolving loan fund, we want to give you \$100,000 There is a lot of big things happening and I don't think John would say this, but he can't be expected to facilitate that, and we can't rely on the county to do that because there will be things inevitable that will be dropped. So please consider that as you are going forward.

Two or three meeting ago, I came in and we were talking about the meeting that we had with the ATVs being on the streets of Richlands, Mayor Cury paused that vote until we had a full council. We have a full council. I had a meeting with Shana Plaster today, this was the proposal. So, the map I handed everyone goes from the beginning of the bridge at McDonalds all the way to Cedar Bluff and it covers the downtown loop. This gets ATVs in from the big creek exit going up to route 67. There was a meeting with a couple members of the IDA and VDOT cannot move forward until a resolution of support is voted on by the council, to make sure you guys are okay with that from a public safety standpoint. Jerry agrees and his folks will do a really good job of monitoring that. So, as you guys are going through your meeting today, please consider voting on that. Thank you."

Mayor Cury- Thank you, Blake.

Mike- John, do you have a resolution for this?

John- We have what Cedar Bluff has done. Our issue is where exactly council would want to support the ATVs being allowed. There were some things discussed in that meeting and I had to leave early so I am not sure what was decided. So, I wanted to hash it out with you all before I type up a letter of support if we are not sure what we are supporting.

Mayor Cury- Thank you, Mike. And thank you to everyone that spoke. We are on roman numeral XII A agenda items A, C, and D. Is there a motion to dispense with the second reading of the ordinances O-2022-05-01, O-2022-05-02, O-2022-05-04?

Seth- I make a motion to dispense with the second reading of the ordinances O-2022-05-01, O-2022-05-02, O-2022-05-04. Mike seconded the motion.

Mayor Cury- We have a motion and a second, any further discussion?

Seth- Just for clarification. We had the first reading of these ordinances at our last meeting and anyone that would like a copy of them, we have those available.

Mayor Cury- Thank you, Seth for the clarification. Any more discussion?

Doug- Is there anyone in the audience that would like for it to be read again?

Mayor Cury-Okay, there being no further discussion and no one wanting it read again. All those in favor of the motion say yes. All those that oppose say no. Roll Call- Jeff- Yes, Doug- Yes, Kristen- Yes, Darrell- Yes, Mike- Yes, Seth- Yes. Motion carries -6/0.

Mayor Cury- Okay, let's go ahead and dispense of the Amended Section 125 Plan Renewal Approval because this is a certificate of resolution, and it does not require a second reading.

Mayor Rod Cury conducted the reading of the Amended Section 125 Plan Renewal Approval.

Mayor Cury- Is there a motion to approve the certificate of resolution?

Mike- I make a motion to approve the certificate of resolution of the Amended Section 125 Plan Renewal. Doug seconded the motion.

Mayor Cury- We have a motion and a second, any further discussion? All those in favor of the motion say yes. All those that oppose say no. Roll Call- Jeff- Yes, Doug- Yes, Kristen- Yes, Darrell- Yes, Mike- Yes, Seth- Yes. Motion carries -6/0.

Mayor Cury- Next, we are on Proposed 2022-2023 Budget- First reading of O-2022-05-03 (water, sewage, garbage, and electric rates). Do I have a motion that is ordinance be read publicly by a town employee while we are in executive session?

Seth-I make a motion that we conduct the first reading of O-2022-05-03 while members of council are in executive session. Mike seconded the motion.

Mayor Cury- We have a motion and a second, any further discussion? All those in favor of the motion say yes. All those that oppose say no. Roll Call- Jeff- Yes, Doug- Yes, Kristen- Yes, Darrell- Yes, Mike- Yes, Seth- Yes. Motion carries -6/0.

Mayor Cury- Next on the agenda is Executive/Closed Session Pursuant to VA Code Session 2.2-3711 (A) (8)- Legal consultation regarding mal-administration of a municipal corporation under the Virginia Constitution. Is there a motion to go into executive/closed session?

Mike- I make a motion to go into Executive/Closed Session Pursuant to VA Code Session 2.2-3711 (A) (8). Kristen seconded the motion.

Mayor Cury- We have a motion and a second, any further discussion? All those in favor of the motion say yes. All those that oppose say no. Roll Call- Jeff- Yes, Doug- Yes, Kristen- Yes, Darrell- Yes, Mike- Yes, Seth- Yes. Motion carries -6/0.

Mayor Cury- Council members we will adjourn into the council room for executive/closed session. While we are in closed session Attorney Brad Pyott will conduct the first reading of O-2022-05-03.

Attorney Brad Pyott conducted the first reading of Ordinance O-2022-05-03.

Mayor Cury- Thank you, Brad. You have gained the popularity of the people. I will entertain a motion to return to regular session and in so voting you are certifying that nothing was discussed other than Session 2.2-3711 (A) (8)- Legal consultation regarding mal-administration of a municipal corporation under the Virginia Constitution. Is there a motion to return to regular session?

Mike- I make a motion to return to regular session. Jeff seconded the motion.

Mayor Cury- We have a motion and a second, any further discussion? All those in favor of the motion say yes. All those that oppose say no. Roll Call- Jeff- Yes, Doug- Yes, Kristen- Yes, Darrell- Yes, Mike- Yes, Seth- Yes. Motion carries -6/0.

Mayor Cury- Is there any action that council would like to take at this time?

Seth- Mr. Mayor, after coming out of executive session, I would like to make a motion that our legal counsel seek out our Attorney General's opinion to this matter of maladministration, and just for public knowledge our town council hasn't found any previous cases. This is really a Constitutional issue and the Attorney General's office is set up just for this purpose, to help towns, to help counties, and to help citizens. So, I think this is the most proper way we can respond, and that is to seek out our Attorney General's opinion. We will make sure that we share that with Morgan Griffith and that we share that publicly when we get that response. Mike seconded the motion.

Mayor Cury- We have a motion and a second, any further discussion? All those in favor of the motion say yes. All those that oppose say no. Roll Call- Jeff- Yes, Doug- Yes, Kristen- Yes, Darrell- Yes, Mike- Yes, Seth- Yes. Motion carries -6/0.

Mayor Cury- We are now on Economic Development Discussion. So, the floor is open to discuss this. John, would you like to start us out on this discussion?

John- So, I met with the county's Economic Development Director. He spoke at our last meeting, and this is something they are willing to assist us with. This is something that I still feel hesitate in pushing this all on them and letting them manage all of this. We have a lot of projects that really make more sense to me, to have someone in-house. At our last meeting, it was requested that I have a list of those duties. We have been transitioning from Community Development focus to Economic Development, and it is still kind of in hybrid. I spend a few minutes the other day coming up with a list of what the most recent job duties are. It is not an exact list. One of the things on the list is the Revolving Loans for small businesses. If we were to pass that off to the county and years down the road if someone wanted to know how that money was spent and if we didn't have someone that worked on that in-house, it is just a little bit harder to keep tract of. It just makes me very hesitate. That is just one of my concerns. If we go that route, yes, they could help with the business recruitment and retention. Tim said he was going to focus more on the outside businesses bringing them in and Ashley is going to focus more on the businesses that are already here, but I still feel there is a gap where we could work with our businesses on things that we could do that really wouldn't be in their purview. I am open for discussion. I am just really hesitating to push that all on the county or chamber. I think there is some potential to work with them and have mutual benefits, but I really have some concerns if we got rid of the department in its entirety.

Mayor Cury- Thank you, John. My only question right now is what was the allocation in the budget for that right now?

John-Total was \$81,000

Mayor Cury- Is that for salary and...

John- Benefits and materials and \$8,000 for downtown activities.

Mayor Cury- So, what is the salary?

John- The salary was \$40,000 plus benefits.

Mayor Cury- So, there is money in there of operations for this person to work.

John-Yes.

Mayor Cury- Okay, any further discussion?

Seth- So, what are your qualifications that you were looking for with this job?

Heather- I am not really sure. I would have to look it up.

Seth- Do we have any kind of funding for this salary?

John- It all comes from the town.

Seth- I am not saying I am against this job. I am just saying we need the right person for this job. They need to be held accountable. I think you should have board involvement when you hire this person. This person should be held accountable not only to John, but also to town council if you are going to invest resources into this position. We could interview these people during executive session.

Mayor Cury- By the charter, the only people that work for the town council are the town attorney, the town manager, and the clerk.

Seth- I feel like we should also evaluate John every year. That's not a bad thing, he just needs to know our feedback. Just like with the Economic Development position, if you all choose to hire someone, there needs to be accountability and goals.

Doug- I agree with everything Seth said. We are probably a half million dollars in the hole and we keep hiring personnel and there is just so much that the citizens can pay for. Already the central office has taken \$865,000 and you add another \$81,000 to that and they are going to approach \$1 million to oversee the budget. If you take the electric out of it that \$9 million. Okay, you are taking \$1 million out of the \$9 million for the central office that is probably 12 or 13% of everything we are taking in except for the electricity. The citizens are already paying probably more than they should and more than they can afford and if you keep adding more personnel, they are not going to be able to survive and if you look there is some family or business moving out every day and you just keep adding more so they can't survive. So, I can't see adding another position. Several years ago, we had 4 people in the central office now we have 9 and then if you add your Economic Development position that's 10 just in 3 or 4 years when we had 6,500 people. Now we have less than 5,000 and you have gone from 4 to 10 personnel. I don't think that makes sense. Instead of adding more to the budget, like one of the citizens spoke, we are adding over \$1 million a year to the budget, and everybody wants something, but you have to make the hard choices on can we afford this or not? We cannot afford all of this that the Town Manager is proposing.

Mike- I'll give my 2 cents here; I believe we need the department, and we need to keep this position. We talk often and the only way we are going to increase revenue is to have businesses here. So, why stop the momentum that we have. Why would we not focus on these grants here. We literally have people trying to give us money and that would be unreal if we didn't give them the option to give us that money and us put that into our downtown and revitalization. That would change the whole face of what our downtown looks like, and you are telling me we can't focus on that because we don't want to hire this person. It is a replacement; it is not hiring a new position.

It is refilling a position. I totally support what Seth said about holding them accountable to council and seeing the results. I think the results are what we should focus on and see what their vision is for the town. We had a citizen talk about a vision. So, what is that vision? I think we need to all work together to identify the vision. I support keeping it. I think the county can help us. I have no issues with that, but I love my town too much to rely on someone else to do work for me. I think they will be a wonderful asset, but they have other towns to worry about. I want this town to be that person's focus and them be dedicated to this town and what we want to accomplish.

Mayor Cury- Thank you, Mike. Is there anyone else that would like to say anything?

Doug- I want to say one more thing. No one in this town has put more money into this town than me. Some may have put the same amount, but no one has put more than I have. I put \$1 million into this town every year. No one in this town has tried as hard as I have to put things in this town, and I never had an Economic Developer to help me. We did it all and we had help from each other and from the other businesses in the community. All you are going to do is add more to the payroll and see nothing in return. You can't give someone \$6,000 to start a business to save the town. The business won't last. You helped three businesses, but you had ten move out. It is a joke. We can't keep putting money into these things that don't produce. If you have a business, then you work it yourself. If you give someone something, it's not going to last very long because they didn't work for it. Mark my word. If you look at who owns these businesses and where this money goes from the town, it is people in leadership in the town. It is the people in IDA, and I am not saying it is corrupt, but it is not right how it is done. All you are doing is running people out of town, getting their land for cheap and getting grant money to build your own self up.

Mayor Cury- Thank you, Doug. Any other discussion?

Seth- I just think the job duties need to be clarified a little more.

Mayor Cury- Yes, I think it is a lot to ask someone to focus on all this on the top and worry about all this on the bottom as well. I would hope that we could redefine it somehow or another.

Darrell- I would like to say something. It looks like to me that the IDA is going to do things in town that has nothing to do with the IDA. They are doing more social events than they are trying to help businesses, and not doing grants like an IDA person should be doing. An IDA person shouldn't be doing Christmas letters to Santa. I just think a lot of these issues need to be changed.

Seth-I agree with what Darrell is saying. I watched my mom for many years with no pay from this town with a committee of three or four people put on a lot of these events with their own money. I know that because I was there, and I helped. All of that really changed because of an election and they no longer wanted to do events that mom and her committee had established and that's just the truth. There are people in this town that are willing to help, and I'm not saying you don't need someone to coordinate because you do. However, there are a lot of people in this town that love Richlands and they are willing to help without a paycheck. I think you do need someone to coordinate, but this really is to much for one person to do. If you are going to invest money into an Economic Development position, but this is not how you do it. These grants are important. I took part in the first revitalization grant that we did in 2000 and we took advantage of the façade grant, and it was great. It was a match dollar for dollar and those kinds of things put money into

your community and it is not only grant money, it is match money, so you are getting the benefit from that, the extra tax money. The other piece to this is that it builds our whole community, and these are great things. If this is the direction council wants to take, I think we need to be heavily involved in this position to help hold them accountable.

Mayor Cury- Thank you, Seth.

Mike- What are you searching forcensus to move forward?

John-Well, last time I had town interviews scheduled for this job and council asked that I hold off on those interviews until we decided what we were going to do. So, I let those two candidates know that council was deliberating on how we were going to move forward with this position.

Doug- Who are those candidates?

John- I am not going to put that out there...

Doug- I wouldn't think that you would.

John- It is not something that we put out to the public, if they are not being considered anymore.

Doug- All we do is hire our friends and buddies and give them a high paying salary and take it from the citizens. That is what we do.

Mayor Cury- I want to make a suggestion here, but it is council's decision. I am not opposed to the position, but I really think all these activities here are going to spread anyone too thin. By the time you get into the banners, Christmas trees and parades your time for all these other things and energy is gone, so I really think we need to pair this down. I think this is just unrealistic. However, that is just my thoughts.

John-Okay, like I said, a lot of that is from when it was Community Development, and I just don't want to just quit doing that, and it is just all kind of falling on that one person.

Mayor Cury- I will leave this up to the council on what action they wish to take.

Kristen- I do think for the growth of the town that having an Economic Developer in-house that could be a liaison with the county, who could work on the grants and be an administrator for the grants. That is a lot of work and I do think that should be the majority of the job. I understand what you are saying on we need to watch our spending, but if we are ever going to grow or bring businesses in, that money has to come from somewhere. Like Laura said, there are a lot of grants that we are not even applying for and we could probably get more money if we just had someone here to help us with that.

Doug- I think we need to apply for the grants, but we need to go out and find a professional grant writer, but not put them on salary. Pay them if they get the grant. Say they help us get a \$100,000 grant pay them 5%. I know it is illegal to pay them out of the grant money, but we could pay them as compensation for writing that grant. That way you would not have someone on salary, they only get paid if they helped us get a grant, so you are not stuck with someone who does not produce.

Mayor Cury- Doug, I will suggest this, logically it makes sense, but what if someone worked 10 months trying to get the grant and they wasn't able to get that grant. They don't get paid.

Doug- No, they didn't produce. I am just saying, we need to get a professional and they will produce, and we will get those grants and then they will get paid based on what grants they get for us.

Mayor Cury- Thank you, Doug. Does anyone else have any thoughts they would like to share?

Mike- I am ready to give a census if that is what we need to do.

Mayor Cury- John, would you rather have a motion or a census? There is more power behind a motion.

John- Whatever you all want to do is fine with me.

Doug- In that motion does the council have a choice of who we hire?

Mayor Cury- I think we need to redefine what we are doing here before we decide on something.

John-Yes, we can send you the actual job description.

Mayor Cury- I think that would be very helpful and we will discuss this again at our June meeting. Is that okay with council?

Seth- I think John could look at what the county's job description is and kind of play off that because they just hired someone not too long ago.

Mike- John, if you want to include what the process would look like if council were to be involved.

John- So, you all just want me to wait and get all this together and present this to you all at our next meeting and we will rediscuss this?

Council Members- Yes.

Mayor Cury- Okay, we are moving on to Town Manager's reports.

John- We have talked about events; I spoke with Jerry Gilbert about people using their facilities. During Covid, we allowed outside organizations to use the police station because they were not able to use their own facilities, but now everything is going back to normal. So, it is our plan to stop letting people use that facility. It is not fair to those people that are renting out the Rec Center or other places and we are using the police station as a public event center. Especially with the events that they have going on there and the liability that we have with letting the public use that facility. So, it is our plan to start pushing back unless it is something that is sponsored by the town.

Mayor Cury- You mean specifically school events.

John- School or church events or birthday parties or whatever. Just things that are not events that are sponsored by the town.

Mayor Cury- So, you are going to revisit a written policy.

John-I don't think we ever had a written policy, just during covid we were extra generous in letting people use our facilities. It doesn't make sense for the people that can use their own facilities to use ours and us take on that liability. So, it is our plan from now on to start turning those groups away, unless council approves of it, or it is a town sponsored event.

Seth- I think that is fine. My only suggestion is to just be consistent with it. Do not allow one person to use it then turn 10 people away. If this is our plan don't allow anyone to use it.

John-Right. We talked about doing it a couple weeks ago, but we ended up having an event move in there and I just wanted to make sure you guys were aware of it so when you guys start getting phone calls, you know what is going on. Unless it is a town sponsored event.

Next item is Committee/Board update. At our last meeting, I gave you guys a list of everyone that are on our different boards and whose terms are about to expire. We are still in the process of calling everyone to see if they will want to stay on for another term. We have 5 that their term expires at the end of June, so they would start a new term on July 1st. I know the Rec Commission had a new opening and they spoke with Jeff at their last meeting. I will defer to Jeff and let you guys discuss that.

Jeff- Last Monday night the Rec Commission met, and we wanted to present a person to be appointed on for the Rec Commission.

I make a motion to appoint Jared Horn to the Rec Commission. Mike seconded the motion.

Mayor Cury- We have a motion and a second, any further discussion? All those in favor of the motion say yes. All those that oppose say no. Roll Call- Jeff- Yes, Doug- Yes, Kristen- Yes, Darrell- Yes, Mike- Yes, Seth- Yes. Motion carries -6/0.

John- I have a couple different things to go over with miscellaneous. I reached out to TACs they sent me an email and the representative that I spoke with is on vacation a couple days this week. They are supposed to be sending us a proposal or information packet so we can be looking at that further.

We had our kickoff meeting with Davenport a couple weeks ago. We are still providing them with some information so they can begin the work that council wanted from them.

I also just wanted to briefly discuss pop-up. For the first year, I think we had a great turn out and we are excited about the following round to see how many businesses we can potentially open in our town.

Last thing is the ATV item. I just wanted to open it back up and see if you guys had any more discussion on that. I do have a letter of support that Cedar Bluff passed. I just need to know what you guys are comfortable with so we can get with legal and get them to help us get something drafted to send off at our next meeting. We have had a meeting with about 15 people, and they met with VDOT and there is some discussion on where we want it to stop. Do we want to allow them to go all the way to the Italian Village shopping center? Or would they need to access that on the Cedar Bluff side. I just want to make sure that we are all on the same page of where we want the line to stop, so we can send that letter of support.

Mayor Cury- I haven't been able to attend any of the meetings, but I know there has been some pros and cons, mostly pros but I think it would behoove us to study the map so we can better understand about what we are talking about and a more detailed map so we can see exactly where the vehicles are wanting to go.

Doug- Time is of the essence because it is going to be proposed to VDOT. I think Blake could speak more on the timing.

Blake- So the meeting that we had there were two plans on where the ATVs would be allowed. The map that you have was plan A and that includes the 5-mile loop starting at McDonalds and go all the way around town to the Envisions Eye Care Center. That would allow all restaurants and some town businesses that are in the town limits to have access to the ATV riders and have access to the Cedar Bluff trail. To be truthfully honest the best person to speak about this is Rick Wood. He has worked on this for years. I want to see this over the finish line for him because he has worked so hard on this. The jeep trails that come out in Raven is not what we are looking at We are looking at the ATV trails that come out up the Jewel Ridge 67 Route. So, Shanna and I talked today, under the bridge on Railroad Ave there is technically a 4-lane road and VDOT is working on a study to make sure that it is a 2-lane road. So, essentially turning one lane into a turning lane. I am not sure of all the details. However, Shanna told me today that because of they are waiting on that support from you, she hasn't been able to work with the county administrator to work up a draft of the county ordinance. So, they are essentially waiting on the Town of Richlands for this end of the county. If anyone has any questions, Rick Wood is a world of knowledge on this.

Jeff- Why can't we just write the letter of support and work on the areas later?

Mike-Yea, I don't want to be the one holding them up for sure. Jerry, do you have safety concerns?

Jerry- I was involved in that meeting. We established our routes and everything that we needed approved. The routes are from Westfork into town which gives everyone an opportunity to go to McDonalds area. We will allow them to go across the street into Powersport area and back up through town and the discussion went to allowing them to go up to Italian Village and it gives those business opportunity too. The biggest issue right now is the code will not allow ATVs on 4-lanes.

Blake- That is the solution that VDOT is working on.

Mayor Cury- So, I think the best thing to do would be to have a motion to draft up a letter of support.

John-For clarification, on this map if you come in from Jewel Ridge would you be able to go pass Virginia Avenue?

Darrell- I think this was the map that they proposed at the beginning and there should be a more updated map now.

Seth-I think we could write the letter of support and then go to Spearhead Trails, and they probably have a more detailed and up to date map that we could look at.

Darrell- The proposal that they started with cut the gateway shopping center off and that's cutting off 6 restaurants.

John- That is what I wanted to clarify. Is that what you all are wanting?

Doug- Cedar Bluff is working on their own plan and Richlands is working on their plan.

Seth- But we should connect them. They should all be together.

Doug- We need Shanna, and who is the other woman? She is a black woman....

Mike- AJ Robinson

Doug- Okay, We need Shanna and AJ to meet with us on Spearhead Trails....

Mike- I have a suggestion. My issue was safety concerns. It looks like there are no safety concerns. So, I suggest that John work with Shanna Plaster and Spearhead Trails and identify what that looks like and bring forth that resolution.

I make a motion that we allow John to reach out and create a resolution in support of the ATVs coming into the Town of Richlands. Jeff seconded the motion.

Doug- Why can't we have a meeting in the next 4 or 5 days with council and Shanna, Jackie, AJ, and Spearhead Trails to clarify all this and explain why they want to keep the certain area... and have a town meeting...

Darrell- Doug, why do you want to cut half the town out?

Doug- I don't want....

Darrell- To hell you don't. Pardon my language.

Doug- I am going by what they said. They said if you try to approve all of it that it wouldn't get approved. That is why they are just trying to do a smaller portion first. Why are you afraid of Shanna, Jackie and AJ to meet with council?

Darrell- I just don't know why you want to cut part of the town out. You like our tax money.

Doug- I am not trying to cut part of the town out. I just want it to succeed. I don't understand why you are so afraid. That would be in 4 or 5 days, and we can ask for a meeting.

Darrell- I am not afraid.

Mayor Cury- May I ask for order please. We have a motion and a second there is no further discussion. I will ask for a roll call vote, please.

Seth- Can we restate the motion. Let's make it clear.

Mike- My motion was to give John the approval to make the resolution. Are we going to have to look at the resolution and approve it?

Mayor Cury- Yes, we will need to approve it. We have to vote on a resolution.

Doug- Before we vote on it, would you withdraw it and let us meet with them and let them speak to the whole council about their position. Because they are the ones working on trying to get it approved through VDOT.

Mike- I don't need a meeting. I am ready to make a motion to give John the approval to make the resolution of support.

Doug- I just think the whole council needs to listen to them on how they can get it approved for sure. Let's have a meeting, a special meeting, in 4 or 5 days. It can be open to the public. Let them speak and tell their positions.

Mayor Cury- Brad, Doug is asking for a meeting. How many members of council have to be present?

Brad- You have to have a quorum.

Mayor Cury- No, I mean how many members of council has to be present to call a meeting?

Brad- Any member or the mayor can call a special meeting. It just has to be in a motion and have a second and for the motion to pass with 4 or more yes'.

Mayor Cury- As it stands now with protocol, there is a motion on the floor and a second.

Mike- My motion was to work with spearhead trails and draw up a resolution of our support for the ATV trails to come into Richlands and connect with Cedar Bluff. Kristen seconded the motion.

Mayor Cury- We have a motion and a second, any further discussion? All those in favor of the motion say yes. All those that oppose say no. Roll Call- Jeff- Yes, Doug- Yes, Kristen- Yes, Darrell- Yes, Mike- Yes, Seth- Yes. Motion carries -6/0.

Doug- I make a motion that we have a special meeting in 4 or 5 days and listen to those people who have worked hard on this project: Rick, AJ, Shanna, and the group to explain their position to the council, so we can help our Town Manager make decisions on which way we need to go. Seth seconded the motion.

Mayor Cury- We have a motion and a second, any further discussion?

Seth- I don't know that we need this motion. Our first motion was that we gave authority to the Town Manager and spearhead trail to just go ahead and do it.

Doug- The reason I want the meeting is because I was in that meeting, and they are concerned about getting it approved through VDOT and they told us how to get it approved through VDOT for sure. They were concerned if we tried to take in more territory that we would get turned down. That is why I want you to hear it from Shanna and the rest. I don't want to cut Cedar Bluff out. They are going their own way and they are going to get approved. Their concern was let's get Richlands approved first for sure and then we would try to get Cedar Bluff approved also. But if we tried to go for the whole thing with Cedar Bluff, then we had less of a chance of getting anything approved. So, that is why I am asking that group to come and explain why.

Darrell- Doug, that is not going to cut part of Cedar Bluff off but part of Richlands off.

Doug- I am just telling you... I don't want to cut anyone off. I am just telling you what concerns they had and what way they advised us to go. It is not my position, it is their position, and they were advising us on which way to get it approved. That is why I want them to come.

Mayor Cury- Doug, I am just trying to understand. Correct me if I am wrong. We are actually trying to have a meeting for a meeting that is proposed. So, we need to either vote yes to a meeting or no to a meeting? So, did we have a second?

Mike- We did so that we could have discussion. Doug, I have no issues learning what their concerns are and all that. I am like Seth; I think their maybe another way. I just don't think we have to all come here. I am fine with them writing a letter to each of us explaining their concerns so we can read it and process it. I am sure they could write something up.

Doug- The more council is informed from that group the better chance we are going to have to get it approved. Council, you were voted to serve the public. I don't know why... one-night, special meeting isn't going to hurt us to come and listen to that group. That is your job.

John- I will throw one more option out there. We have our June meeting coming up, we can have those individuals come to that meeting and speak.

Seth- I agree. We wouldn't be able to advertise a special meeting and have that meeting much quicker than our June meeting. We could have the draft ready and have them come and speak and bring the correct map with them and we can approve it that night.

Doug- The only thing is if we don't approve it that night, time is of the essence, and they are waiting on a resolution from the council before they can do anything. If we wait a month, that could throw everything off schedule.

Seth- It is just two weeks.

John- I haven't heard anything from VDOT yet.

Mayor Cury- Let's go ahead with the vote. Roll call vote please.

Jeff- No, Doug- Yes, Kristen- No, Darrell- No, Mike- No, Seth- Yes. Motion fails -2/4.

Mike- John, can you work it out to have those people at our June meeting and for them to have everything ready?

John- Yes, I will reach out to them.

John- So, earlier Mike made a motion and Jeff seconded the motion and there were no votes on it, then the mayor asked for Mike to clarify it and Kristen seconded the motion.

Mike- I nullify my first motion.

Jeff- I nullify my second to that motion.

Mayor Cury- I am so sorry I missed that. Thank you everyone for your help on keeping everything on track. We are moving on to mayor's comments.

My comments will be brief. I just wanted to say a few things for the town. Our next meeting will be June 14th and we will have a full agenda, and may I remind you that is flag day.

The next major holiday for us is coming up on Monday and that is Memorial Day. I just want to remind everybody that this is to memorize everyone that has lost their life for this country and all the armed services, and it has been going on since before the Civil War and most recently named Memorial Day.

We are going to have a Summerfest coming up on June 24th-25th and Ramp Up is doing that. To coincide with that, we have the section house and the section house board ask that I bring this up. We have a patio that has never been dedicated due to covid so they are going to dedicate that at 11:00am on Saturday and I hope that everyone can come.

John, we got an email and I think that Mike was copied from a citizen who had a concern about the sidewalk on Suffolk Avenue. Have you had an opportunity to look at that yet?

John- I have not, but I have it scheduled to go by there and look at it tomorrow.

Mayor Cury- Okay, thank you. So we will be able to give an update to that citizen.

I want to take a moment and thank everyone for being here tonight. As the mayor I am very grateful to see all of your faces and all members of council, we express things robustly, and I have learned that it is better to have that then no discussion at all. So, thank you all very much. It tells me that we are all very passionate about things. I think we all come here with an agenda. I have never known anyone to run that didn't have some idea to do something with this town. There ideas are their own and they belong to them, and they deserve the credit for it.

Jerry- I just want to say while we are all here, we are having the bicycle race again here in town. There will be some road closures. I just want the public to be aware of those. The roads will be closed Saturday morning and Sunday morning up until midday. Front Street and Second Street will be closed from Railroad Avenue up to the circle around next to Grayson Avenue on the far end and they will be closed on Monday from 7:00am until 4:30pm. There will be alternative routes for them to drive through. I just want everyone to be aware of that. Second Street will only be a one lane road on Saturday. So, if you are in town, I just want you to be careful.

Mayor Cury- Jerry, thank you for that. I love that we are doing this and Seth, isn't this your brother and his family that is putting this on?

Seth-Yes.

Mayor Cury- See this is a perfect example of people in the community doing things voluntarily. I think this is great. Is there a map that we could look at to see where the bicyclists are going to be so we could watch them and say hello if we wanted to?

Seth-There is a map. I will reach out to my brother and see if he can send me a map so I can share it with you.

Mayor Cury- I think that would be great and we could put it on our Facebook page for everyone to see.

Next on our agenda is council member's reports. Kristen?

Kristen- I don't have anything for tonight.

Mayor Cury- Okay, thank you. Again, we are glad you are here. Darrell?

Darrell- I don't have anything either.

Mayor Cury- Okay, thank you, Darrell, we are very glad you are here. Seth?

Seth-Yes. I will be sending you a copy of the map as soon he sends it to me, but Saturday is Time Trial. It is going to be a little smaller than last year, because last year all the races were shut down due to covid. So, we had all these professionals come here to ride. If anyone has ever watched the Tour of France, his partner Andre Rieu will be here all three days and he will be moderating the event. So, it is really exciting to have him here. Monday will be the day to just sit back and watch it and if you want to go out, there will be a finish event at the end of Middle Creek. They are going to climb this wall and it will be a mountain top finish. If you are not going to be out of town for Memorial Day, I encourage you to come out and support local businesses. It is going to be a fun event.

John, did you get an approval for the solar study? Did you figure out if we need to do an AFP report for that?

John- I looked at our Code of Ordinances and I didn't see anything that would prohibit that. However, I was still waiting on legal to double check and make sure there wasn't anything that I was missing.

Brad- I haven't had a chance to finish my study on whether or not you all needed an AFP for that or not.

Seth- Okay, I just wondering about that. While we are on this subject, one thing I want to look at while I am on council for the next couple months. I want to look at revising our procurement policy, Mr. Mayor. We have a service that is underutilized and that is Electronic Virginia. I think every bid that we have should go on Electronic Virginia and you would be amazed at the money you will save and the quality of services that you will get.

I do have an electrical update. John, did you get her list?

John-Yes, we are still working on that I am about 2/3 of the way done.

Seth- That's fine. I just wanted to know where we are at in the process. One of the things is this is not something that is going to be determined overnight, and I know that. It is a lot of information. The first step is to get all that stuff together. Once they get that package then they will be able to go over everything and we will set up another meeting. First meeting was more of a meet and greet. First off, they are very interested. I just wanted to know if this was feasible and have an open mind about it. Once they get all their information then they will be able to make an assessment for us.

Mayor Cury- Thank you, Seth. Doug?

Doug- Just one thing, I received a complaint from some of the weeds on Salyers Street and I got some complaints about potholes, but I think you are working on that. Just a few complaints from citizens, maybe we need to step up our game a little bit.

Mayor Cury- Thank you, Doug. Jeff?

Jeff- Yes, one reminder is that the swimming pool at the Rec Park will open at 11:00am if the weather permits. They are looking forward to a great pool season. I just wanted to let everyone know that it will be open Saturday.

John-Related to that. With Summerfest they have lined it out with the little league that little league will have their games in the mornings and Summerfest will be in the afternoons so that people can go to both.

Mayor Cury- Thank you, Jeff and John. Mike?

Mike- Not much from me, I just wanted to talk about Point Broadband. I did meet with them, and we will not be seeking funding from them at this point in our area. They wanted to sit down with me about pole attachment agreement, so that they are on all of our poles in the town which is how all the other providers are connected in our town. There is some red tape to go through, but we wanted to ensure that we allow everyone that can be on those poles to be on those poles to provide us with additional competition. So, Richlands and Cedar Bluff both got lucky. There are some unserved areas in Redash and Bandy that received grant funding. Because of citizens in the town that has inquired to Point Broadband about services, they have decided to service the areas in which they are passing as well as parts of Richlands and parts of Cedar Bluff. So, we are working on pole attachment agreements for all of those. They do have plans to be here and stay here. That is totally up to them and we welcome the competition for that.

Mayor Cury- I just want to clarify, who is we?

Mike- I shouldn't say we. Point Broadband is working on this. The only way "we" are involved is with the pole attachment agreement. To be on our poles, they have to pay a fee for each pole. We are working on that and there maybe some changes to our ordinances depending on what those fees are. Depending on how attractive the people are to their services, they are interested in maybe servicing the other parts of the town without any involvement from us or any money up front. So, that is very good for our area. They are doing a fantastic job.

Mayor Cury- Thank you, Mike. I just wanted to mention that we are still using the same protocol that unless you call ahead and asked to be added to the agenda you will only be able to speak for 3 minutes. If you call ahead and let us know then you will be able to speak for 5 minutes. I plan on meeting with John and Seth about this matter but until then we will be using the old method of protocol and that is 3 minutes for the public to speak to council unless you have called ahead and have been added to the agenda.

John- Mayor, before we adjourn, we need to go back, we never actually approved the budget. We suspended the second reading of Ordinances O-2022-05-01, O-2022-05-02, and O-2022-05-04 but never voted to adopt those.

Mayor Cury- I am so sorry about that. Would you like a motion on each of those?

John- I believe so.

Seth- Mr. Mayor, is there any change in this Real Estate and Personal Property Tax than what it currently is?

John- The only real changes is how the interest will be applied, but the rates are the same.

Darrell- I make a motion to adopt the ordinance of O-2022-05-01 Real Estate and Personal Property Tax. Kristen seconded the motion.

Mayor Cury- We have a motion and a second, any further discussion?

Seth- I would just like to say that if it was up to me and I am just one person, but we are voting tonight on no increase, but I own a lot of personal property and it has been significantly higher and I would like to see those rates go back down and I hope that we could work towards that and I think that is a lot of what Doug is saying. There are areas where we should probably be better stewards of public dollars. Instead of always having to come here and cut fees and taxes there are times that you could look at our budget and cut and do things that are fiscally responsible. Now I realize this is just a function and you are just approving what has already been proven. The only changes are simply the collection on the interest, and I don't have any problem with that, I think that was just improperly done last year.

Mayor Cury- We have a motion and a second, any further discussion?

Doug- Of course I am going to vote no because I don't think it is applied the way it should be. We have people that owe 5-7 years of taxes, and they are never collected, and then we have people that are 1-2 years late and they go after them. Until it is applied properly, I am not going to vote any taxes and especially Real Estate Taxes until you really make everyone not just certain people pay their fair share of taxes.

Seth- Does any of this have to do with your tax collection? Other than just you are applying interest.

John-No, the only thing is this current year of personal property didn't have a late fee and penalty. So, we are implementing that.

Mayor Cury- Anyone else? All those in favor of the motion say yes. All those that oppose say no. Roll Call- Jeff- Yes, Doug- No, Kristen- Yes, Darrell- Yes, Mike- Yes, Seth- Yes. Motion carries -5/1.

Mayor Cury- Okay, our next Ordinance is O-2022-05-02 for cigarette tax. There is an increase in the cigarette tax. Is there a motion to adopt this ordinance?

Mike- I make a motion to adopt Ordinance O-2022-05-02 for an increase on cigarette tax. Jeff seconded the motion.

Mayor Cury- We have a motion and a second, any further discussion?

Seth- Mr. Mayor I reached out to the county administrator today. I wanted to make sure I understood before I came and voted tonight. Right now, the county has already implemented a \$.25 per pack tax. What is the current rate for the town?

John-\$0.18

Seth- Anything above \$0.18 comes to the county, correct?

Heather- I don't think so. They are two different stamps.

Seth- So there are two stamps?

Heather- One is for the county, and one is for the town.

Seth- So if there were no tax then it would all go to the county? That's the way that I understand it.

Heather- Right, but it is whatever their rate is. Like when you buy a pack of cigarettes there will have two stamps and we will get our portion and they will get their portion.

Seth- But they don't get above what we are getting. If its \$0.25 and the town is charging \$0.25, they don't get an additional \$0.25 not in the town?

Mayor Cury- The towns belong to the towns and the counties belongs to the county. Does that help, Seth?

Seth-Right. So, my understanding is if the town doesn't pass this ordinance, then the county gets all the tax?

Mayor Cury- Yes.

John- I do not think they get that additional .07. Our tax is just less than the county's tax.

Seth- Okay, well I am going to need some additional clarification, because that is not how I understood my emails from Eric today.

Mayor Cury- Okay, while Seth is looking at those emails, is there any other discussion about the cigarette tax?

Seth- I just understood that if we didn't raise it to \$0.25 then the county got that extra \$0.07 and maybe I misunderstood.

Mayor Cury- Okay, did you get clarification Seth?

Seth- I guess I misunderstood.

Mayor Cury- We have a motion and a second, any further discussion? All those in favor of the motion say yes. All those that oppose say no. Roll Call- Jeff- Yes, Doug- No, Kristen- Yes, Darrell-Yes, Mike- Yes, Seth- No. Motion carries -4/2.

Mayor Cury- The next ordinance is O-2022-05-04. Is there a motion to adopt this ordinance?

Mike- I make the motion to adopt this ordinance O-2022-05-04. Jeff seconded the motion.

Mayor Cury- We have a motion and a second. Is there any discussion?

Seth- Mr. Mayor, since we have all been discussing items on this budget, is it necessary to approve the budget tonight?

Mayor Cury- John, since we are passing this broad budget is the water, sewage, garbage and electric included in this? Since we only had to the first reading tonight?

John- It is included, but we will still have to pass the ordinance separate as an emergency ordinance at our next meeting.

Seth- So, is it necessary for us to adopt the budget tonight?

John- If we do not adopt the budget tonight then it would have to be passed as an emergency ordinance so that the rates would go into effect on July 1st.

Brad- That is correct you have to have your budget in place by July 1st. You have to adopt your ordinances first before you can pass the budget.

Seth-Right. So it has to be in place 30 days before July 1st.

Mike- I think what Seth is trying to say is that we might be able to amend the budget?

Brad- You can amend an item after you have already passed your budget.

John- You can always amend your budget throughout the year as well.

Seth- I am just having a hard time approving a budget that we are still having conversations on. I don't want to approve something that I know we are going to amend because there are things we are wanting to change.

Mayor Cury- Seth, what are you referring to?

Seth- Well, one thing is the dispatch, and there is a way that we would be able to save quite a bit of money and if we approve this budget tonight, I think we would have a harder time doing that.

Mike- When is your next meeting for that?

John- I was talking to Rod about that earlier. He wanted to wait until he wrapped up the school year so he could meet also.

Mayor Cury- I appreciate you guys waiting on me, but I do not want this council held up because of me.

John- If you pass the budget though and then council decides they want to do that, its not any different than us deciding to buy a truck and then later deciding we don't want to buy it. At the end of the year if you didn't spend it, you could cut it and reallocate it for something different.

Mayor Cury- Okay, I follow what you are saying. I just wanted to make my position clear. I don't want to stand in the way because of my personal schedule.

Doug- That is what is wrong. We put off trying to cut the budget. That is why I will vote no on this budget. Just what the Town Manager said if we don't use these funds, we will reallocate it for something else. We should cut the budget to save the citizens, not reallocate it for something else. That is why I am with Seth. We need to vote on transitioning 911 to dispatch and that will save us \$300,000 and we wouldn't have to raise all these taxes and so forth. I have said this many times, if we would have gotten rid of dispatch 10 years ago, we wouldn't be in the mess we are in right now. We are just going to drag this on and-on-and waste money.

Mayor Cury- Okay, is there any more comments here?

Mayor Cury- There being no further comments, we have a motion and a second. All those in favor of the motion say yes. All those that oppose say no. Roll Call- Jeff- Yes, Doug- No, Kristen- Yes, Darrell- Yes, Mike- Yes, Seth- No. Motion carries -4/2.

Mayor Cury- John, have we covered everything now?

John- I believe so.

Mayor Cury- Okay, I just want to say I appreciate councils help tonight. We are all in this together. There being no further business, I will entertain a motion to adjourn this meeting.

Mike- I make a motion to adjourn this meeting. Kristen seconded the motion.

Mayor Cury- We have a motion and a second, any further discussion? All those in favor of the motion say yes. All those that oppose say no. Roll Call- Jeff- Yes, Doug- Yes, Kristen- Yes, Darrell- Yes, Mike- Yes, Seth- Yes. Motion carries -6/0.

Adjourned.

Rodney D. Cury, Mayor	nev D. Curv. Mayor	Rodney D. Cury, May									
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March 5, 2021

Timothy Danielson 1206 Randolph Lane Midland, Texas 79705

Dear Mr. Danielson:

I write to confirm that Tazewell County is offering you employment as the Director of Economic Development. We are excited to have you on our team and are anxious to get started building a better future for Tazewell County.

As Director of Economic Development, you will be responsible for the performance of the Department of Economic Development. You duties will include the following:

- 1. Coordinate with existing businesses to encourage expansion and mitigate any retraction by keeping informed as to the prospects of such businesses and keeping them abreast of available economic development incentives.
- 2. Prepare and submit grant and loan applications to local, state, regional, and federal economic development partners such as the Tazewell County IDA, VCEDA, VEDP, Tobacco Commission, Federal EDA and others as such opportunities may become available.
- 3. Manage and direct the agenda of the Tazewell County Industrial Development Authority, attend its meetings, report to the Board recent developments and activities of your Department, and provide them advice regarding the allocation of economic development incentives.
- 4. Report to the County Administrator regarding the activities of your department, economic activities in the County, and the performance of your staff.
- 5. Prepare an annual budget for your department including payroll needs, travel and training needs, meals and entertainment needs, equipment needs, and needed funding for anticipated and projected incentives for businesses.
- 6. Manage and delegate duties to the Economic Development Manager and Economic Development Administrator, who will report directly to you.
- 7. Meet with prospects whom you or the Administrator or IDA deem likely to expand in Tazewell County or locate in Tazewell County either in Tazewell County or at a site convenient to such business when necessary. This will include extensive travel.

- 8. Participate in trade shows, training events, or informative meetings held by industry or governmental economic development agencies when necessary.
- 9. Coordinate with the Director of Tourism Development regarding opportunities to recruit or retain tourism related businesses, as such amenities are viewed as equally important to industrial expansion.
- 10. Manage the county's grant obligations regarding various economic development grants, including workforce training grants and broadband grants.
- 11. Other germane duties as may be assigned by the Administrator.

You will work under the Direct Supervision of the County Administrator, not the IDA or the Board of Supervisors. Your employment will be **AT WILL**. This letter does not constitute an employment contract. Your employment is AT WILL at the discretion of the County Administrator.

You will be entitled to the benefits of employment including health insurance, VRS retirement, Life Insurance, cell phone allowance, and other benefits as any other employee. Your employment will be subject to the same terms and conditions as are set forth in the personnel policy, a copy of which is enclosed. You will be deemed a "Key Employee" for purposes of FMLA. All employees begin employment on a six month probationary period during which the employ's employment may be terminated and the employee would not be compensated for unused leave balances.

If you have any questions, let me know. I look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,

C. Eric Young

Cc: Tom Lester, Chairman

Chase Collins, Esq. Tazewell County Attorney

TOWN OF RICHLANDS JOB DESCRIPTION

Department: Economic Development (Previously Community Development)

Job Title: Director of Economic Development

Reports to: Town Manager

Classification: Salary; Exempt

Nature of Work

Performs and coordinates planning, zoning, community and economic development efforts for the Town.

An employee in this class performs marketing work and assists with planning and zoning duties. Work is performed under regular supervision of the Town Manager and is evaluated through conferences, review of assigned projects, and reactions of the public and property owners.

Essential Duties and Tasks

This position is under the administrative direction of the Town Manager and serves as staff coordinator to Ramp Up Richlands, Flood Taskforce, Industrial Development Authority, and others as assigned. This position also assists the Zoning Board of Appeals and the Planning Commission.

The employee is responsible for development, administration, and supervision of the Town's community and economic development efforts. Work includes supervision of all commercial development and revitalization activities, tracking and reporting of business activity; supervision and evaluation of special events and festivals; development and implementation of public and press relations activities.

Manages the daily operations of the downtown revitalization efforts and assist external consultants in long range planning studies. This includes oversite of grant management at all stages of completion.

Facilitates special Town events such as the Richlands Yard Sale, Summer Festival, and other downtown events or festivals.

Assist with receiving permits and site plan review of building permit applications, special use request and subdivision plats for code compliance; checks proposed structure or additions against zoning requirements; communicates needed changes. Assists with inquiries from the public on interpretation of planning and zoning questions; refers technical and precedent setting questions to Town Manager.

Assists in the fulfillment of Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) requests as needed.

Additional Job Duties

General Town administrative business hours are required. Additionally, this position is expected to provide occasional evening and weekend hours for classes, workshops, and/or events.

Desirable Education and Experience

Graduation from a four-year college or university majoring in the field of business, economic development,

marketing, urban and regional planning, or related discipline. Prefer at least four (3) years' experience in the field of downtown revitalization, business development, public relations, communications, or combination of the above. Must have a valid Virginia driver's license.

Knowledges, Skills, and Abilities

Considerable knowledge of the Town's zoning and development codes and ordinances and other related local ordinances. Knowledge of basic business and economic development strategies. Working knowledge of governmental laws, programs, and services related to the code enforcement processes and procedure. Knowledge of the principles and practices and applicable laws regarding planning, subdivisions, building permits, and development regulation. Ability to interpret local ordinances, rules, and regulations. Knowledge of the application of information technology to research and reporting work activities and records preparation and maintenance including GIS, spreadsheets, presentation and other software and peripherals. Skill in conflict resolution.

Ability to plan, organize, assign, supervise, implement, and evaluate work of volunteers and subordinates. Ability to plan, organize, assign, supervise, implement, and evaluate a variety of special activities, festivals, and events to promote the Town of Richlands. Ability to design, implement, and evaluate strategies to provide information to town council, staff, employees, stakeholders, citizens, and the press.

Ability to work effectively with employees and the general public. Ability to communicate effectively in oral and written forms. Ability to document and complete required records and reports. Ability to establish and maintain an effective relationship with the public, press, and other employees.

Ability to maintain budget control and administer appropriate purchasing policies and procedures. Ability to implement innovative methods to provide more efficient and effective operations in terms of business, economic, and overall community development. Ability to assist in the development of sound plans for future expansion of economic and community development.

Physical Standards

Employee must display a professional appearance and dress attire that promotes the Town of Richlands and its employees. Must be physically able to operate a variety of automated office machines, but not limited to computers, typewriters, calculators, copiers, facsimile machine and postage machines.

Work Standards

Normal place of employee will be the Town of Richlands Town Hall. Travel and training should be expected that would require out of town trips.

Background investigation and requirements

Applicant will be subjected to a physical examination, drug screening and criminal background investigation.

Wages

Commensurate with experience and education

0-Ordinance No.: O-2022-05-03 TITLE V: PUBLIC WORKS CHAPTER 50: UTILITY SCHEDULES AND RIDERS

Re-adoption of Chapter 50, and Amendment of Rates

BE IT ORDAINED by the Council of the Town of Richlands, Virginia, pursuant to §§2.2(6), 2.4(13) and 3.4(7) of the Town Charter, and Virginia Code §§15.2-1102 and 15.2-1117 (Repl. Vol. 2018), that it hereby RE-ADOPTS Chapter 50, UTILITY SCHEDULES AND RIDERS, and AMENDS the Town's Electric, Water and Wastewater rates, and Garbage Container fees charged by the Town as previously adopted on September 14, 2021:

CHAPTER 50: UTILITY SCHEDULES AND RIDERS

Section

CHOI	l	
	50.01	Rate making authority
	50.02	Definitions
	50.03	Schedule R.S. Residential Electric Service Code E05
	50.04	Schedule S.W.S. Sanctuary Worship Service Code E051
	50.05	Schedule S.G.S. Small General Service Code E09
	50.06	Schedule L.G.S. Large General Service Code E01
	50.07	Schedule M.G.S. Medium General Service Code E07
	50.08	Schedule O.L. Outdoor Lighting Code OL1, OL2, OL3, OL4, OL5, OL6, OL7, OL8
	50.09	Schedule PCA Power Cost Adjustment
	50.10	Temporary Electric Ride Service
	50.11	Local tax adjustment rider
	50.12	Water and sewer rates
	50.13	Garbage and Container fees
	50.14	Miscellaneous services
	50.15	Disconnection for late payment

§ 50.01 Rate Making Authority

- (A) Virginia Code Title 15.2, Chapter 21 authorizes local governments to operate public utilities.
- (B) The Richlands Town Council establishes utility rates, as authorized in Town Code.
- (C) Policies and procedures pertaining to standards and services are maintained in separate documents.

§ 50.02 Definitions

For the purpose of this Chapter, the following definitions shall apply unless the context clearly indicates or requires a different meaning. All terms used herein are considered to have common public Utility application. They are neither unique to the Town of Richlands, nor are they meant to be subjected to precise scientific definition.

Consumption - The amount of service used over a given period of time as measured by a meter.

<u>Customer</u> - The individual, firm, or organization that purchases service at a specific location under a specific rate classification, contract, or rate schedule.

<u>Customer Charge</u> - The established fixed fee necessary to cover meter reading, billing, and other general service costs.

<u>Customer Class</u> - Specified Customer category as determined by consumption or demand levels, patterns, conditions, equipment used, and type of service.

<u>Demand Charge</u> - That part of the charge for electric service based on the amount of the Utility's plant and resources required to serve the Customer's peak needs. Demand is the average kW to the nearest 1/10 measured by the Utility's metering equipment for a 15-minute period as adjusted for power factor.

Energy Charge - The charge per kWh of electricity delivered to a Customer.

Kilowatt (kW) - A standard measure of electricity equal to 1,000 watts.

<u>Kilowatt-hour (kWh)</u> - One thousand watts of power used for one hour. Electricity is measured and billed in kWh increments.

<u>Month</u> - Not a calendar month, but instead the interval between successive regular meter reading dates. This can range from 26 to 35 calendar days for Customers billed on monthly cycles and 56 to 65 calendar days for those billed on a on bi-monthly basis.

Town - Town of Richlands, Virginia.

<u>Utility</u> - Refers to the Town of Richlands Utilities Department, or any division thereof.

§ 50.03 Schedule R.S. (Residential Service) Code E05

- (A) Availability of Service: Availability for full domestic electric service through one meter to individual residential customers.
- (B) Monthly Rate:

Customer Charge \$9.90 per month

Energy and Fuel Charge:

All KWH...... \$0.12411 per KWH

- (C) Base Rate Factor: The above rate charges are subject to adjustment by the Base Rate Factor, Rider "BRF", which is incorporated herein by reference.
- (D) Minimum Charge: This schedule is subject to a minimum charge equal to the customer charge.
- (E) Power Cost Adjustment: The above energy charge is subject to a Power Cost Adjustment, Rider "PCA", which is incorporated herein by reference.
- (F) Payment: Bills are due upon presentation and payable at Town Hall Finance Office located at 200 Washington Square, Richlands, Virginia. Payment is due by the 15th of the month._A penalty of 10% per service will be added to the bill if not received prior to the due date. All delinquent accounts are subject to cut-off after the 20th of each month.
- (G) Reconnection Charge: There shall be a charge for reconnection of services terminated because of non-payment of bills in accordance with "Miscellaneous Services" listing included in these Rate Schedules
- (H) Miscellaneous Service Charges: Charges for additional services provided shall be made on the basis of the "Miscellaneous Services" listing included in these Rate Schedules.
- (I) Term of Service: Continuous until Customer notice.
- (J) Special Terms and Conditions:
- (1) This rate is also available to rural domestic Customers engaged principally in agricultural pursuits where service is taken through one meter for residential purposes as well as for the usual farm uses outside the home, but it is not extended to any other operations of a commercial nature or operations such as processing, preparing or distributing products not raised or produced on the farm, unless such operation is incidental to usual residential and farm uses.
- (2) (a) The rate is available for single-phase service, 60 hertz and at any available standard voltage. Three-phase service may be provided, but only under special arrangements and according to the "Policies, Standards and Specifications for Electric Service to Residential, Commercial and Industrial Developments."
 - (b) All service required on premises by Customer shall be furnished through one meter.

- (c) Resale of service is not permitted hereunder. Where a part of the Customer's equipment is used for purposes other than residential, a different applicable rate schedule will apply to such power service.
- (3) See Service Policies & Procedures.
- (K) Effective: Bills rendered after 06/30/2022

§50.04 Schedule S.W.S. (Sanctuary Worship Service) Code E051

- (A) Availability of Service: Availability for electric service only to the synagogue or church building in which the sanctuary or principal place of worship is located which take Standard Service from the Company.
- (B) Monthly Rate:

Customer Charge.....

\$10.70 per month

Energy and Fuel Charge:

All KWH.....

\$ 0.1349 per KWH

- (C) Base Rate Factor: The above rate charges are subject to adjustment by the Base Rate Factor, Rider "BRF", which is incorporated herein by reference.
- (D) Minimum Charge: This schedule is subject to a minimum charge equal to the customer charge.
- (E) Power Cost Adjustment: The above energy charge is subject to a Power Cost Adjustment, Rider "PCA", which is incorporated herein by reference.
- (F) Payment: Bills are due upon presentation and payable at Town Hall Finance Office located at 200 Washington Square, Richlands, Virginia. Payment is due by the 15th of the month. A penalty of 10% per service will be added to the bill if not received prior to the due date. All delinquent accounts are subject to cut-off after the 20th of each month.
- (G) Reconnection Charge: There shall be a charge for reconnection of services terminated because of non-payment of bills in accordance with "Miscellaneous Services" listing included in these Rate Schedules
- (H) Miscellaneous Service Charges: Charges for additional services provided shall be made on the basis of the "Miscellaneous Services" listing included in these Rate Schedules
- (I) Term of Service: Continuous until Customer notice.
- (J) Special Terms and Conditions:
 - (1) This rate is also available to rural domestic Customers engaged principally in agricultural pursuits where service is taken through one meter for residential purposes as well as for the usual farm uses outside the home, but it is not extended to any other operations of a commercial nature or operations such as processing, preparing or distributing products not raised or produced on the farm, unless such operation is incidental to usual residential and farm uses.
 - (2) (a) The rate is available for single-phase service, 60 hertz and at any available standard voltage. Three-phase service may be provided, but only under special arrangements and according to the "Policies, Standards and Specifications for Electric Service to Residential, Commercial and Industrial Developments."
 - (b) All service required on premises by Customer shall be furnished through one meter.

- (c) Resale of service is not permitted hereunder. Where a part of the Customer's equipment is used for purposes other than residential, a different applicable rate schedule will apply to such power service.
- (3) See Service Policies & Procedures.
- (K) Effective: Bills rendered after 06/30/2022

§50.05 Schedule S.G.S. (Small General Service) Code E08, E09

- (A) Availability of Service: Available for general service customers with electrical capacity requirements of 25 KW or less per month. When a customer being served under this Schedule exceeds 25 KW per month for more than two months during the past twelve months, the customer will be placed on the appropriate rate Schedule.
- (B) Monthly Rate:

Customer Charge...... \$12.20 per month

Energy and Fuel Charge

All KWH \$ 0.12066 per KWH

- (C) Base Rate Factor: The above rate charges are subject to adjustment by the Base Rate Factor, Rider "BRF", which is incorporated herein by reference.
- (D) Minimum Charge: This schedule is subject to a minimum monthly charge equal to the Customer Charge.
- (E) Power Cost Adjustment: The above energy charge is subject to a Power Cost Adjustment, Rider "PCA", which is incorporated herein by reference
- (F) Payment: Bills are due upon presentation and payable at Town Hall Finance Office located at 200 Washington Square, Richlands, Virginia. Payment is due by the 15th of the month. A penalty of 10% per service will be added to the bill if not received prior to the due date. All delinquent accounts are subject to cut-off after the 20th of each month.
- (G) Reconnection Charge: There shall be a charge for reconnection of services terminated because of non-payment of bills in accordance with "Miscellaneous Services" listing included in these Rate Schedules.
- (H) Miscellaneous Service Charges: Charges for additional services provided shall be made on the basis of the "Miscellaneous Services" listing included in these Rate Schedules.
- (I) Term of Service: Continuous until Customer notice.
- (J) Special Terms and Conditions:
 - (1) (a) The rate is available for single-phase service, 60 hertz and at any available standard voltage.
 - (b) Three-phase service may be provided without additional cost as provided in the "Policies, Standards and Specifications for Electric Service to Residential, Commercial and Industrial Developments."
 - (c) All service required on premises by the Customer shall be furnished through one meter. Resale of service is not permitted hereunder.
 - (2) See Service Policies & Procedures.
- (K) Effective: Bills rendered after 06/30/2022

§50.06 Schedule L.G.S. (Large General Service) Code E01

(A) Availability of Service: Availability for general service customers with electrical capacity requirements exceeding 500 KW per month for more than two months during the past twelve months but less than 1,000 KW per month.

(B) Monthly Rate:

Customer Charge......\$ 214.00 per month

Demand Charge

All KW of demand \$ 16.05 per KW

Energy and Fuel Charge

All KWH \$ 0.07094 per KWH

- (C) Base Rate Factor: The above rate charges are subject to adjustment by the Base Rate Factor, Rider "BRF", which is incorporated herein by reference.
- (D) Minimum Charge: This schedule is subject to a minimum monthly charge equal to the customer charge, plus such additional charges as are applicable from demand or energy.
- (E) Power Cost Adjustment: The above energy charge is subject to a Power Cost Adjustment, Rider "PCA", which is incorporated herein by reference.
- (F) Measurement of Energy & Determination of Demand:
- (1) Energy supplied hereunder will normally be delivered through one meter for a combined power and lighting load. However, where the Utility has specified separate single-phase metering for lighting and a separate polyphase metering for power at a single location, then the kilowatt-hours and demand for billing purposes will be taken as the two kilowatt-hour readings and two demand readings separately determined.
- (2) The Customer's demand shall be taken monthly to be the highest registration of a 15-minute integrating demand meter or indicator, or the highest registration of a thermal type demand meter or the highest registration of a solid-state, electronic type demand meter.
- (3) For purposes of billing, including determination of minimum bill, the demand shall be the greater of the following:
 - (a) 500 kW; or
 - (b) the current month measured demand; or
 - (c) forty percent (40%) of the highest measured demand established during the past eleven (11) months, including demand adjustments for power factor.

- (4) The Customer agrees to maintain unity power factor as nearly as practicable. Metered demands shall be adjusted to correct for average power factors lower than ninety percent (90%) lagging. Such adjustment shall be made by increasing the metered demand by one-half the percent difference between ninety percent (90%) and the actual average power factor.
- (G) Equipment Supplied by Customer: The point of ownership and delivery shall be at the load side of the transformer(s) used to supply the Customer. The Customer shall provide for the installation, operation and maintenance of all equipment and facilities required for service beyond the delivery point.
- (H) Local Tax Adjustment: This rate is subject to Local Tax Adjustment, Rider "E", which is incorporated herein by reference.
- (I) Payment: Bills are due upon presentation and payable at Town Hall Finance Office located at 200 Washington Square, Richlands, Virginia. Payment is due by the 15th of the month. A penalty of 10% per service will be added to the bill if not received prior to the due date. All delinquent accounts are subject to cut-off after the 20th of each month.
- (J) Reconnection Charge: There shall be a charge for reconnection of services terminated because of non-payment of bills in accordance with "Miscellaneous Services" listing included in these Rate Schedules.
- (K) Miscellaneous Service Charges: Charges for additional services provided shall be made on the basis of the "Miscellaneous Services" listing included in these Rate Schedules.
- (L) Term of Service: Not less than one year.
- (M) Special Terms and Conditions:
- (1) Single or three phase, 60 hertz and at any available standard voltage. Resale of service is not permitted hereunder.
 - (2) See Service Policies & Procedures.
- (N) Effective: Bills rendered after 06/30/2022

§50.07 Schedule M. G. S. (Medium General Service) Code E07

(A) Availability of Service: Available for general service customers with electrical capacity requirements exceeding 25 KW per month for more than two months during the past twelve months but less than 500 KW per month.

(B) Monthly Rate:

Demand Charge

All KW of demand \$ 4.75 per KW

Energy Charge

All metered KWH...... \$ 0.1038 per KWH

- (C) Base Rate Factor: The above rate charges are subject to adjustment by the Base Rate Factor, Rider "BRF", which is incorporated herein by reference.
- (D) Minimum Charge: This Schedule is subject to a minimum monthly charge equal to the Customer Charge, plus such additional charges as are applicable from demand or energy.
- (E) Power Cost Adjustment: The above energy charge is subject to a Power Cost Adjustment, Rider "PCA", which is incorporated herein by reference.
- (F) Measurement of Energy Determination of Demand:
- (1) Energy supplied hereunder will normally be delivered through one meter for a combined power and lighting load. However, where the Utility has specified separate single-phase metering for lighting and a separate polyphase metering for power at a single location, then the kilowatt-hours and demand for billing purposes will be taken as the two kilowatt-hour readings and two demand readings separately determined.
- (2) The Customer's demand shall be taken monthly to be the highest registration of a 15-minute integrating demand meter or indicator, or the highest registration of a thermal type demand meter or the highest registration of a solid-state, electronic type demand meter.
- (3) For purposes of billing, including determination of minimum bill, the demand shall be the greater of the following:
 - (a) 25 kW
 - (b) the current month measured demand; or
 - (c) 40% of the highest measured demand established during the past eleven months, including demand adjustments for power factor.

- (4) The Customer agrees to maintain unity power factor as nearly as practicable. Metered demands shall be adjusted to correct for average power factors lower than ninety percent (90%) lagging.
- (5) Such adjustment shall be made by increasing the metered demand by one-half the percent difference between ninety percent (90%) and the actual average power factor.
- (G) Equipment Supplied by Customer: The point of ownership and delivery shall be at the load side of the transformer(s) used to supply the Customer. The Customer shall provide for the installation, operation and maintenance of all equipment and facilities required for service beyond the delivery point.
- (H) Local Tax Adjustment: This rate is subject to Local Tax Adjustment, Rider "E", which is incorporated herein by reference.
- (I) Payment: Bills are due upon presentation and payable at Town Hall Finance Office located at 200 Washington Square, Richlands, Virginia. Payment is due by the 15th of the month. A penalty of 10% per service will be added to the bill if not received prior to the due date. All delinquent accounts are subject to cut-off after the 20th of each month.
- (J) Reconnection Charge: There shall be a charge for reconnection of services terminated because of non-payment of bills in accordance with "Miscellaneous Services" listing included in these Rate Schedules.
- (K) Miscellaneous Service Charges: Charges for additional services provided shall be made on the basis of the "Miscellaneous Services" listing included in these Rate Schedules.
- (L) Effective: Bills rendered after 06/30/2022

§50.08 Schedule O.L. (Outdoor Lighting) Codes OL1, OL2, OL3, OL4, OL5, OL6, OL7, OL8

(A) Availability of Service. Available for outdoor lighting to individual customers located outside areas covered by municipal street lighting systems.

(B) Monthly Rate

Code	Wattage	Type of Lamp	Total
OL1	100	H.P. SODIUM	\$10.10
OL2	100 (Shared)	H.P. SODIUM	\$ 5.05
OL3	400	H.P. SODIUM	\$23.10
OL4	400 (Shared)	H.P. SODIUM	\$11.80
OL5	100HPS	POST TOP	\$11.75
OL6	100HPS	UNGR (Shared)	\$ 5.90
OL7	250	H.P. SODIUM	\$18.30
OL8	250 (Shared)	H.P. SODIUM	\$ 9.15

(C) Special Terms and Conditions

Customer must sign a one-year contract agreement with the Town of Richlands. If the customer request that the light be taken down or if the customer moves before the one-year contract expires, they will be charged the balance of the contract.

(D) Effective: Bills rendered after 06/30/2022

§50.09 SCHEDULE PCA (Power Cost Adjustment)

- (A) Applicability: This section is applicable to and becomes a part of each electric rate schedule in which reference is made to Schedule PCA.
- (B) Formula:
- (1) The amount charged for each kWh of energy sold by the Town of Richlands may be increased in accordance with the following:

$$PCA = C - (BxP)$$
S

Where:

PCA = Power cost adjustment factor; provided, however, that such factor shall not be less than zero.

C = The estimated total cost of power in dollars to be purchased by the Town of Richlands for the twelvemonth period.

P = The estimated total kilowatt-hours to be purchased by the Town of Richlands for the twelve-month period.

S = The estimated total kilowatt-hours to be sold by the Town of Richlands for the twelve-month period.

- B = The average cost of wholesale power per kilowatt-hour purchased by the Town of Richlands which is recovered in the Town of Richlands' retail rate schedules, currently \$0.00861.
- (2) The PCA factor will be computed according to the above formula for a twelve-month period beginning July of each fiscal year. Should it appear at any time during the twelve-month period that continued use of the PCA factor then in effect for the remainder of the twelve-month period will result in a substantial under recovery of the power cost, the Town of Richlands may modify the existing PCA factor to recover the applicable power cost more accurately. However, the PCA factor will not be less than zero.
- (C) Effective: Bills rendered after 06/30/2022

§50.10 Temporary Electric Service Rider

- (A) Applicability: Temporary electric service will be furnished to any Customer under Rate SGS or MGS.
- (B) Special Terms and Conditions:
- (1) The Customer must pay either applicable "Miscellaneous Services" charges stated in these Rate Schedules or actual cost, whichever is greater.
 - (2) See Service Policies & Procedures.

§50.11 Local Tax Adjustment Rider

- (A) (1) When the Town of Richlands is or becomes liable to any political jurisdiction for any gross receipts tax, franchise tax, excise tax, privilege tax, use tax, or any other like charges against its real and/or personal property, or its operation, or its production of energy or the amount of energy sold to or its revenues received from the sales of energy to the Customers within that jurisdiction, the amount of such tax, fee or charge shall be added, pro rata, to the bills of said Customers for electric service rendered within said jurisdiction.
- (2) This process will thereby prevent Customers not taking service in said jurisdiction from being compelled to share such local taxes.
- (3) Such tax adjustments shall be shown on the bills of Customers affected as "Tax Adjustment".
- (B) (1) When a tax is levied on the Customer's consumption of electric energy by any governmental authority or political subdivision, it may be collected by the Town and transferred to the appropriate body.
 - (2) This local excise tax shall be shown on the bills of Customers affected as "Consumer Tax".

§50.12 WATER & SEWER RATES

(A) Monthly Rates:

		In-Town Water Rates			
Water	Water Meter Type	Fee per New Tap for	Monthly	Usage	Unit
Meter		Peak Cost	Minimum	Allowance	Charge
Size in			Change Each	in Gallons	per 1,000
Inches			Meter Size		Gallons
0.625	Displacement/Ultrasonic	\$1,100	\$13.64	0	\$3.38
0.750	Displacement/Ultrasonic	\$1,100	\$13.64	0	\$3.38
1.000	Displacement/Ultrasonic	\$1,500	\$16.44	0	\$3.38
1.500	Displacement/Ultrasonic	\$2,000	\$21.10	0	\$3.38
2.000	Displacement/Ultrasonic	\$3,200	\$26.71	0	\$3.38
2.500	Displacement/Ultrasonic	Parts Cost	\$35.12	0	\$3.38
3.00	Single/Ultrasonic	Parts Cost	\$41.66	0	\$3.38
4.000	Single/Ultrasonic	Parts Cost	\$44.46	0	\$3.38
6.000	Single/Ultrasonic	Parts Cost	\$105.18	0	\$3.38
		Out-of-Town Water Rate	3S		
Water	Water Meter Type	Fee per New Tap for	Monthly	Usage	Unit
Meter		Peak Cost	Minimum	Allowance	Charge
Size in			Change Each	in Gallons	per 1,000
Inches			Meter Size		Gallons
0.625	Displacement/Ultrasonic	\$1,100+ Labor Costs	\$17.89	0	\$4.50
0.750	Displacement/Ultrasonic	\$1,100+ Labor Costs	\$17.89	0	\$4.50
1.000	Displacement/Ultrasonic	\$1,500+ Labor Costs	\$22.87	0	\$4.50
1.500	Displacement/Ultrasonic	\$2,000+ Labor Costs	\$31.17	0	\$4.50
2.000	Displacement/Ultrasonic	\$3,200+ Labor Costs	\$41.14	0	\$4.50
2.500	Displacement/Ultrasonic	Parts + Labor Costs	\$56.08	0	\$4.50
3.00	Single/Ultrasonic	Parts + Labor Costs	\$67.71	0	\$4.50
4.000	Single/Ultrasonic	Parts + Labor Costs	\$97.59	0	\$4.50
1.000	Single/Ultrasonic				

In-Town Sewer Rates				
Water	Water Meter Type	Monthly Minimum	Usage Allowance in	Unit Charge per 1,000
Meter		Change Each Meter Size	Gallons	Gallons
Size in				
Inches				
0.625	Displacement/Ultrasonic	\$20.82	0	\$4.70
0.750	Displacement/Ultrasonic	\$20.82	0	\$4.70
1.000	Displacement/Ultrasonic	\$23.48	0	\$4.70
1.500	Displacement/Ultrasonic	\$27.91	0	\$4.70
2.000	Displacement/Ultrasonic	\$33.23	0	\$4.70
2.500	Displacement/Ultrasonic	\$41.20	0	\$4.70
3.00	Single/Ultrasonic	\$47.40	0	\$4.70
4.000	Single/Ultrasonic	\$63.36	0	\$4.70
6.000	Single/Ultrasonic	\$107.66	0	\$4.70
		Out-of-Town Sewer R	ates	
Water	Water Meter Type	Monthly Minimum	Usage Allowance in	Unit Charge per 1,000
Meter		Change Each Meter Size	Gallons	Gallons
Size in				
Inches				
0.625	Displacement/Ultrasonic	\$27.28	0	\$6.27
0.750	Displacement/Ultrasonic	\$27.28	0	\$6.27
1.000	Displacement/Ultrasonic	\$32.01	0	\$6.27
1.500	Displacement/Ultrasonic	\$39.88	0	\$6.27
2.000	Displacement/Ultrasonic	\$49.33	0	\$6.27
2.500	Displacement/Ultrasonic	\$63.52	0	\$6.27
3.00	Single/Ultrasonic	\$74.54	0	\$6.27
4.000	Single/Ultrasonic	\$102.90	0	\$6.27
6.000	Single/Ultrasonic	\$181.66	0	\$6.27

Sewer Tap Size in Inches	In-Town Fee per New Tap for Peak	Out-of-Town Fee per New Tap for Peak
	Costs	Costs
4.000	\$500.00	\$500.00+Labor Costs
6.000	\$600.00	\$600.00+Labor Costs
8.000	\$800.00	\$800.00+Labor Costs

(B) Appropriate meter type: Will be determined by Town staff.

(C) Effective: Bills rendered after 06/30/2022

§50.13 GARBAGE AND CONTAINER FEES

(A) Monthly Rates:

	Garbage Rates
Residential-In Town	\$13.50
Residential-Out of Town	\$15.65
Commercial — 1 day pickup per week	\$16.87
Commercial — 2 day pickup per week	\$32.53
Commercial — 3 day pickup per week	\$48.17
Commercial — 5 day pickup per week	\$79.46

Container Charges

1 cubic yard	\$ 8.59
2 cubic yards	\$17.18
4 cubic yards	\$34.36
6 cubic yards	\$51.55
8 cubic yards	\$68.73

\$ 8.59 per additional yard

(B) Effective: Bills rendered after 06/30/2022

§50.14 Miscellaneous Services

(A) The Town of Richlands provides a variety of services at the customer's request. Services are charged on the basis of the following fees:

Miscellaneous Services	Fees
Returned Check Charges	\$ 30.00
Service Initiation Fee	\$ 20.00
Late Payment Charge	10% of Balance
Delinquent Re-connect	\$ 30.00
Debit/Credit Card Convenience Fee	\$ 3.00
Security Deposit	
Electric-Residential	\$250.00
Water-Residential and Commercial	\$ 75.00
Electric Deposit for Commercial/Based on Average Usage	
Electric Services	
Unauthorized Electric/Water Meter Operation	\$50.00
Removal of meter found "on" without authority	\$50.00
Connect Electric Service — After Hours	\$75.00
Reconnect/Disconnect Service at Pole	\$35.00
Temporary Service	\$35.00
Zoning Permits	
Mobile Home	\$20.00
Heat Pump	\$15.00
New Business	\$15.00
Sign	\$15.00
Upgrade of Service	\$15.00
Remodel	\$15.00

Structure ad	d on / not to exceed 1000 sq. f	\$20.00
Structure ad	d on / over 1000 sq. ft.	\$25.00
New Structu	ıre – Residential	\$40.00
New Structu	ıre – Commercial	\$50.00
(B) Effective	ve: 07/01/2022	
	•	wn Council of the Town of Richlands, Virginia, that the fect 30 days from its passage.
A motion v	vas made by	, and seconded by,
	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	d designated to take effect on bills rendered and permits
		22, as pursuant to §§3.4(7) of the Richlands Town Charter. This vote of the Town Council on this the 14th day of June 2022.
		Rodney D. Cury, Mayor
		Rebekah Hackworth, Clerk

Richlands Commission and Board Membership List

Planning Commission

	Term of Office
Richard Smith, Chairman	06-30-2022
Randy Smith, Vice-Chairman	06-30-2024
Elliott Joyce	06-30-2024
Michelle Elswick- Secretary	06-30-2024
Barry Alley	06-30-2022
John O'Daniel, Town Manager	Concurrent with employment
Jeff Hurst, Council Member	Concurrent with council term

Meets on the first Tuesday of each month at 7:30 p.m. at the Richlands Town Hall. 4-year terms.

Industrial Development Authority Members

	<u>Term of Office</u>
Phillip Horton- Chairman	6-30-2024
Jordan Bales	6-30-2024
Jannis White	6-30-2025
Gary Jackson- Vice Chair	6-30-2025
Cody Elswick	6-30-2022
Craig Earls- Secretary	6-30-2023
Adrienne Cordle- Treasurer	6-30-2022

Meets on the first Tuesday of each month at 6:00 pm at the Richlands Town Hall. 4-year terms.

Zoning Board of Appeals

	Term of Office
Gene Hurst - Chairman	06-30-2023
Bill Patton	06-30-2023
George Brown	06-30-2024
Barry Alley	06-30-2025
Larry Whited	06-30-2022
Moots as needed at the Pichlands Town Hall E year terms	

Meets as needed at the Richlands Town Hall. 5-year terms

Recreation Commission Members

		Term of Office
Tony Cordle- President (Out)		12-31-2023
Craig Earls- Secretary (In)	~	12-31-2023
Corey Whited- Vice-President (In)		12-31-2025
Frances Meadows (In)		12-31-2023
Mark Gillespie (In)		12-31-2023
Rocky Hill (Out)		12-31-2025
Patricia Sizemore (In)		12-31-2025
Freddie Elswick (In)		12-31-2025
Jared Horn (Out)		12-31-2025
Jeff Hurst (Non-voting member)		Concurrent with council term

Meets 3rd Monday of each month at 7:00 pm. 3-Year Terms

Willing to serve another term.

Declined offer to serve another term.



For July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023



Town of Richlands



VRSA Members' Supervisory Board

VRSA is a member-owned and governed self-insurance risk pool through which a group of local political subdivisions - members - contribute to a shared fund that in turn pays claims and provides risk management services to the participating members. The VRSA Members' Supervisory Board (MSB) is comprised of elected or appointed officials from member jurisdictions, as well as the executive director of the Virginia Municipal League.



Josh Farrar Manager Town of Ashland Chair



Rodney Hathaway Administrator New Kent County Vice-Chair



Bill Ashton Manager Town of Herndon



Dr. Walter R. Clemons Superintendent Gloucester County Public Schools



Michelle Gowdy Executive Director Virginia Municipal League



Amanda C. Jarratt Manager City of Franklin



Michael McEvoy Executive Director Western Virginia Water Authority



Karen Pallansch CEO Alexandria Renew Enterprises



Brian Thrower Manager Town of Crewe







VRSA Highlights

VRSA is the first and most financially sound group self-insurance pool in the Commonwealth of Virginia. We are positioned to continue to be the premier provider of stable, dependable coverages and services for public entities.

This year VRSA introduces **Workers' Compensation Plus (WC+)**, an optional coverage available for members who want to provide increased benefits for their injured employees, as well as a budget mechanism for bloodborne pathogen testing.

VRSA Highlights

- Strong financials, comprehensive coverages, and stable rates see our ACFR and target equity study
- A dedicated service team for each member. 100% of staff time and effort singularly devoted to providing outstanding service to VRSA members.
- Cyber defense attorney to manage each incident. Additional resources include an application featuring a security health check and sample incident response plans.
- Risk Management Grants to support members' risk management efforts, including educational expenses for professional management, leadership, and governance training.
- VRSA Member Portal with self-service certificates of insurance, policy changes, claims information, and policy reports.
- Free, unlimited online courses for managers, supervisors, and employees.
- Informative and collaborative engagements including roundtables, training, and presentations.
- Risk management services tailored to members including site inspections, OSHA training, program and policy review, and sample policies and procedures.
- VRSA Consulting Specialists providing services in human resources, communications, public safety, and local government operations.
- Online tools and applications such as member dashboards with peer analysis, an OSHA 300 Log Reporting Application, and Insight: A Strategic Decision Support Application.
- Injunctive relief, land use, and no-fault coverages available with \$0 deductible and no member cost split.
- CompCare On-Call telephonic nurse triage and reporting services, as well as telemedicine.
- Contract review, Tenant Users Liability Insurance Program, and property appraisals.
- Grievance procedure endorsement for upfront attorney fees and EPL Assist, an online employment law resource, both designed to mitigate employment practices liability claims.

VRSA is here to protect our members and their employees so they may effectively serve their communities.







Workers' Compensation Plus



Injured employees may face expenses not covered under the Virginia Workers' Compensation Act (VWCA). The new **Workers' Compensation Plus (WC Plus)**, available through VRSA, provides coverage for additional incurred expenses, as well as the costs of bloodborne pathogen testing.

WC Plus offers reimbursement for:

- Costs associated with the adaptation/purchase of appliances/home modifications prescribed for injured workers over the amount provided by the VWCA.
- Counseling services to immediate family members or co-workers affected by a tragic work-related incident, such as a death or catastrophic injury.
- Expenses incurred by a primary caregiver during an employee's inpatient stay.
- Personal belongings damaged as a result of a compensable claim, such as eyeglasses, jewelry, clothing, etc.
- Expenses for testing for non-compensable bloodborne pathogen exposures.

Town of Richlands Workers' Compensation Plus Coverage

Workers' Compensation Plus is proposed for **Town of Richlands** under the following terms based on your existing workers' compensation coverage. Higher limits are available. Please contact us if you have any questions or would like to review alternate options.

Each occurrence limit:

\$10,000

Premium:

\$2,500

Aggregate limit:

\$25,000







Town of Richlands Contribution Summary

Coverage	Deductible	Contribution
Automobile Liability	\$0	\$19,023
Automobile Physical Damage	PER SCHEDULE	\$12,104
General Liability	\$0	\$11,641
Public Officials/School Board Legal Liability	\$0	\$6,814
Law Enforcement Liability	\$0	\$7,953
No Fault Property Damage	\$0	\$5,048
Excess Liability	\$0	\$6,680
Cyber Liability	\$1,000	\$1,210
Property	\$1,000	\$31,982
Miscellaneous Items	\$250	\$3,033
Boiler & Machinery/Equipment Breakdown	\$1,000	\$1,707
Fidelity/Crime	\$250	\$503
Line of Duty Act Coverage	\$0	N/A
Workers' Compensation Coverage	\$0	\$85,987

Scheduled credit/debit: (included in above premiums, if applicable)	
Annual Contribution:	\$193,685

Coverage terms, conditions and exclusions are only briefly outlined. For complete provisions and wording, please refer to the policy.

The "Cover Page to Member Agreement" and "Coverage Checklist" must be signed and returned to VRSA in order to bind coverage.







Town of Richlands Automobile Coverage

Automobile Liability protects members from third party claims arising from the use of owned vehicles driven by member authorized drivers.

Combined single limit for bodily injury & property damage: \$1,000,000

Medical expense limit:

\$10,000

Deductible:

\$0

Uninsured/underinsured motorists limits:

\$30,000 bodily injury each

person/\$60,000 bodily injury each

accident/\$20,000 property damage each accident

Automobile Physical Damage protects members from loss to owned or leased vehicles. Physical damage coverage includes both collision, which covers the vehicle if it collides with another object or overturns, and comprehensive, which covers the vehicle for other losses, such as fire, theft or vandalism. Coverage is at actual cash value or replacement cost, depending on the age and the value.

Comprehensive Deductible: \$0

Collision Deductible:

\$100

Garage and GarageKeepers Liability, Hired and Nonowned Liability, and Rental Reimbursement coverages included.

Newly acquired vehicles are covered automatically at no additional charge. Additional replacement cost options available. Excess limits are available.







Town of Richlands

Local Government Liability

General Liability protects members from claims arising from negligent operations that result in bodily injury or property damage to third parties.

Public Officials Liability protects members from suits arising from alleged wrongful acts. Includes coverage for errors in judgment, covered contracts and employment practices.

Law Enforcement Liability protects members from suits arising from alleged wrongful acts as related to law enforcement operations. Use of excessive force and other civil rights violations are common examples.

Coverage for **Local Government Liability** includes defense costs as well as damages. Defense costs are outside of the limits. Excess limits available.

Each occurrence limit: \$1,000,000

Medical expense limit: \$10,000

Damages to premises rented to you: \$1,000,000

Defense of certain excluded occurrences: \$100,000

Land Use Limit: \$100,000

Student Accident Coverage: \$0

Deductible: \$0

VRSA provides **Land Use** and **Injunctive Relief*** coverage to protect members from claims or suits arising out of a variety of issues including, but not limited to, land use, inverse condemnation and injunctive relief actions.

*While Land Use and Injunctive Relief coverage may be offered by other pools, you should be aware that VRSA's coverage has no additional deductible or requirement to pay a pro-rata portion for each claim.

VRSA also provides **Crisis Intervention/Violent Acts** coverage including on-site crisis and grief counseling for students and employees who have experienced a personal crisis. The coverage will also cover the expense of a media specialist to help handle the external communications following a crisis.

Deductibles are available. Please contact us if you have any questions or would like to review options.







Town of Richlands No Fault Property Damage Coverage

No Fault Property Damage provides payments to third party claimants for property damage without regard to fault. This coverage is provided on both the automobile and general liability policies on a non-severable basis. This is an optional coverage.

Each occurrence limit:

\$10,000

Annual aggregate limit:

None

Deductible:

\$0







Town of Richlands Excess Liability Coverage

Following form over primary coverage(s) listed below:

Automobile Liability Local Government Liability Employers' Liability

Current limit: \$2,000,000

Excess options are available upon request. Please contact us if you have any questions or would like to review any options.







Town of Richlands Environmental Impairment Liability Coverage

Coverage is only available to qualified members - see below

Environmental Impairment Liability protects environmental liabilities, including fixed-site pollution for owned locations and off-site covered operations. Provides coverage for transportation, bodily injury/property damage, pollution clean-up and more. Covers new pollution conditions only.

Per pollution condition (claim):

\$1,000,000

Per named insured aggregate limit:

\$1,000,000

Aggregate limit for all members:

\$2,000,000

Combined deductible:

\$250,000

The coverage is provided at no charge to members that purchase property and local government liability coverage.

Excludes landfills, airports and underground storage tanks. Coverages for these excluded exposures may be placed outside of this policy.







Town of Richlands Cyber Liability Coverage

Cyber Liability provides protection for first- and third-party losses. First-party coverage protects against the financial impact of data breaches and cyber-attacks.

VRSA was the first group self-insurance pool in the Commonwealth to provide cyber protections, starting in 2012, and the first to utilize cyber defense counsel to manage each incident and ensure VRSA's commitment to service is met.

Members have access to robust training, services, and resources to help reduce the likelihood and/or impact of a cybersecurity event. This includes free and unlimited cybersecurity courses through our Online University and access to YourCISO. YourCISO is a free cybersecurity application that includes a security health check and sample incident response plans.

Each claims limit: \$250,000

*Limits change - options available

Per named insured aggregate limit: \$250,000

Data breach fund limit: \$250,000

Fraudulent instruction limit: \$50,000 Extortion/Ransomware limit: \$50,000

Aggregate limit for all members combined: \$1,000,000

Deductible: \$1,000

Cyber options are available. Please contact us to discuss.

1st Party Cyber Coverages

Data Breach Fund – covers expenses for forensics, notification costs, credit monitoring services, and public relations services.

Social Engineering – sublimited coverage for telecommunications fraud, cyber extortion and fraudulent instruction.

3rd Party Cyber Coverages

Privacy Liability – covers loss arising out of the failure to protect sensitive personal or corporate information in any format.

Network Liability – covers liability of the organization arising out of the failure of network security, including unauthorized access or use of corporate systems, denial of service attacks, and transmission of malicious code.

Internet Media Liability – covers infringement of copyrights/trademarks, invasion of privacy, libel, slander, plagiarism, or negligence arising out of content on the organization's website.







Town of Richlands Property Coverage

Property protects property such as buildings, contents and equipment from losses caused by fire, wind, and other perils except those specifically excluded. Coverage is on a blanket basis, allowing coverage up to the full limit of the policy.

Total building values:

\$39,893,794

Total contents values:

\$13,585,025

Total property in the open:

\$3,882,432

Total combined value:

\$57,361,252

Property deductible: Wind Tier deductible:

\$1,000

.....

\$1,000

Coverage included at no additional charge:

- Extra Expense, \$1,000,000 Limit
- Personal Property of Others, automatically covered in the definition of Covered Property
- Business Interruption, \$500,000 Limit
- Water damage, including backup of sewers and drains, covered up to blanket limit
- Debris Removal, \$500,000 Limit
- Property in Transit, \$5,000,000
- Electronic Data Processing Equipment owned and used by member is included in blanket limit
- Collapse included
- Flood (Zones B, C & X): up to \$100,000,000 Pool Shared Limit, \$25,000 deductible applies
- Earthquake: up to \$100,000,000 Pool Shared Limit, \$25,000 deductible applies
- Unscheduled Property: \$1,000,000 limit for real and personal property combined





^{*}Valuation is at replacement cost unless otherwise noted or endorsed on the policy.



Town of Richlands Property Coverage

Property Subcoverage	<u>Limit</u>	<u>Deductible</u>
Flood (Zones B, C & X only)	\$1,000,000	\$25,000
Extra Expense	\$2,000,000	\$1,000
Business Interruption - Property	\$100,000	\$1,000
Debris Removal	\$500,000	\$1,000
Earthquake	\$1,000,000	\$25,000







Town of Richlands Miscellaneous Items Coverage

Miscellaneous Items provides protection for mobile or specialized equipment such as graders and backhoes as well as tools, sporting equipment and fine arts.

• Items under \$10,000 can be blanketed under one limit. Items over \$10,000 should be individually scheduled. Electronic Data Processing Equipment owned and used by members is included in blanket property limit and does not need to be scheduled.

Total Miscellaneous Items Value: \$1,298,734

Deductible: Per Schedule

Valuation: Replacement cost unless otherwise noted or endorsed on the policy







Town of Richlands Boiler & Machinery/Equipment Breakdown Coverage

Boiler & Machinery provides protection for losses arising out of the operation of boilers, pressure vessels, mechanical equipment or electrical equipment. Covers loss to boiler and machinery itself, damage to other property, and business interruption. The limit of boiler coverage is typically the same as your highest valued building.

Property Damage Limit: \$10,000,000 Per Occurrence
Property Damage Deductible: \$1,000 on all objects except
\$5,000 on all transformers>5,000 KVA but <=20,000 KVA.
\$10,000 on all transformers>20,000 KVA unless Property Damage Deductible listed above is more than the \$5,000 and \$10,000 exceptions, in which case the higher deductible applies.

Coverage is on a replacement cost basis and includes:

Newly Acquired Locations	\$250,000
Demolition and ICC	\$250,000
Perishable Goods	\$100,000
Expediting Expenses	\$100,000
Computer Coverage	\$100,000
CFC	\$100,000
Consequential & Ammonia	\$100,000
Hazardous Substances	\$100,000
Water Damage	\$100,000







Town of Richlands Fidelity/Crime Coverage

Fidelity/Crime provides protection from loss of money and other negotiable securities due to acts such as theft or embezzlement by employees and volunteers.

CRIME FORM	LIMIT	DEDUCTIBLE
Form 0 - Public Employees Dishonesty	\$50,000	\$250
Form B - Forgery or Alteration	\$50,000	\$250
Form C - Theft, disappearance, and destruction	\$50,000	\$250
Form R - Money & Counterfeit Papers	\$50,000	\$250
Form F - Computer Fraud	\$25,000	\$250

Coverage forms include employee theft, faithful performance, employee dishonesty, money orders and counterfeit paper and loss inside.







Town of Richlands Workers' Compensation Coverage

Workers' Compensation protects employees and their dependents in the case of work-related injuries or diseases. Benefits for lost wages, related medical expenses and certain scheduled benefits for specific losses as set forth in the Virginia Workers' Compensation Act.

Employers Liability:

Bodily Injury By Accident:

\$1,000,000 each accident

BodilyInjuryByDisease:

\$1,000,000 each employee

Bodily Injury By Disease:

\$1,000,000 policy limit

Classification	Code	Payroll	Rate*	Premium
Streets/Roads	5506	\$344,471	4.11	\$14,158
Water Dept. Employee	7520	\$476,768	2.98	\$14,208
Public Utility	7539	\$221,850	0.93	\$2,063
Sewage Op/Drive	7580	\$340,141	1.18	\$4,014
Ambulance	7705	\$403,929	2.97	\$11,997
Firefighters and Drivers	7710	\$78,469	4.47	\$3,508
Police Dept.	7720	\$875,356	4.00	\$35,014
Auto Garage	8380	\$82,808	1.62	\$1,341
Clerical	8810	\$621,175	0.07	\$435
Veterinary/Game	8831	\$	0.91	\$
Building Maint/Cust	9015		1.33	\$
Park/Lawn, Parks & Rec, Non Construction	9102	\$88,027	1.72	\$1,514
Garbage Collection	9403	\$209,712	6.91	\$14,491

Manual Premium \$102,742

Experience Modification .98

Modified Premium \$100,687

Premium Discount \$14,700

Deductible \$0

Deductible Type N/A

Scheduled Credit/Debit \$

Total Est. Annual Premium \$85,987







VRSA provides workers' compensation coverage in accordance with and limited to the Virginia Workers' Compensation Act and Employers Liability. Any other extensions of coverage requested in your specifications are not part of the coverage offered in the proposal.

*Rates have been filed with the State Corporation Commission and are subject to approval.





Virginia Risk Sharing Association

2022 - 2023 Cover Page to Member Agreement

MEMBER NAME:Town of Richlands	MEMBER #:0549
I. Coverages and Limits of Liability	
Local Government Liability	
Each Occurrence Limit	\$1,000,000
Damages to Premises Rented to You	\$1,000,000
Medical Expense Limit	\$10,000
Deductible	\$0
Cyber Liability	
Each Occurrence Limit	\$250,000
Deductible	\$1,000
Automobile Liability	
Combined Single Limit	\$1,000,000
Deductible	\$0
Automobile Medical Payments	\$10,000
Uninsured Motorists	\$30,000 bodily injury each person/\$60,000 bodily injury each accident/\$20,000 property damage each accident
No Fault Property Damage	\$10,000
Automobile Physical Damage	
Deductible/Comprehensive	Per Schedule
Deductible/Collision	Per Schedule
Excess Liability Coverage	\$2,000,000
Property Coverage	Subject to the Coverage Forms
Miscellaneous Items Coverage	Subject to the Coverage Forms
Boiler and Machinery Coverage	Subject to the Coverage Forms
Fidelity/Crime/Surety Coverage	Subject to the Coverage Forms
Workers' Compensation	Statutory

For the period of July 1, 2022 to July 1, 2023 Local Government Liability and Automobile Liability is reinsured for amounts exceeding \$1,000,000 per occurrence on each line of coverage. On-premises automobile physical damage coverage is reinsured excess of \$1,000,000.

For the period of July 1, 2022 to July 1, 2023 Property Coverage reinsurance is purchased excess of a \$1,000,000 retention on a per occurrence basis. The windstorm occurrence retention is \$1,000,000. Boiler and Machinery Coverage is reinsured with a \$100,000 retention except for objects over 25,000 hp, up to a \$350,000 retention.

For the period of July 1, 2022 to July 1, 2023 Fidelity, Crime and Surety coverage is fully retained by Virginia Risk Sharing Association.

For the period of July 1, 2022 to July 1, 2023 Workers' Compensation and Employers Liability Coverage statutory reinsurance is purchased excess of a \$1,750,000 retention on a per occurrence basis.

For the period of July 1, 2022 to July 1, 2023 Line of Duty Act Liability Coverage the Pool will retain 100% of the exposure.

II. Contribution

<u>See Contribution Summary Page</u>. Due 7/1/2022. See Declaration Pages attached to Coverage Forms for contributions by individual coverage lines. The contribution was determined based on actuarially approved rates. In the event of a deficit in the Pool's fund, additional assessments may be imposed by the Members' Supervisory Board.

III. Servicing Company

Virginia Risk Sharing Association

IV. Liability of Members

A local government group self-insurance pool is not protected by the Virginia Insurance Guaranty Association against default due to insolvency. In the event of insolvency, members and persons filing claims against members may be unable to collect any amount owed to them by the pool, regardless of the terms of the member agreement. In the event the pool is in a deficit position, a member may be liable for any and all unpaid claims against such member.

With regards to Workers' Compensation liability, each member agrees to assume and discharge, jointly and severally, any liability under the Virginia Workers' Compensation Act of any and all employers party to such agreement and which provides that, in addition to the rights of the pool, in the event of failure of the pool to enforce such rights after reasonable notice to the pool, the Commission shall have the right independently to enforce on behalf of the pool the joint and several liability of its members under the Virginia Workers' Compensation Act and the liability of members for any unpaid contributions or assessments.

V. Rejection of Higher Uninsured Motorist Limits

The member has read the member agreement and this renewal cover page, which is expressly made part of the member agreement. The member has also read the business automobile policy and the business automobile coverage / renewal declarations. The member acknowledges that the Board of Virginia Risk Sharing Association has not, by resolution, offered to provide uninsured motorist coverage to its members. The member understands that it is possible to purchase such coverage from other commercial carriers, with coverage limits equal to the policy's liability coverage limits, unless such coverage is rejected by the member.

The member understands that if its liability coverage limit exceeds the minimum limit set by Virginia law, the member may reject uninsured motorist coverage limits equal to the policy's liability coverage limit, and may select lower limits of such coverage, provided that the member may not select uninsured motorist coverage in an amount less than the minimum liability coverage limit required by Virginia law.

The member hereby rejects uninsured motorist coverage and underinsured motorist coverage in the amount equal to the member's liability coverage limit stated in this renewal cover page, in the business automobile policy, and in the business automobile coverage / renewal declarations. The member hereby selects the lower limit of uninsured motorist and underinsured motorist coverage stated in this renewal cover page, in the business automobile policy, and in the business automobile coverage / renewal declarations.

(Signature of Authorized Member Representative)	(Date)
Town of Richlands	



Coverage Checklist

Member Name: Town of Richlands Effective Date: 7/1/2022 Termination Date: 7/1/2023

All coverages included in this proposal are listed below with their proposed premium. If you would like to modify or remove any proposed coverages, please indicate so below. Otherwise, you may check the box to renew/place all coverages as proposed and proceed to Section 2.

This organization does not wish to remove or modify any coverages. Please renew/place all coverages as proposed.

If answering yes, skip Section 1 and proceed to Section 2.

Section 1. Modify or Remove Proposed Coverages

Comments												
										50,15 S		
	Modify:	Modify:	Modify:	Modify:	Modify:	Modify:	Modify:	Modify:	Modify:	Modify:	Modify:	Modify:
	Remove:	Remove:	Remove:	Remove:	Remove:	Remove:	Remove:	Remove:	Remove:	Remove:	Remove:	Remove:
	Renew Same:	Renew Same:	Renew Same:	Renew Same:	Renew Same:	Renew Same:	Renew Same:	Renew Same:	Renew Same:	Renew Same:	Renew Same:	Renew Same:
	\$19,023	\$12,104	\$26,408	\$5,048	\$6,680	\$31,982			- C-C-C-C-C-C-C-C-C-C-C-C-C-C-C-C-C-C-C	\$3,033	\$1,707	\$1,210
	Automobile Liability Coverage	Automobile Comprehensive and Collision Coverage	Local Government Liability Coverage	No-Fault Property Damage Coverage	Excess Liability Coverage	Property Coverage	Flood (Special Flood Hazards Zones B, C & X)	Earthquake	Extra Expense	Miscellaneous Items Coverage	Boiler & Machinery Coverage	Cyber Liability Coverage

Fidelity/Crime Coverage	\$503	Renew Same:		Remove:		Modify:	
Workers' Compensation Coverage	\$85,987	Renew Same:		Remove:		Modify:	e de la companya de l
Section 2. Available VRSA Coverages							
VRSA offers a variety of coverages targeted towards the needs of governmental entities. If you are interested in receiving a quote for additional lines of coverage not included in this proposal, please indicate so below.	ls the needs of g ate so below.	lovernmental eni	ities. If	you are in	terested i	in receivir	ng a quote for additional lines of
Property	Property Coverage for Flood Prone Areas is only available through the	od Prone Areas i	s only av	ailable thro	ngh the		Yes, please contact me

regarding a quote or flood zone determination for this coverage

National Flood Insurance Plan (NFIP). A separate NFIP policy must be written

for each building.

Federal Flood Coverage (NFIP)

Zones A & V

Hybrid Disability Program

Hybrid Disability protects employees from income loss if unable to work because of physical disease, mental disorder, injury or pregnancy.

regarding a quote for this

coverage

Yes, please contact me

r the quoted premium of \$2,500.		us provides coverage for certain expenses incurred by injured employees that are not covered under the Virginia such as bloodborne pathogen testing, home modifications for disabled employees above the Act's limits, caregiver spital stays, and loss/damage to personal belongings as a result of a compensable injury.	nization regarding any requested changes or quotes.	Date	
Yes, we would like to add VRSA's new Workers' Compensation Plus coverage for the quoted premium of \$2,500.	No, we are declining Workers' Compensation Plus coverage.	Workers' Compensation Plus provides coverage for certain expenses incurred by injured employees that are not covered under the Virginia Workers' Compensation Act, such as bloodborne pathogen testing, home modifications for disabled employees above the Act's limits, caregive expenses during inpatient hospital stays, and loss/damage to personal belongings as a result of a compensable injury.	When complete, please sign and date below. An underwriter will reach out to your organization regarding any requested changes or quotes.	Title	
Yes, we	No, we	, > €	When complete,	Signature	Printed Name

Section 3. Signature