

The Richlands Town Council held a regular monthly meeting in the Richlands Council Chambers on November 14, 2017 at 7:30pm with the following present:

Mayor: Jannis White
Town Manager: Tim Taylor
Town Clerk: Connie Allen
Council Members: Mary Ann Strong, Vickie England
Rick Wood, Rod Cury, Larry Johnson
Council Members Absent: Doug Ratliff
Town Attorney: Brad Ratliff

Mayor White opened the meeting.

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

Mayor White - Do we have anyone who would like to speak that is not on the agenda?

Mayor White - Please add to "Unscheduled Public Comments" - Phillip Lowe- Richlands Little League, Mark Gillespie, Ginger Branton, Speaking as a Unit - Dale Joyce, Grady McGlothlin, Ernie Horton, Bo Ball.

Mayor White - Do we have any other additions/deletions to the agenda?

Tim – I have a couple things that came in late that I need to add to the agenda. Under Manager's Reports I need to add a permit request from Jason Mosley which requires Council's action. If he is not here tonight, we can move this to next month. Consideration of contract for professional services for bridge inspections that needs to be executed tonight. Our bridge inspections are due and need to be completed by end of year.

Brad – Under Attorney Comments please add "Resolution in Support of Tazewell County Public Schools".

Mayor White - Any other changes?

Mayor White - If not, do we have a motion to approve the agenda as amended? Vickie made the motion, Mary Ann seconded the motion.

Mayor White - 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- 5/0.

Mayor White - We have two sets of minutes, one (1) for Public Hearing on October 10 and one (1) for Regular Council Meeting on October 10. Are there any corrections, additions or deletions to the minutes?

Mayor White - Do I have a motion to approve the minutes as presented?

Rick - I make a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Vickie seconded the motion.

Mayor White - 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 - 5/0.

Mayor White - "Scheduled Public Comments" – Jerry Gross – Discuss Crosswalks

Brad - Would you like to appoint a time keeper since we have so many speakers tonight?

Mayor White – Yes, Brad you can be the time keeper if they go over the limited time.

Jerry Gross –220 Fairfax Apt. - I come to address the Council about the crosswalks here in Town and how dangerous they are especially for elderly people. I have been injured and had a couple of heart attacks and I don't get around good anymore. People are not stopping for people crossing at the crosswalks. Something is going to have to be done before someone gets injured or killed. I don't know what can be done, but in Tazewell they have signs in the middle of the street. I think Richlands used those years ago.

Tim - They did and we have looked into that but the code for the highway construction and highway maintenance will not allow them in the middle of the highway on a one-way street. The reason being you have to change lanes. On a two-way street, it is OK under certain conditions. We have painted larger than they have to be for that reason and have reflected beams in them for nighttime visibility. We may evaluate those and make sure we do everything to make them highly visible. We may be able to add something next year when we paint to give people warning that the crosswalks are ahead.

Jerry Gross - I noticed that one of the lanes people will stop. A couple of months ago I almost got hit. The guy in the left lane stopped but a lady in a SUV was going around 50 miles an hour did not stop. People speed thru town; something needs to be done about that too.

Tim - We will look into to that.

Jerry Gross - People change lanes, you have to watch yourself in these crosswalks. I appreciate you taking time to look into the issue. Thank you.

Tim - We will look into it, it is a concern of other people too. We will see what we can do.

Mayor White – “Scheduled Public Comments” – Tonya Watson – Request for Conditional Use Permit to place a mobile home at Page Street.

Tonya Watson - I am speaking on behalf of my mother. She had a trailer that caught on fire on my cousin's property. She wants to place a trailer back on the property. I have brought a map of the property.

Tim - The Council has been provided with a copy of the map but under a different name. The name is Jonathan Phipps. In order to place a mobile home on a lot, it must meet all the zoning requirements. Council can then approve the conditional use permit. This is located in an R-2 residential area down behind the mall off of Page Street.

Vickie - Is that where the Clifton Mobile Homes is?

Tim - Yes

Rick – Are there any houses in that area?

Tim - No

Rick - I don't see any problem with issuing the permit. I make the motion to allow them to move a trailer back in. Is it the exact location?

Tonya Watson - We have to move it a few feet. At one time, you had to be 5ft. from the line but now it is 10ft. It is basically the same location.

Mayor White - We need a motion to allow them to replace a trailer back in the same location as the trailer before.

Rick - I make a motion to allow them to move a trailer back into the same location as before. Vickie seconded the motion.

Mayor White - 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- 5/0.

Tim - Tonya, check with Kevin Blankenship tomorrow.

Mayor White - "Unscheduled Public Comment" - Phillip Lowe and Mark Gillespie

Mark Gillespie - I am the new President for the Richlands Little League.

Phillip Lowe - I am the Vice President of the Athlete League.

Mark Gillespie - We appreciate you giving us the opportunity to come tonight to speak. We are looking at an upgrade in some of the facilities throughout the league. We need to see if we can get the approval of the Council.

Phillip Lowe - We are not actually looking for any money we just need to talk with Tim and the Planning Commission to see what we could possibly do.

Tim – Are you talking about here in Richlands? Are you building new or just upgrading?

Mark Gillespie - Just upgrading.

Mayor White – Can you meet with the Committee and let us know.

Tim - If you want to do that, you need to submit the plans, drawings and any other ideas you may have.

Mark Gillespie - We have some hand drawings but we are getting more detailed drawings. Could we set up a meeting with Council?

Mary Ann - Mark came to our Rec Commission meeting last month. Could you come to the meeting next Monday and bring the plans. That is how the process works. I hope we can give our blessing.

Tim - Any building or lands owned by the Town for activity the Council controls that. It is a conditional use permit type of process. If it deals with recreation, it needs to go thru the Rec Commission.

Mark Gillespie – We need to start with the Rec Commission, correct?

Tim - Yes, and after that, full Council needs to vote.

Mary Ann – The Rec Commission would decide in favor or not in favor. I would give the report to the Council based on our decision. We trust and support the recommendations of the commission.

Phillip Lowe - If we have something together for next Monday's meeting, could we possibly discuss this at the next Council meeting?

Mary Ann - I would present this at our December meeting or our President, Ronnie Cordle, would come on behalf of the Rec Commission. We meet Monday at 7:30pm at the Rec Park and put you on the agenda.

Mark Gillespie - We look forward to working with the Town of Richlands.

Phillip Lowe - We want you to know we are here to help. We don't want to have scheduling conflicts and be in your way when events are going on in Richlands. About 70% of the Board has changed this year. The quicker we can get our schedules together the better off we will be. We want to make sure everything is done right.

Mayor White - We appreciate that and will coordinate with you. We will all work together and have good events.

Mary Ann – Communication seems to be the root of all problems. Rec Commission will be excited to see you on Monday.

Mayor White - “Unscheduled Public Comments”- Ernie Horton

Ernie Horton – We have some safety issues. (Passed picture around) We have a tight spot in the road. Two weeks ago, a school bus busted a tire. A neighbor also busted his tire. There are rocks sticking out. The area is approximately 60 ft. long at the pinch point. It needs a ditch. The lighting is another issue from the pump station out. Tim, we talked about this approximately seven (7) years ago and you said there was money for the lighting

Tim – We have money to do that.

Ernie Horton - If the town is not going to run lighting why can't you make a deal with Appalachian to buy their lights? We took pictures of 21 poles that are close to the road. We don't want a street light on every pole but when you leave the first pump station it is every dark. Deer come out on the embankments. We have plenty of road but if you run off the road you are going in a hole somewhere. The area we are talking about there has been two (2) or three (3) mishaps with the school bus. I told her to turn in to the School Board and maybe they can get help. There is an excavator sitting at the Tabernacle. It needs to be out on the road tomorrow to start on the ditch and pinch point. My saying is if I tell you about it and those kids get killed or someone gets hurt it falls to another level. This has gone on too long. Rick brought this up two (2) months ago. The kids stand out there every morning. If you bounce off the curve you could possibly hurt or kill a child. It is a safety issue. It needs to be started on tomorrow. Ms. England, we looked at a lot of clean up but nothing has been done. I don't know anything about the Cecil Ball house.

Mary Ann - Can we give immediate attention?

Tim - Yes, I will look at it. I don't want to commit to what we can do until I look at it. I am listening.

Grady McGlothlin - We need to do something with the Cecil Ball property. I have people coming to the church from all states. Richlands looks good but this area does not. It looks bad on Richlands. We are trying to have a clean Town but it is sure getting messed up bad. A lady busted two (2) tires on her vehicle on the bend. It is so narrow on the road they must get in the ditch to let people by.

Tim - Brad, what about the Cecil Ball house?

Brad - Last time I looked he had paid his taxes.

Grady McGlothlin - In Princeton, they give a warning to people. If they don't do it they are charged a fee.

Tim - We have a procedure. The problem is it is very difficult with our ordinances. We have had discussions with Council but we need to entertain again. We need to get more strength to what we have in place. By the time we get a notice to someone to mow their yard, it is 30 days before we can get it done, by then you have a bigger mess than you can imagine. There are some things in the codes that we can get a little more aggressive with. Council will have to pass a law before we can do that.

Grady McGlothlin - The Council needs to drive thru what you have annexed, it is a mess. Some yards have not been mowed in two (2) or three (3) years.

Audience - Vickie made a tour today. She wrote down all the questions and all the answers.

Vicki - I have no answers, but I have the list.

Brad - It has come to my attention recently there is a nuisance statute in VA law that may be useful for us to force the sale of that property.

Tim - We need more strength.

Bo Ball – Intersection of Purcell Rd. & Vickey Drive – I brought to the attention of Tim concerning the stop sign three (3) months ago. People are coming up the hill flying and do not stop. I thought maybe we could move the stop sign. I understand the road angles and you can't really do that, but you could put up the rubber strips like you said and cut the brush off. We are all here to talk about the same road. The curve where the old town markers use to be, that is where the rock cliff is that needs to be cut back three (3) or four (4) feet. The Town has a rock chipper, you chip out in one (1) or two (2) days.

Tim - The intersection you are talking about is Purcell Road and Vickey Drive. It is a difficult intersection.

Bo Ball - It is all that brush that is in the way. You said you would take care of it and you have not done it. It has fallen off your "Do" list. Find your list and get it done.

Tim - I have a big list.

Dale Joyce – 668 Purcell Road – About a month ago right below Vickey Drive, down to the pump station at the same curve, I was going thru there and a lady put me right on the edge of the ditch. A rock was sticking out and busted my tire and damaged side of my truck and tail light. The lady never slowed down. People come thru there flying all the time. You did have a tractor come up there and try to mow but he is only mowing a foot off the road. Two (2) deers were killed last fall from my house to Vickey Drive. There is no lighting, people run up on the deer, hit and kill them and leave them laying. We have that problem plus the ditch in front of my house. Years ago, when they first tried to incorporate, Donnie Lowe ask us for support and he would get the road fixed. They promised to fix the ditch and drainpipe. It has been over 15 years and nothing has been done. There is brush on each side of the road. You can't see what you are going to hit because the brush is sticking out on the edge of the road. It would be a great help if they could cut the brush. You could see the rocks that are sticking out on the edge of the road. It will tear the side of a vehicle out. It cost me over \$200 to fix the tire for that one evening. I am not the only one. I lived there 25 years and there have been wrecks every year. People have problems with tires being busted in that area because of the speed and the road is narrow. We would appreciate your help in getting this straightened out.

Ernie Horton - Ms. Mayor, Tim was talking about the ordinance officers, we don't have one.

Tim - We have officers.

Ernie - We don't have coding enforcement officers.

Tim - The officers are code enforcers, but don't have a specific purpose for that one individual.

Ernie - So we need to call Police Department?

Tim - Yes

Ernie - We are making the call for them to send someone tomorrow.

Mayor White - I can identify with what you are saying. I drive over there a lot.

Ernie - The whole area is a dump, Ms. England will tell you. The street lights need to be fixed.

Tim - I apologize but the lights have been put on the back burner. We will have to do a study to see where to put the lights in order to get them correct. We may be able to do ourselves. We can provide street lights and it would be a lot more efficient. We need proper spacing according to VDOT standards so we can get money. We may try to get lights at the intersection first to get them started. We could rent them until we come up with a long-term solution. You are right, it is well over due.

Ernie - It is unsafe, the cliff needs to be looked at tomorrow.

Tim - We will look at it and see what we can do, we only have one (1) crew.

Ernie - You can make up a crew, lives are important.

Mayor White - "Unscheduled Public Comments" - Ginger Branton

Ginger - We have completed our meetings for a County Wide Chamber. I will pass out the action plan. The intention is to have it completed by April 1. I will be retiring by June 30, 2018. We are appreciative of all the work that Doug Jackson did. We are in the process of attending all the Town Council meetings throughout the county as well as the Board of Supervisors. I would appreciate any input that you would have. Thank you

Mary Ann - I stated at our last Council meeting what a great job that Doug Jackson did. It was very informative and had great ideas. He pointed out our strengths and weakness. Thank you for putting all this together.

Ginger - In the packet you have a combination of all five (5) meetings, proposed strategic plan of work, job descriptions of Tazewell Chamber and Town of Richlands Chamber. Greater Bluefield Chamber of Commerce is in the process of doing the same facilitation, merging as a Mercer County Chamber. They completed their meetings in November. They could be making their announcement tonight at their annual meeting. Hopefully we will be making our announcement at our annual meeting in March. Pocahontas is part of the county, we did not leave them out. Bluefield, VA is also but not Bluefield, WV

Rod - Do you want us to review this?

Ginger – It is only for your information. Just to keep you informed on what is going on.

Mayor White - "Council Member Reports" - Rod Cury

Rod - I don't have any reports at this time.

Mayor White – "Council Member Reports" Vickie England

Vickie - I went on a long ride today and several things were brought to my attention. There are a lot of things that need to be diagnosed one by one. I rode around with Mr. Horton today thru Purcell and Birmingham. There are a couple places on Birmingham that look really bad. The commercial property is bleeding out into the road and there are huge semi-trucks. It looks like it is going to be an issue now and in the future. The Simmons land doesn't hold a candle to what this looks like now. There is a house on the corner as you go around Purcell, if the town looks at the shoulder tomorrow it needs to be addressed. There are three (3) trees that need to be cut down they are in a blinding curve. I'm not sure who lives in the white Cape Cod House.

Ernie Horton - If you ask the owner you may get permission to cut down the trees.

Vickie - I'll put you in charge of that.

Ernie Horton - I probably could influence her, I know her. I will ask her.

Vickie - The Ball property was one of the worst properties plus the property on Birmingham. We saw several things today that need to be addressed.

Mary Ann - Vickie shared the photos with me and I do agree with her. She did a great job. I assure you that you have gotten our attention and sure you will see improvement.

Mayor White – “Council Member Reports” - Rick Wood

Rick – Boards are loose on the bridge on Front Street. People say when they are running they are coming up.

Mayor White – “Council Member Reports” – Larry Johnson

Larry - We held a Public Safety Committee meeting with the main goal was to figure out how to take care of the Police Department and the deficiencies we are having in pay. We had some great ideas and think we have come up with a short-term solution. We would like to have a meeting this Thursday.

Tim - I would like to meet as soon as possible. It is very important that everyone be at the meeting. The meeting will last approximately 1 ½ hours.

Mayor White - We will text Doug and see if he can meet on Thursday at 5:30 and then we will make a decision on the time.

Larry - I was contacted earlier in the week about a grant from TVA that CRVI had applied for. We have been set aside at least \$20,000 for our access point for the swinging bridge. That came from where we completed the Critterville project; they saw we were doing things. They require an archaeological study. They are getting in motion and they pay for the study. If it comes back clear, we get the money.

Vickie - Is there going to be anymore river cleanup?

Larry - There is actually a group that all they do is river cleanup. We will schedule some days with them. They know what they can take out and what they can't.

Larry - I just recently graduated from the LEAD Leadership Academy. If anyone has the opportunity to join the LEAD Program, it is awesome. You find out a lot about the businesses in the community that you didn't know about, plus their functions and their leaders.

We also need to figure out the holiday schedule for the Police Department due to scheduling. We need to figure out the Town holiday schedule for this year.

Rick - Doug said he could meet on Thursday at 5:30 pm.

Mayor White - Is that agreeable with everyone? We will meet Thursday, November 16 at 5:30 pm at the Town Hall.

Larry – I would like to thank the Public Safety people that showed up at the Veterans Day parade and thank the Police Chief for the use of the Police Department. I appreciated the help.

Mayor White – Staff is asking for ½ day on the Wednesday before Thanksgiving plus Thursday and Friday. This is what most of the county is doing. In December, they are requesting ½ day on Friday December 22nd and the following Monday and Tuesday.

Rod - Sue are we talking about the schedule in the handout?

Sue – Yes, and Town of Cedar Bluff is considering following Tazewell's schedule. We have never had off ½ day on Wednesday before Thanksgiving before.

Vickie - I would think December 26 would be a "Yes" instead of December 22.

Mayor - Would someone like to put in a form of motion?

Vickie - I make a motion that we give the Staff off on December 26 off plus ½ day off on Wednesday the day before Thanksgiving. Rod seconded the motion.

Mayor White - 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- 5/0.

Mayor White – "Council Member Reports" – Mary Ann Strong

Mary Ann - I would like to congratulate Larry and Adrienne on being LEAD graduates. Adrienne was chosen by the class to be the speaker at graduation. She did an excellent job. I do have concerns on who may take over the LEAD Program when Ginger retires.

Vickie - I heard it may be the main person in Tazewell. I was in one of the first classes, it is a great program.

Mary Ann - I encourage people to participate with "Shop with a Cop"/ "White Christmas" event on December 9th at Magic Mart and December 10th at Walmart. I appreciate people that give to that, gives children a Christmas. I volunteer every year. I formed a relationship with the first little boy I had three (3) years ago. I encourage Council and everyone to come out and help.

The Rec Commission will meet next Monday November 20 at the Rec Park at 7:30 pm. There are a lot of things going on at the Rec Park, huge improvements with lockers and weight rooms. I understand there is a lot of new equipment coming to the weight room. Mr. Phillips was able to get the items donated. Tony Cordle is organizing the Corn Hole League. Ricky Barton is coming next month to speak to us about different things. Larry, can you come to one of our meetings to keep us abreast of what is going on? We have good meetings; we have an agenda and try to keep to an hour or hour and half.

Mayor White - Any questions on the Department Head Reports?

Vickie – Do we have an update on the streets at the Rec Park?

Tim – We talked to VDOT representatives about that. I have a some concerns about the width of the pavement and right of way, but trying to work out something. We have until April to get the request in. Council will require some resolutions. We could get money from the state and adjust the budget. I don't have an update from VDOT. We will try to follow up.

Mary Ann - Thank you Vickie for mentioning, last month didn't seem like there was much hope because of the width. That is encouraging.

Rick – At the beginning it is a little iffy, but the rest will work. They may leave out 40 ft. but the rest may be included.

Tim - There are some waivers, we just must see what they are. There are waivers for certain conditions. We will look at it.

Mayor White - Any more questions on Department Head Reports?

Mayor White - You all have your invitations for the Christmas Dinner that Public Safety is having.

Mayor White - I have a question about the traffic at the school. I don't know if you have ever had to go and pick up your grandchildren/children but it is chaotic there. You almost take your life in your own

hands trying to get to one street or the other. Is there any way that we could have a Resource Officer at the school at that time? The Sheriff's Department use to do it.

Tim - It is in the county it is not in our jurisdiction.

Mayor White - Were we not given an agreement where to take care of things at the school several years ago?

Tim - Not with the county, we have an agreement with the Security Resource Officer.

Rod - Are you talking about in the afternoon when you come to pick up the children?

Mayor White - It is in the morning and the evening.

Rod - In the morning, Police from Cedar Bluff are at the turn in closest to the library. In the afternoon, there is a police officer at the same location directing people out on the main street.

Mayor White - I am talking about on Jones Chapel Road.

Vickie - There was a deputy there this year for a long time. Maybe we need to find out from the Sheriff's office why they are not there anymore. One morning there were two (2) police officers there.

Rod - It is a safety issue, we need to ask and see if they can put someone back there.

Tim - The school may have a contact to ask.

Vickie - I talked to Frank about it because someone had asked me about it.

Tim - Right now we are shorthanded, we need to get our man power up. It is out of our jurisdiction.

Frank - I had a conversation with the Sheriff at the beginning of school year. They wanted us to do alternate days with deputies, but it is out of our jurisdiction.

Mayor White - Christmas Parade will be on November 27 at 5:45 pm. Bruce was trying to help us get some other schools to attend. We would pay for two (2) other schools for approximately \$200. I would pay myself if I have to.

Vickie - If the board of supervisors paid for one town, then we need to make a request.

Mayor White - "Attorney Comments" - Brad Ratliff

Brad - Earlier this week I received an email from Eric Young, County Attorney. Apparently, there has been some discussion with the School Board about considerations of closing some of the schools. During the last Board of Supervisors meeting, Charlie Stacy – Board Member introduced a resolution in support of Tazewell County Public Schools. The resolution provides a request to the School Board not to do anything immediately but to wait until economic development comes to the county. Eric Young sent a copy of the resolution and asks that I read it to Council for consideration. There is an error I made in transposing the resolution but I will go ahead and read the resolution. I would like to put this before the Council for consideration. (Read the Resolution)

Mayor White - What is Council's pleasure?

Rod - What was the error in the resolution?

Brad – On the third WHEREAS should read Tazewell County Board of Supervisors instead of Board, on the fourth WHEREAS should read Tazewell County Board of Supervisors instead of Town Council.

Rod - Could you read again so I can be clear? Is there an anticipation of when the Dominion plant may come?

Brad - I was not provided that information.

Rod - I would hesitate to put any pressure on the School Board on what ifs. I am cautious about this.

Mayor White - It's not binding but I do have some reservations.

Larry - I make a motion that we support the resolution with errors corrected. Rick seconded the motion.

Mayor White - 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- 4/1. (Rod abstained due to lack of understanding)

Jim Talbert- My understanding is that they are supposed to make a decision by the middle of 2018 on Dominion, not sure on the other.

Mayor White - Manager's Report – Tim Taylor

Tim – Please review the check register and let me know if you have any questions. Most of the bills you have seen before and already know what they are for.

Mary Ann - What is check number 56970 to BSN Sports?

Tim - Four (4) portable basketball stands paid for thru donations.

Mayor White - Anymore questions? Do I have a motion to allow Mr. Taylor to pay the bills?

Mary Ann - I make a motion to allow Tim to pay the bills, Larry seconded the motion.

Rod - What about Check 56999 to Hill Studio P.C? I know it is for the Section House but what are we paying for?

Tim – Administration fees for inspection and reviewing change orders.

Rod - Is that part of the reimbursement?

Tim - Part of the budget.

Mayor White – Does Hill Studio have to oversee that?

Tim – Everything that's mandated, any type of change order or activity they make sure it is compliant with the program. It must be signed off with an engineer or an architect and VDOT.

Rod - So that is part of the budget that we are allotted from the grant?

Tim – Yes or a match.

Mayor White - 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- 5/0.

Tim - I noticed in the minutes last month you discussed the check we sent to the contractor. The only reason I give you a copy is for a good paper trail. We want the Council to be aware of what we are spending.

Rod – That is why I ask the Mayor why we need to make a motion since it has already been approved. Brad confirmed since we already voted to pay the bills in the check register, we didn't have to make another motion.

Tim - Just another layer to let everyone know what is going on.

Mayor White - What is the projected update?

Tim - There is going to be a delay in the actual construction. Mainly weather related and the process of getting approvals, submittals delay and changes have to be approved. Kevin, do you have information to when you think Twin Enterprises will be finished?

Kevin Blankenship– February 2018

Rod - The committee has worked so hard, glad these questions come thru the council, it is important. Anyone is welcome to attend the Section House meetings. If we have more than two (2) Council members, we have to report to the press.

Rod – We have discovered interesting things about the Section House such as what the original colors were. It is turning in to a beautiful home and if you haven't been in it while they are working, I would encourage you to go and look. We are working on the educational programing, one of the major components. It is not a museum; we will have displays in the house. Everything will have an educational purpose for citizens and school students. The crew has saved tons of bottles out of the house. They are not worth money but they tell a story. This is one of the projects that is making Richlands a better place. There is no silver bullet for this Town, it is the total package and it is our history, our future industry and leadership. It is the whole package that makes this Town GREAT. The project has been going on for seven (7) years going on eight (8).

Mary Ann - I am new on the Section House Committee. I am impressed with everything that has been done. Lynna runs a very efficient meeting and the committee members can sense all the excitement and pride they have. It has been a lot of perseverance.

Tim - Miscellaneous - We have a request from Jason Mosely, an application for zoning permit which is pending approval based on the code section because of the use of it. It is an application for a business for body piercing. Approx. three (3) years ago Council had taken a request to add use of tattoo and piercing parlor. That was added as a use but neglected to put on line, for some reason we missed it. (Read the zoning request- Section 5-1-25A). This needs action from the Council. We have a request that came in late to operate the body piercing shop. We have on the agenda to ask Council to initiate the process. Council would need to have a public hearing, possibly next month. Do you want the Planning Commission to review?

Rod - Yes

Tim – I will ask the Planning Commission to review and get the process started. Shop will be located at 1525 Front Street, across from the Section House. Brad, if there is anything additional I need to do, please let me know.

Brad - Do you want me to prepare the Public Hearing notice?

Tim - Yes, and I will make the directive to the Planning Commission.

Tim - Bridge Inspections - We need professional bridge inspections. We need to have professional services for that because it is a very important and very particular expertise that professional engineers provide. We have several bridges in town that need inspected. The larger ones and the ones that have issues due to deficiencies are inspected every year or every other year. We have used the same

contractor, Schwartz & Associates, Inc, for a number of years. They are very familiar with our bridges and located in Lynchburg. They have done an excellent job. This week, VDOT announced the Federal Highway Commission, emergency response vehicles has to be added to the scope of services for this contract. We are looking for Council to approve me signing the agreements and putting into the minutes that I have determined as purchasing agent that this be a sole source determination. (Read document)

"I hereby determine, based upon previous procurement experience and their familiarity with bridges within the Town of Richlands, that Schwartz & Associates, Inc., Consulting Engineers, is the only source practically available for the conducting of bridge safety inspections for the Town and after negotiating with this firm, I recommended that Council authorize me to execute an Agreement dated the 9th day of November, 2017 for this service, covering bridge inspection reports for 2017 through 2020, dated this 14th day of November 2017.

Tim - The price for the service – Years most aggressive \$13,580 – Fiscal year 2017 – November/ December. Next year 2018 \$5,470. Next year \$14,670, up a little from prior years because of \$1250 railroad construction fee which requires \$900 for railroad flagman when we do the bridge at Veterans Drive.

Tim - I recommend Council to authorize me to sign the agreements. I will date the agreement for tomorrow.

Mayor White - Would someone please make a motion for Mr. Taylor to sign the agreements?

Larry - I make the motion to allow Mr. Taylor to sign the contract for bridge inspections for next three (3) years. Mary Ann seconded the motion.

Mayor White - 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- 5/0.

Tim – Application in to Cumberland Plateau Planning District Commission to help fund a portion or all the construction activity to provide sewage to the West Fork area. Project total if for \$277,000. We were awarded a grant from Southwest VA Water Construction Funds for \$52,697.00. Recommend balance of budget can be met not only with money but with time and keep in the guidelines of the activities. We can get toward the match of the grant. We may be able to do cheaper thru house; only way we can do it. I need authorization to sign the contract, Individual Project Agreement, with Cumberland Plateau Planning District.

Rick - I make the motion to authorize Mr. Taylor to sign the contract with Cumberland Plateau Planning District. Vickie seconded the motion.

Mayor White - 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- 5/0.

Larry - The Holiday Bazaar will be held on December 2nd at the Police Department. Local vendors will set up for Christmas.

Larry - I would also like to mention there are adults in our community that are texting and messaging our football players threatening and making comments about their play level. Please ask people to stop if you know of anybody.

Mary Ann - Is it possible to add another item to Closed Session? I would like to discuss the Downtown Coordination position.

Rod - Could we have an update at our next meeting on the Codification-Code of Ordinances, not only where we stand but what is the projected date to get it done?

Brad - The project is done.

Rod - Is it here in our Town?

Tim - We have copies but have not distributed them.

Rod - Why have we not distributed?

Brad – It is updated annually. We made a number of changes. We have submitted and have gotten those back. We had other changes they had questions on. We now have additional changes.

Rod - How many additional changes?

Brad - Multiple pages identified with needed changes.

Rod - We started this process the 2nd time I was elected. I talked to the Mayor about it approx. eight (8) years ago. I would like to see a conclusion.

Mayor White - We need a motion to go into “Closed Session” per Section 2.2-3711 (A) 5 Prospective Business and Section 2.2-3711 (A) 1 Personnel.

Larry - I make a motion to go into “Closed Session” per Section 2.2-3711(A) 5 Prospective Business and Section 2.2-3711 (A) 1 Personnel. Mary Ann seconded the motion.

Mayor White - 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- 5/0.

Mayor White - Do I have a motion to come back in to “Open Session”? Larry made the motion, Mary Ann seconded the motion.

Mayor White - 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 5/0.

Mayor White - Do all members agree the only business discussed in “Closed Session” was Section 2.2-3711(A) 1 Personnel and Section 2.2-3711 (A) 5 Prospective Business. Vickie – Yes, Rick – Yes, Mary Ann- Yes, Larry- Yes, Rod- Yes.

Mayor White - Do we have a motion to adjourn?

Rick – I make the motion to adjourn, Vickie seconded the motion.

Mayor White - 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 - 5/0.

Jannis White, Mayor

Connie Allen, Town Clerk