

The Richlands Town Council held a regular monthly meeting in the Richlands Council Chambers on November 9, 2016 at 7:30 pm with the following present:

Mayor:	Jannis White
Town Manager:	Tim Taylor
Town Attorney:	Brad Ratliff
Town Clerk:	Adrienne Cordle, Acting Clerk
Council Members:	Joe McCracken, Doug Ratliff, Frances Meadows Mary Ann Strong, Rod Cury, and Larry Johnson

Mayor White called the meeting to order.

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

Mayor White asks do we have anyone that is not on the Agenda that would like to speak? Kristy Beck. Do we have anyone else? Karen Deel. Do we have anyone else that is not on the Agenda that would like to speak? Is there any other additions or corrections to the Agenda? If not do I hear a Motion to approve the Agenda as amended?

Rod- I will make a Motion to approve the Agenda as amended, Joe McCracken Seconded.

We have a Motion and Second any further discussions? All those in favor of the Motion say yes. All those that oppose no. Motion carries. You have the minutes of the last meeting, the October meeting. Are there any corrections, additions, or deletions?

Joe- I make a Motion to accept the minutes, Seconded by Rod Cury.

We have a Motion and a Second to approve the minutes as presented. Any further discussion? All those in favor of the Motion say yes. Those that oppose no. Motion carries. We will move on to scheduled public comments: Dr. Kristy Beck.

Kristi Beck- I just came to give a report of the Trunk or Treat and also the Haunted Forest. Wow, that is the only thing that I can say. When we started putting this thing together and I came to you guys in August; I had assisted Tazewell's Trunk or Treat last year and I was like I want this in our community. Wow is all I can say because it was amazing that night. The turn-out of the community when we started throwing it on social media that we were having the event and trying to pull community support from businesses, organizations, local leaders, churches, families, it was tremendous.

I had posted it and in 24 hours we had over 50 people contact us and tell us they wanted to set up a trunk. We had a total of 74 people say that they wanted to come up and set up a trunk and we had 65 people that actually set up that night. We had about 9 that didn't show up. Most of them contacted us and they were setting up with other groups or organizations. They were not there but they did set up their own individual trunks. I have no idea to venture I guess but of how many people who came to attend. I have heard crazy numbers. I took pictures of the lines that were wrapped almost twice around the PD.

I want to thank Mr. and Mrs. McCracken; I had asked them to judge our costume contest. An overwhelming response to that; it was great; we had a great turn out. I saw tons of Council members who set up trunks and were supporting the high school and this town. I was just very humbled by the way that the response and the turn out. I think I want to structure things a little different next year but overall I felt that it was a complete success. The amount of comments on the page after the event; I have never seen Richlands so alive. It made us feel good as a group coming in to put some of these events on.

I want to say last year that we realized that we didn't get to have a food vendor in attendance to help. We didn't have food at Tazewell last year. I did open it up to two food vendors. These were paying food vendors. The money that they provided to us we were able to pay the three costume contest winners. Also we had two trunk contest, the scariest trunk and then the best themed one. Life Church got the best themed they were the Angry Birds. Jama Nails was the scariest. We were able to pay our costume winners and our trunk winners out of the proceeds we did receive from the two food vendors. Both food vendors said it was their best set up to date. The coffee group sold out, I mean she just they brought tons of food

and they just sold out. So she said she wants to be on the list for next year to be the first for the attendance.

The Haunted Forest was just a huge success. We were not supposed to start until 8:00 pm but at 7:15 we had a bunch of people in line. I was like this is going to get crazy so we just started early. We started early, we got it going. We were exhausted. We were able to raise quite a bit of money. I wanted you all to know that every ounce of the proceeds that we made will continue to go to free events that we would like to start developing in Richlands and Cedar Bluff areas. We have also decided as a Lead Group all are leadership in the alumni that is put on by the Richlands Chamber. So we have decided that with those proceeds that we are going to offer two partial scholarships for anyone that wants to go through the leadership program through the Richlands Chamber and also sponsor the Chamber for their LEAD program. So we want to give back to the platform that inspired us.

I do want to thank each of you for your support for coming to the events. For attending it and for allowing us to put something like that on. I do want to say that we believe in what we do; we are nondiscriminatory group. We do not have any ill will or hardships toward any political group, any religious group, we are embracing everyone as a whole. We put all biases aside. I was a little bit disappointed in some of the things that came out with Trunk or Treat. This is a very innocent event that we put together and we are a nondiscriminatory group and we do embrace every aspect of politics as far as both groups, all religious affiliation. We are trying to unite this community. We are trying to bring positivity to this community. Thank you very much for your support.

The Mayor said, I'm sorry Kristi but what were you disappointed in?

Kristi- there was a political group that was contacted and whoever contacted this person told them that they were not welcomed at the Trunk or Treat. Said they were speaking for usin no way shape, or form did we say anything to that matter. We did not turn down anyone.

Mayor White-Do you know where it came from?

Kristi- I did not hear the conversation. I was told second hand.

Joe -it was I will have to say it was a wonderful thing. There was at least 2000 people or more there. I think it was a great thing for the town. I look forward to having you involved in next year and I would like to thank everyone else that participated. All the trunks and everyone and y'all done a wonderful job and thank you very much.

Mary Ann- we really appreciate all the efforts and you all have to be exhausted. Thank you for all you time and effort. I am very sorry to hear the last comments. I can just tell you as Council that we will do our best to not let that happen again.

Kristi-Thank you I appreciate you all doing that. I don't know how much candy I gave away but it had to be 5000 pieces at least. They just kept coming and I thought I am going to run out of candy. I think most of us did.

Kristi- I wanted to say something about Patrolman McGhee with the Police Department. I spoke to Frank after the event, he was phenomenal, he directed traffic, he asked me the whole evening is there something else that I can do, and can I help you. So I really want to extend a thank you because he just went above and beyond that night and he did a great job.

Karen Deel-I also want to thank everyone for attending and for the success that we have had with the last three events that we have had. The Trunk or Treat was an exceptional event. Unfortunately, I feel that our Freedom Festival We have worked very hard and unite and work together and actually do not like to have to set here and say what I am about to say, it disturbs me greatly. I think it is against everything that you all stand for and it is everything that I stand for. I am disappointed in the event, some of the events that had happened before and during the Trunk or Treat events. The festival committee has worked very hard the past four years to establish good working relationships with all departments, every single one of them. We have never experienced any type of issue in the past. In my opinion there was a tremendous disrespect, a lack of professional courtesy, blatant and intentional interference, and lack of

insight into the situation. These behaviors to me show an apparent lack of leadership skills and the inability to provide unity and cohesiveness in our community. The Trunk or Treat event, the veteran's parade and all of our hands cannot and will not discriminate in any way against any individual or group. And further more I will not discriminate against any person or groups that attend R and R events. This event is sponsored by we, Tazewell County and the Freedom Festival committee. The person that Kristi is referencing and I am referencing is or was not or has never been a member of LEAD Tazewell County or the Festival Committee. Unfortunately, being over the Committee, I received a lot of flak over the issues with the Trunk or Treat. I received a phone call on one of the political parties represented and they stated to me that they had received a phone call from the Richlands Police Department telling them not to participate. In addition, I had a Freedom Festival Committee member that was a vendor at the Trunk or Treat that was asked to remove a flag from his trailer. This vendor was not aware of anything that he had done wrong. I was also brought to my attention unfortunately that I needed to address Frances having her Council sign, which I refused to do. I told the vendor that I would not, and I was not telling him to take his flag down and I was not telling Frances to remove her sign. If we did that then I was going to have to go around and tell the little kids that were dressed up as Trump or Clinton to go home. In addition to myself, which I think we all have a right, I don't care what party you are whether you are with the KKK or whatever party you show up here as you have that right and I will not discriminate against any person or organization. If the Richlands Police Department does not want the events conducted at the Police Department then please tell us and we will find another venue, we will work on this anyway that we know how. I don't know how all of this happened but I feel that we owe Kristi and Brian Beck a tremendous apology for what they endured. She caught a lot of flak as well as myself. I also think an apology is owed to Timbo Dye and I would request that if we have any further events at the Police Department that we all try to work together and the police try to do something different because we have never had any problem with any department in this town. I cannot say enough good things about the street department, the electrical department, the town hall staff, Hobert's bunch, it doesn't matter if we just say we need or whatever we try to do everything that is convenient and easy and try to take as much flack off of everybody that we can. We took the guidelines and gave them to the town hall staff because I know there was a lot of misinformation that the situation it was like the whole event got hijacked from Kristi and that was my opinion and if anyone wants to discuss it then fell free to contact me. Believe you me I have had both ears burned off. I would like guidance; I would like for you all to know these types of things that have happened here. I do not believe it is right. I think it is a disgrace to this town. I do not like to have to stand here and say something like this. Because we have worked very very hard to provide a few decent events in this community.

Joe- The guidance was supposed to be a-political. It was announced in the Council meeting prior to Trunk or Treat. Sorry that you caught slack, anybody caught slack. But it was discussed in Council. Council said that it would be a-political. This means no publicizing political parties. Evidently that was done. So that is where you caught the slack.

Karen-I caught it and I don't know if, I don't think I should be the one to tell someone that they have to leave or that they can't do something. I don't think you would want to go to a little kid at Trunk or Treat and tell them that they had to leave or go home.

Joe- From what I hear it was a sign and maybe some political thing. We discussed it in Council that it would be a-political. That means no political. There was some so therefore people vented ok. That is all that it was.

Karen-Kristi had spoken to both political parties and nobody had any problems until all these people started these all with me. I think that Kristi and Brian were placed in a very bad situation.

Joe- I think they done a wonderful job and they handled it well and I look forward to working with Kristi at a later date.

Karen-If we are going to pick and choose who can be in our events, then I think we need to take a step backwards.

Joe- it is not who can participate. We said here no one is opposed to saying that it is a-political, which, means that no one be political. It did happen and that is where the slack came from.

Joe- Was the other party there? Seems like to me, if Kristi is in charge of it, she should set the guidelines and clear them with the Council. I think, we can't make the rules and then tell someone else they can do what they want. I mean if we had a problem we should have went to Kristi or whoever was over the project and voiced our concerns. I don't think we should have set up here on Council and give her a set of rules and not going to let her be in charge.

Joe- Council did not give any other rules other than saying that it would be a-political.

Kristi- I just want to announce again in our event. When the parties contacted me, my response was that this is a children's event, candy can be given out, you can come and represent your organization and no discrimination and you cannot have any political flyers or to do any adult type campaigning. It was a children's event. That part was completely agreed and they said they were just happy to be a part of a community organization. That is how I left it with them. As what we were trying to develop we did not want to discriminate against any organization. I was not here for the town Council meeting when you all made that decision. I had spoken to these organizations two months prior to you all making that decision.

Rod- Kristi, I want to say something. I don't think it was quote "a decision". I was the one that said A-political. Because I had heard that Tazewell County wanted to be A-political at a children's event and I pretty much think that is what it was. It was just a consensus. It wasn't a vote or anything. I think there was probably some kind of misunderstanding. I am sorry that you had to take the heat. I don't think that was the intent of the Council to do that make any rules. I was echoing what I had been told. You had contacted the parties and it would be A-political.

Joe- I think where it got all out of adjustment was that we had voted in maybe August on the event and it was said that and then I guess it was in the September meeting that Council came back and reversed. We didn't vote on it, but it was discussed and changed. You were not here to represent your bit on the event. I think that this is where it got all confusing to the people in the community. I had several calls they wanted to know when first when are you doing this and know you have got two nights. This was a very confusing thing. Lack of communication. I think that is where is got all out of sorts.

Rod- I will specify and I think you are right. I think one of the things that I said or I know I said. I didn't know that they had voted on. I wasn't at the meeting. So nothing was said. I could ask sue to reference the minutes but they were not here. To be clear about it, the only thing that was really changed was having Trunk or Treat on Saturday night and regular trick or treat on Monday. As far as the a-political part, none of that changed.

Karen- I mean it was a-political nobody was out there being ugly or being rude. Our community came together it was a very positive thing for our community. We were not willing to discriminate. I did not contact any of the parties they contacted me. So when they contacted me I was very straight forward and I have it in writing of exactly what I said. There will be no handing out of material, your flyersit was Republican Party but this is a children's event and we ask that you handle yourself in that way.

If I can just add to what Kristi is saying? My name is Kristy Justus I am a member of LEAD Tazewell County as well. From my perspective I felt like the issue was more that the organization was asked not to participate more so than signs were asked to be took down. To me there is no reason why in a community event like this that it would be made plain that this is a children's event we are not campaigning, we are not handing out materials as ... we don't want an organization told that they cannot participate in a community event if they are willing to abide by what we have set forth.

Joe- I think it was great, I still think it was good. Sorry there was any slack.

Rod- I am thinking the same thing. I am so sorry that you had to take the heat Karen because as hard as you have worked for these events you don't need that. It is life, it always happens. You can't control the temperature to suit everybody. To give an analogy in life. But if you get a room that is hot, then it is too cold. Bottom line is that it was extremely successful. That is what we need to concentrate on. Thank you so much.

Frances-Can I say something? I want to apologize because I did not think anyone would see my small sign in the back of my car. I had to prop my witch up with my sign that is the only thing that I had in my car. I apologize I did not know.

Joe- it is all totally irrelevant now, it is over, it is done.

Karen-It was a good event, a lot of things happened that should have not happened. Just from here forward, we have all worked very hard to do good community events and to get along with everybody in all the town departments. It has been really bad.

Joe- Well it is handled and thank you very much.

Karen-I think when we do this another year, we need to make an effort, whoever is in charge of the event are aware of all the rules, whether they be from Council or the event coordinator. We need to make sure that we have coordinated everything.

Frank-May I speak? I feel like I have got to come up here and defend us. At no time, has anyone told me that there was a problem with the festival, Trunk or Treat, anything. I know there was an incident between Timbo and one of my officers and I referenced mine. That was taken care of and done away with. Now I had never heard any issue of us having a festival at the Police Department. I have done nothing but bend over backwards to help the festival committee. For somebody to come up here and say something that I have said or my department doesn't want the festival to be there is dead wrong. I would not apologize to anyone for that.

Joe- I don't know where this information came from, I had never heard it.

Frank- I don't either, if you have got a problem you need to come tell me.

Karen-I think Kristi spoke with you.

Frank- Kristi spoke with me about one incident. Timbos that is it. Kristi is not here for the festival committee.

Karen-It has nothing to do with.

Frank- that is not what you said.

Karen-What I was saying if you don't want.

Frank- To me, you all decide where things go, if you decide that it is going to be at the Police Department then I am going to do everything in my power to make sure that everything is done safely. Everything that goes around is good. I have not missed one festival since I have been chief. I have been at every one. I have not got paid one penny to be at any one of them. It has all been gratis work. My department has done everything, we have not had anybody hurt, and we have not had any incidents. Did I agree that the festival should be at the Police Department? No I didn't, I stated my opinion, and I think it should be in town and not at the Police Department. The committee said no we want it there. I said okay if it's there I said we will do everything that we can to make sure that the festival is the best that it can be. I do take offense to someone saying that my department doesn't want the festival to be at the Police Department. That is totally wrong.

Joe- Good job Frank.

Frank- If someone has a complaint with my department, you need to come to me and tell me what it is.

Mayor White-Frank, I will have to say everything that I have asked you to do, you have done it. I really appreciate it. I know you come to a lot more of the meetings than I do. I would have to commend you on your effort.

Karen-Can I speak to one more thing? I was saying if you had a problem.

Frank- That is not what you said.

Karen-I have it written right here.

Frank- Then you must have read it wrong.

Karen-If the Police Department does not want...

Frank- That means that we have insinuated that we don't want it there.

Karen-This is the only time that we have had a problem.

Frank- You could have told me about it.

Joe- There is no problem, continue on Frank.

Karen-I think you done a great job that is all I can say.

Joe-We will just make sure that everybody understands who is in charge and what is going on. I do thank you for your support Frank.

Mayor White-Okay we will move on. Richard do you have a report from Planning Commission?

Richard- before we get started on this. I do want to speak. I feel like I have got a little bit of range to ...what Ms. Deel stated. The officer that she is talking about is me. About a complaint from one of the vendors or about one of the vendors. I know you all kind of sit up there and looked bamboozled. Let me tell you a little bit about what was going on. He was flying the flag and I went to Ms. Beck and said I have got a complaint, do with it what you want to. They both looked at me like okay. I went to Timbo and asked him professionally and said we have got a complaint. Honest to god he cussed me till a fly wouldn't land on me. This is one festival I am going to remember. I had every right to arrest that man in front of 2000 people. I didn't, I restrained myself. I contacted Chief Dorton and that was the only complaint we got, that was it.

Joe- Good job, thank you for doing your job.

Richard- now to get back to the business in hand. November 1st, the Planning Commission met and the Motion was passed concerning the 2016 comprehensive plan. It is with great pleasure that we are able to present to you the product that of course Mr. Taylor has been twenty-eight years in the making the plan is meant to be a long term vision for the Town of Richlands. It is also considered a living document meaning that the plan will be needing updated and changes from time to time being recommended that the plan receive a major update every five years. We realize that this is not a finished product. We already have some changes that we need to make. Some additions, what we are requesting is that our Planning Commission and before I get into that I want to commend Councilman Cury and Richard Smith. Both of these guys worked on this a whole lot longer than I did. The product that we are able to produce to you is hopefully what you have been looking for. In order to be a part of the review process, what the Planning Commission is requesting is that after you have done the community review, the comprehensive plans as well as we understand there is going to be a few new Council members and give them time to review it. The Council will set a hearing with the Planning Commission. They will have the final approval. If you have any questions refer them to Mr. Taylor.

Tim- I would just like to elaborate a little bit, of course I think you covered all of it. I think it is a very good product. With these living documents there are always going to be changes to the moving target. Please excuse the small maps, this is just a copy to do that. If you can't read anything we have bigger maps that you can refer to but we will have this digitally available too. If you are ready to start with it. We will put it on the website and make it available. Once you have the public hearings and we get our consultants to come in and help with that then these will be huge drawings that you will see and these maps will be in large print so that folks can get down and put their finger on it and touch it and they will be able to talk with you about it, the Planning Commission members and also talk to the consultants. We want to be able too. What makes this work and what makes it more than just a dust collector on a shelf is the interaction of the community. It is their plan you can change if it doesn't appeal to you that is what the discussion is for. I would hope that the Council would at least delay their first public hearings to at least January or February to give the new Council members a chance to review it and get familiar with what they are doing.

I don't think they have served on any Council before. It is kind of a new thing to do. We also expect the folks that are not serving to come and participate too because you are part of the community and we would like to see everybody we can to do that. What we don't have on here from the Planning Commission is the mission statement. We feel strong about a mission statement. They have one we just haven't got it on there yet. We have some five year needs assessments, numbers, and some clips, capital improvement plan numbers that have to be updated by staff. That is pretty much it, so what will happen, once those are available we will go ahead and give them to you so you can change them to the sheets out in your booklet. We would like to get it on the website. So really Planning Commission wants to go down this journey with you. They want to participate in the public hearings as a joint public hearing. They hope you allow them to do that. I think it will be much more productive. Richard can speak to that and we have some Planning Commission members here to speak to that. We think that it is that important to get this document in place as real as it can be. So things that you don't like about it or things that you would like to add or whatever, it is open to discussion. We are not in a hurry to get it where it needs to be unless it is right. Or as right as it can be. Just keep in mind it is a broad brush, it is not real detailed in certain areas. Some things we can't change because they refer to things like in VDOT, so keep that in mind. VDOT issues well they don't make any sense well we have to leave those in there until they change them. So that is basically it. That is all I had to say. I hope you when you do set your public hearings that it will be joint public hearing when you do that.

So do we think that possibly after the December meeting that we could make it public, I know the REEC committee and the Chamber members are really anxious to read this so would that be.

Tim- I say do it now.

Rod- can I add one thing? On page one in the second paragraph it is comprehensive plan. If you go on down, there the key words here are it is meant to be a living document continually reviewed and updated with a major update least every five years per the code of Virginia based on changing conditions of shifting resources. I think that is really critical to read that. I am just telling you that a living document is always subject to change. As the members read through it keep this as a guideline. It is a living document it is not rigid. I just wanted to point that out.

Okay so you are putting this out as a draft and it can be revised?

Richard- what our plan was basically was to allow you guys to go ahead and see it and review it and we know you are going to have some additions. Along with the joint public hearings we are hoping to get some recommendations from the public and then make all changes at one time instead of having to go back and forth. Like to echo Mr. Taylor's sentiments. Mr. McCracken, Ms. Meadows you have been waiting on this project we would like to say stay involved with us.

Frances- thank you so much Richard.

Joe- thank you for doing what you do Richard. For taking on this job recently.

Richard- that is the reason that I wanted to talk about Mr. Cury and Mr. Smith.

This is only the first part right? There is two parts.

Tim- the other part is a whole different subject. You will read it.

Then the Council gets involved and then.

Tim- this needs to be approved first. That is the reason that we wanted to get it done.

Joe- this is step one.

Tim- I would recommend like you said let's go ahead and if you want to have a public hearing in January have one, something not during Council. Then if you have to have another one in February because hopefully you will have lots of people. You will have to come back and look at it again. Maybe come spring just target to adopt it.

Doug-Could we go into closed session on this, for a few minutes?

Tim- not this but you might find another.

Joe- since this is a draft there is nothing set in stone.

Doug-I want to go into closed session to talk about what we discussed about in closed session before.

Tim- just keep in mind that this is the comp plan that is real general in nature. We do have some errors on some of the maps by the way. You will find those to be corrected. We have some typos too, they are working on them, and they just didn't get done in time.

Let's let him look that up and let's move on.

Tim- so it is good to post it and give it to anybody that wants it?

There are many anxious people that have been waiting a long time. I am excited about it.

Rod-I want to say one more thing Tim. I have done some work, Richard has done, and the staff of our town. Tim and his staff have done the bulk of the work and we did hire a professional company to help us and we talked about this at the meeting. For years we did try to do this in house to make some progress even before my time. We made some progress and then something would have to come to front and this would have to go to the back burner. So actually our employment of a professional company it enabled us to get this product to Council to review and to the public. I appreciate Richard giving me some credit and Richard some credit. The real credit goes to the town manager and his staff. The company extracts a lot of information from VDOT and other public amenities. They also take information that is given to them by the staff which is so important. I appreciate the recognition but I am going to share it properly. I am very honored to have a part of this. Over all I think it will be good to have a few adjustments but I don't think there will be huge amount.

Okay we will move on to the Council member report. Rod you are first.

Rod- thank you Mayor White. I don't have much tonight. Let's see we are coming upon Thanksgiving, which I can hardly wait. To give thanks and enjoy family. Probably the most important thing that I have tonight is to fill a position that we need filled. That is the Planning Commission usually picks somebody from the membership to represent the town and the Council on the Board of Zoning Appeals. So I had spoken with Mrs. Hart and she has agreed to serve as our representative of the Board of Zoning Appeals. So Mrs. Virginia Hart we want to thank you for accepting that. I talked to her about it and she said she was glad to do it. First it is the Planning Commission and now it is the Board of Zoning Appeals. Thank you very much.

Do we need to put that before Motion?

Rod- yes we need too. I am just going to sing her praises. Being a public school teacher am I correct in the busier you are the busier you get. Thank you very much I appreciate it. That being said I would like to put Virginia Hart's name forth for the nomination to be our representative of the Board of Zoning Appeals.

Mary Ann-I Second it.

We have a Motion and a Second. All those in favor of the Motion say yes. Those that oppose no. Motion carries. You can do some more work.

Thank you Mrs. Hart.

Do you have anything else Rod?

Rod- actually I don't right now. Maybe a little bit later but for the moment I am okay. Wait I do have a personal thing. The Police Department, I had an issue on my property and it turned out to be nothing more than cowboys and Indians. So with all the innocence that can come with children playing on your property. I was concerned about liabilities. Sometimes what we think can be so awful can be so innocent. Thank you Richard please pass that on, oh Chief Dorton you are back, thank you very much for taking care of that for me as a citizen. I am good now.

Joe- I would like to say that Mary Ann, Tim, and I discussed crosswalks here in town to try to make them safer. We may have come up with some solution. Mary Ann if you would like to elaborate would be good.

Mary Ann- thank you Joe. We did have a very good meeting with Mr. West of the Street Department. We already, the town paints the crosswalks and that is always done and there are glass beads that are in those. What we have asked for from the Street Department is that there be some more signage because people driving up sometimes they are not seeing the road. So we requested more signage, possibly there are some crosswalks that have the buttons. The biggest solution that we came up with is education. Maybe by the next meeting (Brad). I don't expect you to know this. You are very good; could you research and let us know what the fine might be? The pedestrians always have the right of way. We would like to make sure that everyone knows what the fine is. We are going to do our very best to enforce that and make it safer for our citizens.

Joe- we will put it on the access channel, what the fine may be, and what the penalty incurs.

Maybe give it to Jim and get him to run a piece in the paper.

All the crosswalks have good lighting don't they?

Tim- we are going to review all the ones and see. There are more than what you think. Some of them can't be put as near as people would like them to. As far as signage we can't put it in the road because of removing snow and liabilities issues.

Joe- we are talking about are there current type signs on the sidewalks? Like electronic signs maybe where you push a button and it tells you when to cross? That is what we are leaning toward. We have a few of those already. It shouldn't incur a lot of cost.

Tim- I think we had them bought for the intersection here at Hurst Scott and maybe a few other areas, I think we have had them purchased. Kevin is not here tonight but I think we do. I hope we don't have any more cost with it.

Mary Ann- possibly some of the signs like pedestrian crossing.

Joe- the main thing is educating the public. Our crosswalks are wider than normal. You can see them more clearly. Anyway it was a good discussion and hopefully we can get some things done for the safety of the pedestrians here.

Brad-To the Council that is found in VA Code Section 46.2924 and the fine is \$100.00 to \$500.00. The fine is a penalty it is viewed as a traffic infraction with a penalty of \$100.00 to \$500.00.

What determines the amount?

I imagine if there has been prior.

Tim- state code right?

Joe- that is good we just need to make that known to people in town. Put it on the access channel. Try to make people aware of pedestrian's crosswalks.

Brad-Consequently, a judge would make that decision to the fine.

Depends on what kind of mood he is in.

Do you have anything else Joe?

Joe- yes mam. I have another thing. We have discussed it in somewhat. That is fluoride in the water in the town of Richlands. I have done more research on that issue, I know Mr. Cury has. I think Mary Ann has also done more research on that issue. At this time, I strongly advise putting fluoride in Richlands water. From the research that I have done, it seems to be more beneficial, not just for teeth, for total health. It does affect the wellbeing of children for twenty years or so. So the research says that I did. If any of you would like to elaborate on what you all found. I know that we have done some research on. If anyone would like to say something.

Rod- Mary Ann would you like to?

Mary Ann- I will follow you if you don't hit the same points that I have discovered.

Rod-at our previous meeting we talked about it. The associated cost and the research, I tell you what I did I asked people who were in dental practice out of the town of Richlands so they won't be removed and none of them will appear before Council because they don't want to get involved in any of these issues. All of these people are very reputable and they strongly recommend it. That being said, I went to the ADA website. The American Dental Association, the National Institute of Health and Center of Disease Control in Atlanta. I read and their recommendations universally for the communities are to include fluoride in the drinking water. The consensus is that the addition of the fluoride in the water does much more than what we would think that fluoride and toothpaste does or any other addition. It is systemic when you drink it. It becomes a health preventative. Disease prevention not only for decay but for other things like heart disease, very much associated with dental hygiene. They also talked about numbers. I didn't print that out but I can I would be glad to for future Council reference discussion. About the cost, I think this is the ADA website. The cost to a tax payer is \$1.00 for every \$38.00 that they would spend at a dentist to have their teeth repaired, filled, or whatever, because of the lack of fluoride. There is really a cost saving to the public. The other thing is there is a long term; did you mention the twenty years? If we were to totally pull this away from our system, the effects of it don't show up for about twenty years. We might not be around here to see how our children and in particular children, young people are affected by it. It is a generational thing. So that is something else that I discovered in my reading and just a ton of things more than I can think about. I should have printed it and brought it. I will the next time and bring it to Council so we can discuss it or whatever. I also looked at all the associated risks. The risk of cancer and there was a particular type, I don't know what it was, I am sorry I just can't remember. I would say microscopic compared to the benefits. This has been a concern in the United States about adding chemicals to water. We add chemicals a lot anyway don't we Tim? Of the various kinds to keep it nice and clean.

Tim- yea but that is a little different. That is definitely monitored a little closer. The fluoride has nothing to do with the cleanliness or the production of safe drinking water. It is an additive; it is a drug that is added for you for specific purpose like teeth and dental hygiene.

Rod- and whole health, I just wanted to bring that up.

Tim- you don't have to have it. The other stuff you do have too.

Rod- right you don't have to. I wanted to tell you what I was reading and thinking as I reared back here in my home style, as I feel like I am in my living room with friends. That is a good thing. The other thing is the economic benefit to the community. When people are looking to locate to a community they ask about your schools, your governments, your hospital care, people that we hope to attract to our town, are going to look at things, what you do. If you say that you don't add fluoride to the water, you are not seen as being progressive in your health. There could be a long term liability by letting people down who want to come here potentially because we don't give the appearance of it and we really wouldn't be acting in the best generation to things to come. That was what I read and there may be other views so I'll pass the torch.

Mary Ann-Thank you. I would like to pass along appreciation to Ginger Branton. She sent all of us an email and I hope that you had the time to read that and watch that. It was extremely eye opening. I don't think we want our community to become like those communities. It was very sad. I would again like to thank Ginger for that. We had discussed the fluoride issue at the Richlands Economic Enhancement Committee meeting that Tim has been at. Something that was brought up there was really important too was that our water goes to other communities. Tim pointed that out. If we choose to not have fluoride, then obviously all the other communities that the water goes to has to be notified.

Joe- could I ask my town manager, if there is a price incurred in this to make our water better, safer, we can pass some of that cost along to the people that we deliver their water to.

Tim- it is embedded in the cost per thousand to everybody. It is embedded already. It is really more, well everything cost money. It is really more about the product. We are at an impasse, so there is always a

discussion of communities that we need to make sometimes. This would be the third discussion of this in my ten years that I have had. It is something that you need to decide as a community. I would just recommend that you take time to get all sides before you decide anything. Maybe even dedicate a public hearing to that so you will have more than just the business meeting at the town hall. You might want to solicit somebody that feels really strong the other way and listen to it before you make a decision.

Joe-I don't know who that might be I mean it has to do with public health and public safety. That we can take care of you know ourselves and make it better for our community. The people that we do sell water to and they help incur part of the cost.

Tim- Yes it would be in the cost per thousand. It always has been. I just want you to get more facts that is all.

Doug-I like that idea to get more facts. There are pros and cons for it. If we got both sides of it. I mean here is one guy that is saying you are blasting fluoride and is really against it.

Tim- There are two sides to it. That gives you the ability to make the best decision.

Doug-He is a doctor and he says join the revolution said it is time for your health to rein. He is talking about lead, fluoride combines with lead and deposits lead in your bones and so he has got a bunch of cons as to why not.

Joe- is that lead that is already in the water?

Doug-It is coming out of the pipes. So there are two sides, I would like to get both sides and let the community come and base their opinion. Then make a decision.

Tim- that would be fair because there are other sides. I want you to see them all that is all.

Mary Ann- I was just going to say that at last meeting, it was mentioned that toothpaste, mouthwash has fluoride in it. But I learned something after that, a very well respected retired dentist Dr. Joe Adair approached me and he said that is just topical that is different kind.

Joe- different kind and very minute.

Mary Ann- Then I talked to a pediatric dentist because we also talked about and I agreed with this point too. Bottled water is becoming very popular. A lot of people said we don't even drink the tap water. But the pediatric did say that low income families they are not buying bottle water. You know what those kids drink, Mountain Dew, even worse. It is like Tim told us at the REEC, not having it in the water just for this short time is not causing any harm. I agree I think we should study and have a public hearing, but not delay it. We are not in any danger right now but we don't want to delay it.

Let's set a date and discuss it.

Rod- after Christmas. In December it is hard.

Mary Ann- yea we probably wouldn't have a very good turnout.

Tim- we need to have some time to get some cost figures too. Just so you will know what you are talking about. People need to know what they are paying for too.

The doctor is Dr. Nikola if you want to look him up. He is the source where he said you might want to think it.

Tim- some folks have already sent me some counter material where I can send to you.

Joe- good as long as it is open for discussion and we can try to make the right decision. That is what we are trying to do. We are trying to do the right thing and make the right decision for the little ones.

Look at the article and it brings in some other aspects Joe, like I was talking about it can combine with calcium and lead and deposit in your bones. There are two sides to everything.

Joe- on that note since we are talking about health issues. We have some contaminated property that we have been dealing with 15 years now. If we are so concerned with fluoride, I think we need to be concerned about hazardous materials that are in the ground in our town, in the middle of our town. I asked Mr. Ratliff to do a little plundering, trying to find out anything.

I have been looking into that. In fact, one of the things that I have done is write a letter to these people with the boundary issues and see if we can work out the details in this property swap. Voluntary mediation done. I haven't heard a response yet. That is something that I felt like was the first step.

Joe-well the property owner supposedly owns the Inger-Sol Rand property two feet. Why can't we clean up the areas everywhere else and leave that two foot for a later time? I mean we are going on sixteen years of trying to get this property in the middle of our town clean which has hazardous material and there is a book here at the town hall that is a couple inches thick if anyone is interested enough to see what chemicals are in our town really close to front street and I just think we need to we are talking about health here and health to our town and our citizens. I just think it is wrong for us to sit here and do nothing for sixteen years knowing that there is hazardous material on Front Street.

Rod- I will comment on that. I get the point we are talking about health that is a broad topic. Want to do everything that we possibly can. Long before Was on the Council. Well I don't want to make it sound like that long. Anyway it was a long time. Susie Holmes and Sandy would come to Council and at that time Mayor Wysor of course and this was brought to the Council many times and Tim you remember it? I can't tell you the dates but my term on the Council and I think they have come before and have had some studies done and we have had them done now. I haven't read it in a while so I can't tell you exactly what it is. But something to help clean up the area and make it safer. Then there is another aspect that we could make that usable property for the town, or whoever, whatever. So it is just not property that is just sitting unused. There are many aspects to it. There is also the best use of the property. What we can use it for, what it can be used for. I don't know but it is an issue. Its time has come; I don't know exactly how to move on it.

Tim- before what I think we should probably do, of course we have got some word of mouth from some of it but for the comfort level that I was given based on the VOC which is the organic compound. Which was part of the oil underground storage tank residue type thing and they have checked those. They have nitro in place. There is no damage. By the department of environmental quality. That is already done. So, that should tell you that it is not leaking into the ground water, it is not getting into the river, and it shouldn't be affecting.....the only issues that I understand that they have left is just those heavy metals that they have left that are deposited in like three areas I believe it is, which is hazardous material. It just doesn't move from what I understand. So I am not confused and we get the true facts; I think we ought to write a letter to the Department of Environmental Quality. Let's don't go to the consultant, let's go directly to the top if you will let me and Brad write a letter. We will ask the environmental quality to give us an official statement of the status of the clean-up and the status of the property based on public interest of safety and Council's concern to get this cleaned up to eliminate any type of fears that our community might have. I think that is the best way to go.

Joe- to let one person, one residential person stop the whole process because he owns their property for two foot we shouldn't be allowing that. We should not allow for one person to stop the whole clean-up process because he is two foot on their property.

Tim- maybe if it turns out you don't have legal issue to do that. I don't know that maybe you do maybe you don't. It would probably be best to suggest to the property owner if we get to that point, what you said clean up everything that you can. It may cost you a little bit more money, but clean up everything that you can just to help the community eliminate some of their problems. I think the thing that has been driving this is volunteer admonition and that is why they don't care if they move very fast. But we would like to know the definition. I don't know what that is, you think you know what it is but you don't.

Joe- well after fifteen years there is no movement.

Rod- Tim, just ask Mary Ann... I don't know how they feel; they can speak for themselves. Would it be prudent and maybe give a little power to the letter to give a copy of the Council members to let them know that they can see that the Council is inquiring too.

Tim- yes and this is discussed at open meetings and there are concerns in the community about it and we feel real strongly. That is why I would like some help from Brad. You could let the attorney write it if you want somebody with little more teeth than me. The Mayor signature sometimes has a lot of power to it. Get the Mayor and half of the Council to sign it. It doesn't matter. I really think that DEQ they don't really care. They will give it to anybody.

Rod- I mean when they see it.

Tim- Yeah, on letterhead. We will send you a copy of it.

Rod- is everybody in agreement with that? Is there not anybody in agreement with that?

Tim- so we will work on that.

Frances- I would like to thank Chief Dorton for putting this report in for getting us up to date on the mobile home park. Thank you very much. I would like to ask since there are only a couple of months left in this year. That road that comes down you know where the Cecil Ball property was and that dirt road that comes down that when it rains it runs down. Is there any way that we can get that scraped and maybe put a drain there at the edge of it? Where it comes down when it rains.

Tim- we had cleaned it but I guess it is stopped up again. We had cleaned it out but not recently. I know we were over there not too long ago this year. You know there at Purcell road. It is unfortunately a right of way that the town has. Okay we will get back to it. We were hoping that somebody that would might move up there would help get a long term solution for that. Which is going to take more than just gravel? It is going to take some serious drainage. We have had that issue ever since we have annexed to be honest. That is one of the things that people brought up. There is not a whole lot of place to put that water. We will go back over it and try again.

Frances- thank you so much sir. I appreciate that. That is all that I have.

Did you have a recommendation for the Rec Commission?

Frances- I had told you that I have someone and he declined. So I will have to find somebody else before next month. I am sorry.

That is okay. It was in mine so I figured why you were doing yours I would just ask.

Rod- Frances you don't have a person in mind?

Frances- no not at the moment I don't.

Rod- I have a thought and I would like to present it. Frances is going to be leaving the Council as everyone knows and I regret that but none the less. I am thinking that we have before us a person who has served on the Rec and the Council's representative and who has a compassion for our community. The Recreation Department for young and old. Knowledgeable about the workings of the town and I am talking about Frances Meadows. So if you are agreeable to it I would like to put your name forth as the person to fill that spot January 1st when your term is up. Are you agreeable to that Frances? Would you like to serve?

Frances- I would.

Joe- I would like to Second that Motion.

We have a Motion and a Second for Frances to serve on the rec commission. So we have any further discussion? All those in favor of the Motion say yes, those that oppose say no. Motion carries.

Frances- thank you very much.

Doug.

Doug-the only thing I have is like if Mary Ann and maybe you have time to meet maybe Monday at 8:00?

Tim- this coming Monday? Can we be ready?

Adrienne- if you could give us a little bit more time only because those EEI agreements. We have to check those. We have to submit our first down grade trigger and paperwork. Our cash flow statements from the electrical department for the first quarter of this year and those are due November 15th. So I have to prepare something for them that are due next week.

Tim- which will be exactly what you want to see anyway.

Adrienne- so once I am done with that. I could be ready by Monday but I have just one more deadline.

Why don't you pick a Monday this month?

Adrienne- the only other deadline that I have and I should have that complete is I have to prepare the MD&A report for the auditors that they have to submit when the audited financial reports. That has to be submitted to the state by November 30th.

Would it help you if we made it the last Monday in the month?

Adrienne- Yes, the last or the first. The 28th will work. I will have it done by then because they have to have it to the state.

Tim- let's do the 28th and if we run out of time then we will call you and reschedule it, is that okay? You like it at 8:00 am, correct?

If possible, is that alright with you?

Do you have anything else?

That is all that I have.

Larry:

Larry-the first one is probably a question. There is a building on a property and I think it is where Richard use to live. Somebody was asking me if it was in violation of the code. It is the outside buildings, so I guess you guys would be the ones to talk too.

You mean Hidden Valley?

Larry- yes.

Tim- Yes, that is a zoning issue. We are on it. We have a couple of violations actually and letters have gone out to those folks about addressing it.

Larry- I know we had talked about it before but I wasn't for sure.

Tim- there is a carport and a building that is not of conformed use. I have given that to Brad too.

Larry- Second I want to thank everybody for participating in the Veterans Day Parade. I appreciate all the sponsors and all the help from the town employees. Frank ended up being the sound man but it all worked out. I attended my first Clinch River Valley Initiative Meeting in Russell County last week and I see what you are talking about. They have a nice program; they have got it going on. They are getting fired back up and they had worked on several areas other than ours. I told them we have two properties one possible and one probable. They were excited about that. If we can get a timeline on getting one of those up and going. We can get the ball rolling.

Tim- I want to thank you for taking that role because that is a very important one to do. Rod has been on that before. If we don't stay engaged with that group, there is going to be a lot of activity. I am glad you are doing it.

Larry- One at Critterville and one at the swinging bridge, that is what got their attention. Because of the historical significance of the bridge. I had several calls about first off about cancelling Halloween. I told them they didn't cancel out on it. The second one was had a lot of complaints about two separate days. People having to get their kids ready twice. Things like that, so I was going to see if there wasn't some kind of standard that we can go ahead and set everything on the 31st or have everything on the Saturday before the 31st. two separate days from what I am being told is too much.

Rod- I had some reports on that too, I want to add that since I was the person that said we need to have it both days. I really need to speak up. I have had calls both ways. Those who liked it and those who didn't. I don't disagree with you except I really think it would be good to wait and let LEAD be involved. Before we do any Council decision. Do you think that would be appropriate since the head of Trunk or Treat?

Larry- do you think we can make sure that they are here next month so we can go ahead and get that taken care of. So we won't have to worry about it.

Mary Ann- I think it would be good idea to find out how Tazewell's experience went because they had Trunk or Treat and Halloween on the 31st.

Rod- I think that is a good thing to check with our communities.

Maybe ask some of the people. I had two or three people in Hidden Valley to talk to me and was hoping it would be on the same night because they were bombarded by so many people. So we might get the opinion of some of those people that get the large crowds into their community. Some of the older people especially were kind of bombarded.

Larry- I had a couple of complaints on Henry's Garage, the old cars that have been there for years. They asked why they don't have to cover them up and I know it is a business but it is bad.

Rod- are you talking about the cars that are actually on town property?

Larry- they are in the back parking lot.

Rod- I know I deferred to Tim on that because I know when I was on the Street Committee we looked at that once and I don't know. I haven't looked back there. I drive by there every day because I live in that neighborhood.

Larry- even the ones technically if you go by the code. The ones that are in the front they are in violation too because they are in sight. Is that still the same?

Frank- I don't think that code section applies to business. On the back part of it he put a fence up on one side of it. I think that was in compliance to it.

That was in compliance at the time unless it is worse.

Frank- he did screen on one side.

To me the front part is worse than the back part.

Tim- if it didn't have windows we would be alright I guess.

Maybe put up shades?

Joe- it needs to be cleaned up a little bit over there.

Tim- do you think he is in compliance or do you need to go look at it again?

Frank- I haven't looked at it in quite some time, since he put the fence up at the east side of the building.

Tim- lets go look at it and see how he is doing.

Frances- since you are talking about cars or anything like that then maybe you need to run on down to the Buskill Avenue down there. Where the junk yard is.

Tim- the scrap yard. I don't know where we stand with that.

Joe- Holmes junk yard?

Frances- yes Holmes.

Frank- I don't think the junk yard falls into that.

Tim- it is kind of a legal issue with that.

I think they couldn't do anything because of the railroad, I believe that is what it was.

Joe- their bottom is so low that they couldn't fence it off or hide it because of the loading of the railroad cars.

Rod- there is some confusion on this side of the bench. Neither Mayor White nor Larry knows is it litigation?

No not now.

There was some legal correspondence; we had brought some specific charges in that case. It was vigorously defended and during the process we discovered that Defense. We didn't go forward with what we had at that time. Ultimately with the railroad as it is and the difference in the specific geography of the specifics. I am not sure what they are I would have to go look at them. I can report that back to Council if you would like for me to do that. It has been some time since I had done that.

Do you have anything else?

The drain on South Front Street, Tim had spoken about it, they could clean it out once. They said it was backed up again. I don't know if we need to do something about that.

George- we just ditched that and the drain is open. There is just more water there than it will carry.

Tim-ultimately there is going to have to be a pipe changed our there. It is just not big enough. But when the flow gets large it spills over to a ditch that was cleaned and that should take care of it. We haven't had any big rains since the last Council meeting that we discussed that have we? Maybe we are a month off and they don't know that we cleaned it or something. We have got to replace it though.

Just like everything else though it gets backed up when it rains.

George- when you get big rains like we have got this summer. If it is just normal rains it doesn't do that.

Tim- years ago they had that type in there and instead of changing it out like they did here. So we have a big pipe running into a little pipe. The little pipe has got to be replaced. We have had a little bit of that over the years. Saving money with that but causing misery later on. We find a lot of that occasionally. We will have to schedule that though. That is a big pipe though.

I forgot two things that has to do with the street committee. Could I say those two things?

Go ahead.

You know more about it than I do. Some lady, of course when we were out on voting day we got bombarded with things. There were two things that I remembered. One was a driveway or an alley way that maybe the street committee could look at, that went to the creek that they wanted. Do you remember that?

It was over in Brooklyn Addition that you looked at it before on Shenandoah.

Tim- they wanted to buy it basically, is that what you are talking about? It has a main sewer line right down the middle of it. It has been recommended not to sell that one. Because of that. If that was the same one.

It is the same one.

I guess it was you instead of Mary Ann. The other one if the street committee could look at. I had a complaint on ditch lines it is the one before you get to oxford squares. Is that Prater?

Are you talking about the one that goes up hill to those mobile homes?

Yea they were asking if we could take a look thought maybe the street committee could look about the ditches being cleaned out.

Tim- we can do that, don't need the street committee to look at that.

That would be on the bank, the backside of the ditch line.

I am sorry Mary Ann.

Mary Ann- so George you can take care of that last thing that Doug brought up?

George-yes.

Mary Ann- thank you. If you have checked. I hadn't noticed this year, but Christmas falls on a Sunday. The state is allowing government agencies to have both Friday and Monday as days off, so I would like to make a Motion that we also give town employees the Friday off, they would already have Monday correct?

Tim- yes.

Mary Ann-I would like to make a Motion that we also give them the extra day Friday the 23rd day of December.

Rod- I will Second that. I think it is deserved.

Okay we have a Motion and a Second. All those in favor say yes. All those that oppose say no. Motion carries.

Mary Ann- the second item that I have is I was contacted by a retired town employee who was very upset last year when we took the retiree Christmas bonus checks out of our budget. That was \$100.00 to the retirees. Which in 2014 was amounted to approximately \$5132.00? I know from the past we have had some discussion that sometimes we send these checks and the retirees have moved away and we don't even have correct addresses. I would like to make a Motion that we do send the retirees that we do have correct, to our knowledge, of addresses to the \$100.00 Christmas bonus.

Joe- that was taken out of the budget how long ago Tim?

Tim- two years ago. Last time we paid it was 2014.

Joe-the reason being frankly, once you retire and leave you have no connection with the town. So the town does not owe you anything but your retirement. So that was done a couple of years ago. I don't know whether you recall.

Mary Ann- I wasn't here. I see it more as just an appreciation for their years of service here to the town.

How much do you estimate that will be?

Tim- it would probably be unless some of them have deceased it will probably be a little bit more.

Joe- is that the immediate family or is that?

Tim- it is just for the employee right?

Mary Ann- just for the employee only.

Tim- if the employee is deceased then it doesn't go. I think we were giving them to the spouses as well then too. So it may go down substantially then.

Mary Ann- my Motion would just be for the employees only.

Rod- I'll Second that.

Joe- employees only.

We already have a Second over here from Larry. But do you see a problem in the budget?

Tim- I mean it is money that we have been trying to give our folks raises and I don't mean to be harsh to the retirees but that is what we were trying to do but we can pay it but we will have to take it from something else but we will if that is what you want to do.

Rod- I would like to suggest this and I appreciate the magnanimous Motion and feeling that you have for our employees and our retired employees. I am in understanding that I would feel comfortable and I believe that we would find a way to do this and I don't know how. Maybe to see how other communities do this. We don't have to follow their lead but it might be something that we would like to look at our local communities and what they do with retirees. This is what Joe said and generally when you retire you get your benefits whatever that is your pension, any coverage that you have that goes with your retirement. I don't know is it called a bonus, Christmas gift?

Tim- just a gift.

Mary Ann- how many years have we done that?

Tim- I think, well ever since I have been here up until a few years ago. Just to add so it won't be hard on us. I would rather send it to everyone that we know that has an address that we know we can find. If they are not there and it gets shipped back, then it won't get spent. We don't have to pick and choose. Other than that, that is the biggest thing that I have about it.

So it would go substantially down from.

Tim- I don't know that, I would assume for the budget that you voted it would be that or more.

Joe- but if you send just the employee the bonus or check or whatever and the person is deceased, what is to keep the wife from signing the name?

Tim- I mean we will make a good valid effort to substantiate whether they are alive. If they are not we would rather error in that than, if they spend it and don't ship it back then.

Well you would pretty much know because they would come off of your retirement?

Tim- some, you are talking about a lot of them that are John Hancock. So we just really don't know to be honest with you. It is handed by third party on that.

What did you say about raises?

Tim- well we have been trying to gear all of our money toward our employees because we are having a hard time giving them money. I know it sounds like I am against the retirees I am not. It is a gift; if you can and you feel good about it then we will just manage it. I want you to understand though sometimes if it perceives that I can come up with the money that I am not honest with you. We are honest with you. We could use the money in other places but if you feel that it is necessary to go there then we will do without in some places and make it happen.

This is just a suggestion; would this be too harsh? Limited to the ones in the community that are like in Tazewell County?

I don't believe you could do that could you?

Tim- you probably could, but you would probably get beat up for that. It doesn't have to be the full amount; you could do a reduced amount. If you wanted to do that.

Mary Ann- I was thinking about that. Possibly amend the Motion to a lower amount.

Tim- just to lessen the impact.

What about this, we have a December meeting and I understand the desire to be kind and good to the people that have worked for us. I also understand about Tim saying crown employees and trying to find money for them which is always an issue. Would you consider, I am not against anybody, I would just like to study how other communities do. See about the money for current raises for our current employees.

Tim- yea why don't you, if you are going to do that, why don't you look and see what other communities give their active employees. You may find out that is way less than what you gave us too.

Rod- our active employees, what do you give them Tim?

Tim- what is it \$125.00 now or \$100.00, what is it now? I can't remember.

It is \$100.00.

Joe- I worked for the railroad and I retired from the railroad and once I retired. I get nothing else but my retirement check. I don't know many businesses that, which the town is a business. But I don't know many businesses that keep giving to employees that have left or retired. I just don't know many businesses that do that. Not that I am totally against it but it really is a great gesture for something after you have left.

Mary Ann- well it is something that we have done many years.

Joe- we haven't done it in the last two.

Well we just missed 2014.

Tim- this would be the Second year.

Joe- that was to save money for to pay our employees, so we are ensuring that they get theirs. The active employees.

Mary Ann- speaking for others, and retirees, so our employees obviously the current ones they are not paid what they deserve. But we have wonderful benefits. So I also see this as a perk after I leave. I would be willing to amend my Motion that we pay the retired employee, employees only \$50.00. So then again, to try to be considerate of our current employees.

I think it is more of a token of appreciation is what they were concerned about. The retirees. I mean if it was like \$5000.00. I mean \$50.00 that is not going to.

Larry you Second the Motion didn't you, and you accept her amendment?

Larry-yes

Okay we have discussed this let's call for a vote. All those in favor of the amended Motion say I. Those that oppose say no.

I am going to have to say no.

Joe- I really didn't get the, I didn't understand the Motion that we are voting on. Go through it again.

Mayor- the Motion is that we give each of the retired employee, not their spouse, but the retired employee \$50.00 Christmas bonus.

Rod- if you don't vote for it you are a devil. I am a devil.

Rod- that is how I feel. I am thinking about these current people too. My heart is feeling right now caught between the devil and the deep blue sea. Since you are talking about this I want to tell a story. My first job of school teaching, years ago. In Henrico County, which is Richmond. At Christmas time, we got no gifts, trust me. We didn't have automatic deposit we still had to stand in line and our principal, Mr. Levinson handed us our paycheck and a pencil with Tuckahoe Junior High School on it and said Merry Christmas. It tells you how some governments do things.

Joe- I would like to ask Mr. Taylor what he thinks. He is the town manager he is the money man. I would like to have your opinion.

Tim- would \$25.00-\$100.00 kill us, no it is a good gesture on your part if you feel like it is your token. I am neutral on the thing, I mean we will do what you want us to do. I really want people to understand that often times there seems to be a conceptual idea that we are playing funny business with the budget, we are not. It is real money, it is money that we could use for our employees that we are trying to save and keep there, and it is real. It is important, those decisions are important to you. If you think they are I am not going to say you are wrong. I mean I really don't because I don't vote. I mean it is up to you guys.

Joe- I would like to look at other towns and places to see if they carry this tradition.

Well you have got to carry the Motion through and then we will.

We have this Motion and we need a clarification on it.

I mean I agree with what you are saying if you want that. We have go to complete this Motion. I didn't mean your discussion if you thought that. I am sorry.

Mayor-Okay I didn't hear but one yes, so all those in favor of the Motion say yes. Those that oppose say no. that is 3 and 3. I am going to vote yes on the condition that we place a letter with this saying that we are going to check into this. That we may not be able to do every year or something to that effect.

Now can you do that or do you have to amend the Motion?

Mayor-I am voting yes and that is my reason for voting yes.

Rod- should the Motion state that?

I think she was thinking aloud.

Rod- yes I know that but it should really be in the Motion.

Tim- technically it should.

Mayor- Yes it should but if you don't want to amend the Motion then that is fine. I can vote yes.

Mary Ann- I would be happy to amend the Motion that said each retired employee \$50.00 Christmas gift and with that check, a thank you appreciation type note and stating that we hope to be able to do this in the future years.

Rod- future years or now.

With the check for future years.

Mary Ann- due to budget restraints, the economy will be something that will have to be revisited over the years. I would happy to go with that.

Okay we have a Motion amended and we have a Second (Larry). We will have to vote on this again. All those in favor of the Motion as amended for the Second time say yes. All those that oppose say no.

Rod- I think that is a sideways gift. You get it this year but you might not next year. I don't like that. I am going to vote against that one too if that is alright.

Mayor- the reason that I like that is because it gives you if you come up in the year and you don't have the funds available.

I have a question that we still haven't discussed yet.

Mayor- we are voting. Either do it or not. All those in favor say I. all those that oppose say no. so it is tied and I am going to vote yes.

Doug – Yes Frances – No Joe-No Rod-No

Joe- that is eight times you have broken the tie for the same three people.

Mary Ann- those of you that would like the information, the Southwest Virginia Legislation breakfast is on a Monday November 30th at 8:00 am at the college. It is \$20.00 per ticket. The deadline is the 14th. Ginger Branton works very hard on this and unfortunately she mentioned that this may be the last year. Actually, no, I am sorry that is not, she was saying that the trip to Richmond in January. I apologize Ginger if you are listening, watching. Could be the last year. This is the 30th. Hopefully it will continue. I know that it is very informative event, the legislatures come and we get the opportunity to ask questions. If you have a question that you would like to be asked, you need to let Ginger know by also the deadline to attend. The last thing that I have is I would like to congratulate our Mayor on her reelection, Doug's reelection to Council. Rick Wood in the back and appreciate Rick attending the meetings. Also to congratulate and welcome Vickie England. To thank Frances and Joe for many years of hard service. The efforts, I enjoyed working with you and Joe on the streets. Actually I have felt like you were more knowledgeable than me. Been out more been more of eyes of the town than I have had time to, so I do appreciate that. We wish both of you the best. That is all that I have.

One thing, I know we did the Motion. But could you give us a report next month on how much it is going to cost?

Tim- Yes, sure. We will do that. If we can for the budget maybe, we will try to investigate and be better informed of other folks of how they do that as part of our budgetary process. We will also like to add what the actual employees get from the other towns. That way you will have a good picture.

Mayor- I would like to add my thoughts to Mary Ann. To thank Joe and Frances. Congratulate all of the others. I would like to suggest that we have some little refreshments the next month since it is Christmas and it will be their last meeting.

Tim- okay we will do it.

Mayor- I have a question that several people have asked and come through they have bought the radios for the weather station, so they have said they have not heard us discuss it in a few months. Can you tell us where that stands?

Tim- it is functional. It is working, so if they set their radio up correctly to the frequency and I don't have the information. Do you have the frequency Frank?

Frank- I think most of those have four channels and I think it is channel 2.

Tim- why don't we develop something on the access channel and put on our website about that. That is a good point. We were kind of waiting for a ground breaking. We never got around to doing that. I didn't get much interest from that group. I think once they got the radios up they went. They did send us some pictures of them. They have pictures on their walls there in Blacksburg.

I have another question when you finish.

You are just full of questions tonight. Go ahead.

Tim- is that okay to do, is that what you want me to do?

Yes.

This is an important one. I have a few people ask me how accurate; we went away from the stickers on the car. As far as our software, how accurate are we with the collecting the town sticker?

Tim- it has not been very successful as we had wished. We really if you noticed, I have it in my report, but we haven't gotten the real estate bills out yet, we were hoping to have the tax tickets out by this week, we are about a week behind on that or better, usually we have them out by the end of October, the first of November. Part of this problem is that you see with the car decals is the same with antiquating software that we are replacing. This will be the last year that we will have to deal with that. We will see how it does this year with the collections cycle as to what we get from the state, DMV, and county. If it doesn't produce

better than what we use to then I think we should our next budget cycle go back to the decals. People like the decals believe it or not.

Joe- not only that but from what I understand everyone is not purchasing it and there is no way to keep up with them who is and who isn't.

Tim- the software, yes the issue with that is since we don't have personal property tax, the cost of that decal is \$10.00 and you can't get the DMV to want to participate in not getting their tags if they don't collect that money through them. They can't do it, so we have to let Brad do the enforcement.

Doug-May I make a suggestion? I know the other towns do it, and they have gone away from the sticker. Could you maybe have a meeting with Abingdon, they do it and see how successful they are. See how they are monitoring it.

Joe- when we had the stickers we collected more revenue than when we went away from it. Now we are collecting less.

Doug-I just wonder why Joe all the other towns seem to be successful. Is it our software?

Tim- yes that is part of it and part of it is the fact that we don't have personal property tax and everybody else does. It flags it when you pay the personal property and you pay that together you see.

Doug-Could you maybe have a meeting with Abingdon?

Tim- I have talked with Bluefield and they are pretty successful.

Joe- do they have stickers?

Tim- no I don't think they do. They may, but they do the tickets on that.

Doug-Every town I know. How are they, maybe we need to approach them and say how successful are you? What problems have you ran into? Maybe we could look at our situation.

Tim- I will.

Joe-What about the ones that don't have a property tax?

Tim- all of them do I think we are probably the only ones that don't. We are probably the only town that doesn't have personal property tax. When we get our software we are going to really vent that out. We are going to look at that whole process and see if we can't get a better handle on that. Because that would be really easy to do if you have the software that could deliver those unpaid bills. It is a letter then they come in and pay it. Or you could actually take them to court. The problem is that we are not even getting the right information out to some of the folks. Some of them are honest and they will come in and say I didn't get my ticket and they will pay it. Some of them they paid it probably and they housed it somewhere else and got the sticker for it and they didn't have to. We have found a lot of that.

Joe- so if you have it somewhere else you don't have to pay it.

Tim- it has to be housed in Richlands. So if you own three cars and you have got two kids that have got them in wherever they don't have to get the stickers. Those type of things. It is a double edged sword. We will try to get you a full report on that. We want it to be far to everybody. We don't want some paying and some not. We all need to pay if we live in town.

Mayor- do the cost of printing the stickers not balance out what you didn't get?

Tim- No, Sue and I went over it the other day and we are still negative. I don't know about this year because it is not timely but last year just guessing I think it was in the ball park around \$4,000.00. Do you remember Adrienne?

Adrienne- I don't remember.

Tim-I think it was about \$4,000.00 less than what we would normally get.

Doug-I think Adrienne and Sue are always willing to fill in as the Clerk and we really appreciate that and I know it is an imposition for you but we do appreciate you.

Brad- thank you Mayor. Yes, I have a few things. First and foremost, in addition to the monthly report that I typically provide the Council, there is also attached there with a graph of Non-Smoking Ordinance and some fairly extensive terms and I haven't broken that into number sections or where it is going to go in our ordinance book yet. The draft went forth with consideration by Council and it is extensive it is based on similar ordinances that are used in city of Farmville. So it can't exceed Virginia code 154-2824.that one doesn't. It is compliant with the Council to review that and come back next time with their thoughts. I think it is going to require some digestion and some consideration before any moving on it. By that time, I will also have it prepared in such a way that it could be adopted. I would recommend a public hearing on it, just out of the abundance of caution for Council. One of the things that I wanted to do this evening was to welcome the new Council members. First of course Mr. Wood I have already said good afternoon to you and welcome. Welcome Vickie.

The Trunk or Treat I have to mention that. I didn't know there were any problems, but I had friends here from Abingdon, Honaker, and Council. It was tremendous and it was beautiful from our perspective. That was a feather in the cap for Richlands I am sure. With regard to the Codification, I have been working on that pretty diligently in this month. The communicating with Tim and with American Legal Publication and I sent in the notes that we had. Very extensive notes on a team meeting that we had back in the summer and a group of entire individuals that are making the changes and editing the book. Those are being deliberated over and they are making those edits now in addition we sent in all the changes, all the ordinances from August 2014 to the present. I have emailed the team for any additional edits that they may have. I have communicated with Tim and he indicated that we should be able to have everything completed by December 31st. that is our deadline and our goal. I know that has been a long time coming and Ill share it with you when I am finished and move on. Council McCracken asked for a report of the collections program last time. I don't have a written report because when I looked at this one some things that I want to be very clear. But now we will share with Council we have presently. We have collected \$40,749.51 on behalf of the town. We have delivered over \$29,750.88 since April 2014.that has been a zero cost to the town. That is just money that the town deserved.

Rod- that did take out your fee though?

Brad- yes but there is no cost in terms of court cost. Service of process. That is money that was lost previously.

Rod- I just wanted to clarify because I am fine with that. That there is a cost, it is your fee. With any attorney no matter who it was.

Brad-sure. We have presently 320 judgments that are in favor of the town, they are good for twenty years. We have 137 of these accounts paid in full. 45 of them are paying our office monthly. We collect payments for the town and deliver that over. Some of those folks will pay as little as \$5.00 a month. So it creates an environment where they have an opportunity to pay whereas they didn't otherwise. I will provide the entire Council with a written report next month that gives the details.

Rod- how many months is that to date?

Brad- I didn't count them. Eighteen months.

Rod-well we are almost finished with 2016 so that is why I added it. In 32 months if we divide let's just say \$30,000.00 divided by 32 what do you get?

Brad-About \$4, 00.00 a month. It took about 8 months to get it started.

Rod- I am glad to know that so we will know how many up per month.

Brad-Well we are seeing an increase. That is beneficial too. Having gotten rid of 1,763 accounts. Not recovered. That is when we got it.

Rod- were they past the statute of limitations?

Brad- 680 was out of statute of limitations. 658 had bad addresses. A number were in bankruptcy. 133 were dead.

Rod- what was the figure? Was it seven hundred and some thousand originally? What was the collectable amount once you took out those bankruptcies and bad addresses, and etc.?

Brad- about 900 accounts.

Rod- I know but money wise.

Brad- money wise, I am not entirely sure I could figure that up.

Rod- would you please. I understand what you are saying if they are bankrupt or if it is a bad address you can't collect it. But the figure that we were working on was \$700,000-\$800,000. So we can't hold you responsible for things that you cannot collect for bankruptcies, etc. I just wanted to get it clear in my head. Thank you.

Mary Ann- that is great because like Brad said that is money that we were not getting.

Rod- I know when we were talking it was like \$700,000 -\$800,000 and the feeling of thinking that you are going to get this money. But we know automatically we can't get it all.

Brad-There is a lot more money out there if they sale property. There is a lot of potential out there.

Mayor- are you offering them less incentive amounts if they pay?

Brad-If somebody calls and says I have got \$500.00; this is an \$800.00 account will you take the \$500.00 to settle it out right now? We will check with the town and see if that is valid. It is working very well actually. That is all I have.

When are we going in to closed session?

Can you give us a code session for personnel too?

Code 2.23711A7 occupation with legal Counsel regarding

Mayor-2.23711A7, what about for personnel?

It is A1 sorry.

What about litigation?

Are you going to finish your business before you go?

Rod- Doug are you okay to just let Tim get through this?

Mayor- okay let's do that then. We will move on to the town manager's report, authorization to pay bills.

Tim- do you have a check register that I can look at there?

Joe- what about the Army Navy store, what about check #54541?

Tim- For Boots. They have to have special equipment like that for equipment, electrical. They have to have special fire resistant clothes. Fire resistant boots, and so forth, part of the uniform.

Joe-Clinch Valley Medical Center, check #54560.

Tim-probably pre-employment. Drug screening. Oh, these were flu shots too.

Mayor- check #54561.

Tim-Waste water plant, that is the pump repair kit for the pump that goes off the sludge spreader, the sludge pump. That one lasted twenty-five years. That is a repair kit for it.

Mayor- does anyone else have any questions? If not do I hear a Motion to allow the manager to pay the bills?

Rod Cury-I make a Motion to pay the bills, seconded by Mary Ann.

Mayor- okay 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. Motion carries.

Doug-One other question, I am sorry. Mr. Taylor, when we first did the sale on the car stickers. Why can't we feed off the county? They have a county tax on property tax don't they?

Tim- personal property tax. Doug-Okay, why can't we feed off of that? Tim- we use the same data that they have, but theirs has the entire county. Ours is just in our corporate limits. That is where the problem is. We would have to get that exact data. There is no way. Tim- to get them to do something? No. Will our new system? Tim- we still have to since we don't access properties. We have to depend on. Can't we flag it from them?

Tim- I don't know how that would help us because the same book that they get, we get, and the difference is that we don't get the entire county. Theirs is easy because they get everybody.

I know but are there a way to distinguish between the corporate limits and the county.

Tim- it is flagged, they have it flagged for that and that comes from the DMV. Because when you fill out your registration for your tags, you say where you are at.

But the DMV won't corporate?

Tim- Yes, they give us the data through the county. That is where we get it from but it is not accurate all the time that is the problem, it could be somebody else's name, there is lots of things that we found out that. If it is housed here we can do something about it. Sometimes it might be in someone else's name that lives somewhere else.

Frank- the problem is there is so much rental property. They change their mailing address to get their social security check. But their registration is something that is never changed. If it was tagged in Buchanan County and they moved to Oxford Squares or a rental property here, they change their address to get all their pertinent mail except their DMV registration. Those are never changed. When it comes time to renew your tags then they change it then.

Tim- you are supposed to then. Sometimes they miss it then.

Frank- there are cars out here that you can't see. You can't see without the sticker.

Doug-What percentage are we talking about?

Frank- a lot.

Doug-20 percent?

Frank- I would say that it is more than that, if you are short \$4,000.00. It is \$10.00 a car.

Tim- we probably were not collecting everything under the old plan to start with. Then compound it with this and it just kind of compounds it on it.

Joe- what about the mobile home stickers? You have to have a mobile home sticker too?

Tim- that one is easy.

Joe- what about the ones that are empty, nobody lives in them, they are trashed. Does the owner still not have to provide a sticker?

Tim- they do if it has got a title.

Joe-I know the county; the day I trade they are sending me some kind of tax on it. How can they do that?

Tim- believe me they can. They can do a lot more than we can anyway.

Richard- there is no way for us to report it; with us they know there is no police enforcement. For them to not pay for their mobile home stickers or vehicles. It falls back to Brad.

Joe- it falls back to Brad, which falls back to our code enforcer.

Richard- put stickers back on the car.

Joe- is it up to the code enforcement officer to enforce?

No he has no way of knowing.

Frank- the stickers on vehicles and mobile homes?

Joe- the mobile home stickers and vehicles.

Frank- there is no sticker on the mobile homes.

Tim- it is the same issue.

I don't see how the enforcement could matter if you have a sticker or not.

Richard- it is because the county has a sticker. They charge them under a state code for failing to obtain the sticker.

Frank- we would never stop a car because there is no sticker to see whether it was good or bad. I wouldn't know, I mean he could send us a list of people who have not bought a sticker.

I think that wouldn't be you. It would be more computerized in the office to catch it.

Tim-it does have to charge them because we have an ordinance.

I don't expect you to know who has and hasn't.

Tim- it has to come from us. That is the hard part.

Our problem is in the office we have got to figure out something, because you could never do that.

Frank- again it goes back to a lot of the rental property, people don't change their address. So unless the girls up front know. Believe it or not you go up front and Amanda and Sarah can say well you had a sticker last year and you need to pay for the one this year. They can remember people. Just any number of people that they don't really recognize, is to know what kind of vehicles that they have. They have electrical accounts here but you don't know if they have cars or not.

Joe- then they can say that they sold that vehicle; they don't own that vehicle anymore, who is to know.

How many are going to do that? I don't think many people is going to come into the office and deny a car because they know that you can check it.

Frank- they probably don't come in and deny the car. But you don't have any data to say that they have one, because they have an address in Buchanan County.

I am still lost I don't see how the county is charging them personal property tax on it and we can't figure out how to get a sticker off of it.

Tim- it is the same data. We have had the same problem too with personal property. The reason that they can enforce it so much better is because if they don't pay their personal property tax they don't get their tags.

Frank- I think if it was more than the \$10.00 then they would get involved and say you can't get your tags until you pay this. That \$10.00 DMV is not willing to undertake that part for that small amount of money. If our sticker was \$50.00 then they would say yes, we will do that.

Tim- maybe. We are just trying to get the data cleaned up more than anything. It is kind of hard to argue that too when you don't have good data in our software.

I guess we need to wait and see how the data turns out.

Tim- we will have new software soon. It won't be this cycle, but it will be about March. That will help us. We will know how bad it is.

Could you update us and let us know?

Tim- yes, January we will know.

Mayor- alright let's move on to the project update.

Tim- I will go quickly. West Fork Project we have signed the contract with the engineers and they are starting to survey the area and get that particular project started. There is interest in more than one home up there to get on this so that is a good thing. We are doing letters and public notifications. It is not a big area; there is only a few possible customers anyway. We are trying to work that out.

Section House, you seen some activity in Brad's report but basically we bid the project out, we had one bidder it looked like it was in budget. The bidder unfortunately didn't meet the minimum DVE compliance solicitation. That is the disadvantage enterprise that is part of the project, one of those stipulations of civil rights. We had to deny the bid, but there was a manner for them to appeal basically. So through a good faith manner process. The contractors asked for the panel to review. We do have the panel members selected, including the chairman. We are scheduled to meet sometime soon to get that going. Once that procedure is in place we will know after that whether we can award it or not from the panel review. Hopefully the panel review will be positive and then we can move on. If it isn't, the only solution we have is to rebid. We only had one bidder so that is why we didn't award it to the second bidder. A little bit of complicated process. I just wanted to give you an update on it.

The Septage Hauler Program, I am sure that you have read that, but the only thing really that is significant is this is about a 15-year-old product. In our old septage program we had some specific language in there of the cost of line. I know it is a little thing but we were charging, we could only charge line basically on this particular program said and we would lose money on it. So I wanted that to be corrected, so we have taken out language to pay for the line with no reassessment to the indications based on how much it cost, if it is a pass through. Also says in here there is a \$30.00 service charge fee. We are going to take that out also. So if you will look on your fourth page under fees, if you will change that \$30.00 service fee just take that out. There will be a service charge fee, just leave it like that. That is the only thing that we are changing. So we will get it typed up new. Basically, we are not asking for any increase in dumping fees we are just the line cost recuperated, it is not subsidized. It was originally adopted by Council and so we are asking that you consider adopting this tonight by just voting.

Rod- do you want a Motion Tim?

Tim- yes please.

Rod- I make a Motion to accept the Septage Hauler Program for the Town of Richlands.

Mayor-so you have made corrections?

Tim- yes and I will make one more that is that the \$30.00 be removed and it should be whatever the going rate for service charge fee is based on our fee structure that you have approved in other documents. That way we won't have to come back and do this again, it will be over. That will be the only change.

Rod- I really should make the Motion as amended.

Mayor- we have a Motion and a Second (Larry), any further discussion? All those in favor of the adoption say yes. All those that oppose say no. Motion carries.

Tim- we will get you a copy of that and put it on the website for future reference. Let's go over these VDOT projects. To give you a little bit of history as to what we are talking about, primary extension program funding through the Virginia Department of Transportation that is approved by the General Assembly. The Commonwealth Transportation Board had a source of funds based on what they call a state of good repair program. Basically this was some legislation, the action that was affected as of July 1,

2004. They had really looked at getting this thing in place by 2021 but, through some other action of the General Assembly they were able to expedite that a few years earlier. They were able to get through part of the program and possibly have funding for this in the foreseen future of 2017 or 2018. Basically to make a long story short, this particular money was made available for paving and for bridge repairs, which has been a real problem for the Town of Richlands for many, many years because of the number of bridges that we have. We had to score and get on a list to be able to qualify for this. We have most of our bridges listed for the repair cycle. That is because of the bridge reports; we have to get an inspection annually and semiannually. The selections for who gets basically on the list to get considered are there have to be certain things that get done. The bridge must be structured efficient; it has to be on an inventory bridge that is in the natural bridge inventory. The proposed work must take out all the structural deficient status. Means it must move from structural deficient to efficient or better. Localities must be current on bridge inspections, which we are the projects receiving finance, program must initiate the structure face within 24 months of funding or they will take the money back. The Bristol district had a certain amount of monies that were issued and the bridges and were prioritized based on a very elaborate formula based on deficiency, importance, the condition of, the designer factor, the structural capacity factor, and a whole lot of other criteria they have used to be able to make this funding allocation get the money to the most needed bridges. Our front street bridge located in the center of the town next to the business incubator ranked number one for the list of Bristol. We had to have applications submitted by November 1st. we have got that in the works. The bridge on Second Street next to Hardees ranked also fifteenth on the list. We also put a bid on it and the Allegheny Bridge is on further down the list but all three of those bridges were considered to be efficient and made the list. Now what that means is a couple things, this program is really to correct the deficiencies, not to completely replace the bridge. A replacement cost on the front street bridge alone is \$8.4 million dollars in this year's money so that is not attainable. Unless the Town of Richlands wanted to take on that project by themselves. It just can't be done under the current funding structure that the state gives us. This is probably the only avenue to do that. It will not be a complete replacement cost. It would be a recommended action description, which means replace the decks and bearings, repair structural steel and repair basically the deck. Our sub-structure, even as old as it is, believe it or not is still good. Matter of fact, the bridge that was replaced at McDonald's, we still used the sub structure which is the foundation and added on to what was new because we made it wider. But this one, in other words is a steel bridge and we are going to go in and replace the steel that needs replaced and repair what needs to be replaced and paint it. If you remember we had to replace two bearings this past year to get out of critical condition. So replace all the bearings, take the complete deck off the top, and replace the deck and sidewalks. So that estimated cost in their opinion is just for the bridge part is \$1.7 million dollars. The actual cost of the entire project is for that particular bridge is \$2.158 million. With the inspection and the preliminary engineering. The Second Street bridge, the bridge itself construction, the rehabilitation cost would be \$2.03 million and the total cost with inspection and preliminary would be \$2.5 million. Allegheny bridge construction \$181,000.00 and the total with project cost would be approximately \$200,000.00. So we have all three of those submitted on recommendations from VDOT. George and Kevin had gone through this extensively to get that to them. It doesn't mean that we are going to get funded. Hopefully there is I don't know basically, you have just got to certify if we are funded that this money that we would get to do this project would basically not sibilant any future monies that you had intended on spending on the bridge. Which we don't have any. Anyway that is pretty good news. We will keep our fingers crossed that we can get some money. I don't think they had expected to start anything until 2018. That is about where we are at. That is an update for that particular part of that.

Rod- for the Front Street?

Tim- well it could be more than one of them. Now the Front Street is more important. Front Street first, then Second Street, then Allegheny. Allegheny is probably in worse condition than Second Street in my opinion. It just didn't rank high because of the volume of traffic and it wasn't on the US Route 460 it was on a local Street. It still needs some attention though. So that is where we are at with that particular program. You all had addressed the fluoride issue I had that on there. That is all that I have right now. Unless the Council had something else other than the closed session.

Rod- one last thing on the filings that we have to do for the disclosure of the financial or conflict of interest. We need to do that on paper and on line.

Tim- it is online; she gave you a memo on that correct?

Rod- I just wanted to make sure I got that right.

Joe- do we have the paper?

Tim- once you get it completed, we need to put a copy in your file because the auditor needs to have that in there to see. When they come and do the audit. Yes, you need to do it online for sure because that is how they check.

Rod- there is a fee if you don't.

Tim- yes and it is out of our hands too.

Joe- you go online and get the paperwork and fill it out and you send it to them online.

Tim- no you fill it out online but we would like for you to print it out and put it in your file, you give us the hard copy. You send it electronically to them.

Joe- I think I am going to be gone before that dead line and I won't have to fool with it. I think I will be gone December 15.

Mayor- I think your term goes to the end of December.

Joe- I'll get a teacher that I know to help me.

Rod- I can't do that stuff.

Mayor- okay we need a Motion to go into closed session for 2.2-3711A (7), and that is for refresh my memory. Possible litigation.

Mayor- two different issues and the other one is 2.2-3711A-(1) personnel. We have a Motion (Larry) and a Second (Mary Ann). All those in favor of the Motion say yes. All those that oppose say no. Motion carries.

Council went into closed session.

Council returned from closed session and Joe McCracken made the Motion to return to open session, seconded by Larry Johnson. All in favor, Motion carried.

All members affirmed that nothing was discussed other than matters pertaining to Code Section 2.2-3711A (7) Possible Litigation and to Code Section 2.23711A (1) Personnel.

With no further business to discuss, Joe McCracken made the Motion to adjourn, seconded by Frances Meadows. All in favor, Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned until December 13, 2016 at 7:30 pm.

Jannis White, Mayor

Acting Clerk