

The Richlands Town Council held a regular monthly meeting in the Richlands Council Chambers on May 14, 2019 at 7:30pm with the following present:

Mayor: Paul Crawford
Town Manager: Tim Taylor
Town Clerk: Connie Allen
Council Members: Richard Brown, Vickie England, Rod Cury, Mary Ann Strong,
Rick Wood
Council Member Absent: Doug Ratliff
Town Attorney : Shannon Cooke

Mayor Crawford opened the meeting.

Connie Allen gave the invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Crawford – Do we have any additions/deletions/corrections to the agenda?

Mayor Crawford - Please add Ernest Edgell to the agenda.

Mayor Crawford – Do we have a motion to approve the agenda as amended? Rod made the motion to approve the agenda as amended, Mary Ann seconded the motion.

Mayor Crawford- 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 Crawford – We have four (4) sets of minutes, Regular Council Meeting April 9, Budget Work Sessions, April 17, April 23, and April 30. Are there any corrections, additions or deletions to the minutes?

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

Rick - I make a motion to approve the minutes as presented, Mary Ann seconded the motion.

Mayor Crawford- 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 Crawford – Consideration of Proclamation for EMS Appreciation Week (May 19-25) (Read the Proclamation).

Mayor Crawford - Do we have a motion to accept the Consideration of Proclamation for EMS Appreciation Week (May 19-15)?

Rod - I make the motion to approve the Proclamation for EMS Appreciation Week, Richard seconded the motion.

Mayor Crawford- 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 Crawford – Consideration of Proclamation for National Police Week -May 12-18 (Read the Proclamation).

Mayor Crawford - Do we have a motion to accept the Consideration of Proclamation for National Police Week (May 12-18)?

Rod- I make the motion to approve the Proclamation for National Police Week, Mary Ann seconded the motion.

Mayor Crawford- 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 Crawford – Chief Gilbert to recognize Lieutenant Paul Little for being nominated and named Fraud Fighters Award recipient by the Virginia State Police Insurance Fraud Program.

Chief Gilbert - I would like to recognize Lieutenant Paul Little. He was recognized in April for a case he had worked on in 2017. An insurance agency lost the rights to sell insurance but continued to sell anyway. We were alerted about the fraud taking place. Lieutenant Paul Little was assigned to work the case along with an insurance investigator from Richmond. He successfully worked the case and the individual was convicted. There were several victims of the fraud. The Fraud Fighters Award Program was established in 2005. They recognize individuals that go the extra mile. It is a very prestigious award and is rarely obtained by small departments. On April 10 Lieutenant and I traveled to Richmond to the International Association Special Investigation Unit, VA Chapter. He was presented the award for his outstanding investigation on this case. We would like to recognize him tonight for his efforts in this case. Thank You for your commitment.

Mayor Crawford - Thank you Paul and congratulations on your award.

Paul Little - I greatly appreciate the opportunity that Chief Dorton and current Chief Gilbert gave me by placing me in a position where I could assist these victims.

Mayor Crawford - Richlands Garden Club – Judith Edgell: Beautification Award in June

Judith Edgell - We wanted to share with you a new project, we are reinstating the Beautification Award. We will give one (1) award to a home owner and one (1) to a Business. The Art Department at Richlands High School made us the beautiful sign. We hope you will help us get the word out. We provided you with a flyer and information to put on the website. We will start planting the baskets next week in Town, we just want to beautify Richlands. Ms. Allen will you pass out the flyers when you go to different businesses?

Connie - Yes, I would be glad to.

Mayor Crawford - I remember when we had it in the past.

Mayor Crawford – “Scheduled Public Comments” – Richlands Wrestling Club

John - Thank you for letting me speak. I am here on behalf of the Richlands Wrestling Club. I would like to go over some of our goals. We want to become recognized at the Middle School and Elementary School level. We have come across some road blocks on trying to do this with the school system. We don't have a stable facility to practice in, and good funding sources. We have roughly 80 kids. The club is approximately two (2) years old. We have had good success. I started wrestling when I was approximately three (3) years old. I was considered unprivileged and had a single mom. Through this it taught me self-reliability and was able to compete in college and get a college degree. We really want to bring to our local kids and give them the same opportunity. We wanted to know if there is a facility, preferable at no cost and some funding? We had a church that let us use a large garage that they had but it did not have a connected bathroom. During the winter we will need to figure something out for heat and a bathroom. It is OK in the summer but in the winter, we need another facility. The Varsity Program has had five (5) to six (6) state qualifiers, one state champ. The Youth Program will get much better, thank you for your time and we are asking for any help we can get.

Mayor Crawford - Any questions for John or comments?

Mayor Crawford - Cecil Ball – 202 Vickey Drive – Drainage Issue

Cecil – My property connects to Brother Grady McGlothlin’s church. When he put the church in they dug a ditch that goes around the edge of the property and goes into a holding pond. They put the sewer up thru there, but they didn’t put the ditch back, it is draining thru my yard and washing out the lower part of the driveway making a rut. I need the rut filled in and the ditch put back in, so the water will go to the holding pond. I am going to put a 32ft camper in as we speak on the lower driveway. I can’t get the camper in there because I can’t get over the rut. There is nowhere else to put the camper it has to go in at the bottom of the driveway. I talked to Pastor Grady about it and he said he had all the paperwork where they made him dig the holding pond, cost extra \$20,000 for the ditch around the pond. Water is coming into my garage. Mr. Taylor has been good about working with me but if we get a hard rain it jumps the drain and gets rocks in my garage. I need to know what we can do to fix the problem.

Tim - I will come and look at it, I took notes on what you said.

Cecil - I called the Town the other day, they said George met in the mornings and said George would go and look at it.

Tim - We would have to do a work order, it is probably in progress. I will check on it.

Cecil – I need something done within the next week.

Tim - I will have to look at it and see what we can do.

Cecil - The camper will be here within the next week. My mom passed away I have to move everything out of her house into my house. There is no way to get water to my house, besides a roof over my head that is all I have.

Tim - You are not going to try and live in the camper, are you?

Cecil - No, I will use to take a shower and things like that. I have some people that are coming in to help me rewire my house. I don’t plan on living in the camper, but I am getting one.

Tim - Are you putting on the back side of your house?

Cecil – Yes

Tim - We will go and look at it.

Richard - You are moving from Farmer Street to Vickey Drive?

Cecil - Yes

Mayor Crawford - “Unscheduled Public Comments” – Ernest Edgell

Ernest – 206 Terry Drive, Richlands, VA – It is getting warmer and I live on one of the straight stretches in Hidden Valley. Is the speed limit 25 mph? When it gets warmer the kids come out on bicycles. We don’t need people going 40mph. The road from the Food Pantry to where you turn into Hidden Valley there is a lot of pot holes in the road, it is hard to stay on your side of the road. I notice the road after you pass the red light in Dalton Addition, is that break in the road going to slide off onto the railroad?

Tim - We have looked at it; it is scheduled to be overlay this week.

Ernest - Do we have a noise ordinance?

Tim - We have a nuisance ordinance. What type of noise is it?

Ernest - Loud mufflers and it is usually the ones that are speeding.

Shannon – There is a State Law about mufflers usually ticketed by officers when they hear them.

Ernest - I have heard about people getting tickets for that. I have stood in my front yard and counted cars, one day eight (8) out of ten (10) cars within 20 minutes ran the stop sign at the end of the street. There is also a cat problem in this Town. Is there an ordinance about dropping cats off?

Shannon - I am not sure there is an ordinance about dropping cats off but there is certainly statutes about cruelty to animals and abandoning animals. I was asked to look into feeding non-domestic wildlife the last meeting. I have reviewed and would like some direction from the Council. The problem needs to be addressed. There is not an ordinance about feeding cats except for cruelty to animals in the state code.

Ernest - Some people would say it would be cruel not to feed them, so what are you supposed to do? The people dropping them off don't want to feed them.

Richard - I was going to speak to you about the speeding problem. Chief Gilbert has been working with Chief Brown in Cedar Bluff in reference to one of the speed trailers. The driver actually can see the speed he is driving, they will know if they are speeding.

Chief Gilbert - We are working on it.

Richard - We will park in Mr. Edgell's yard. This would give you the opportunity to see the speed and what they are doing.

Ernest - You can park a patrol car at my house. I suggested years back for them to borrow the one from Cedar Bluff.

Richard - We need it and we are working on getting it.

Mayor Crawford - Does it collect vehicle information?

Richard - No, it does not but the driver of the vehicle can see what speed he is going and if he is speeding. It is hard to get someone speeding in a residential area. I know they have written some tickets over there in the past, I don't know about now.

Ernest -They need to write tickets and retrain some people, like they did for me years ago.

Mayor Crawford - Chief Gilbert can you follow up and let us know if you get the machine next month. I know they are checking pretty close from Hidden Valley down to Valero.

Ernest – Some people speed pass school buses.

Mayor Crawford - I wish they could get their tag number.

Chief Gilbert - We are actively working some of those now, I know it has become an issue again.

Mayor Crawford - I can tell you for myself I know Ernest is watching Terry Drive, so I avoid all together.

Mayor Crawford - Update on Downtown Events- Connie Allen

Connie – We have a lot going on this month. On May 17 we will have the unveiling of the LOVEwork sign. I have given each of you a draft of the program. The Rally "YAY" will be Friday, May 17 at 11:15 at Critterville. The Town Wide Yard Sale is May 18. On May 29 we will be having the 2nd Event Collaboration meeting. Clinch Valley Health will be providing lunch. Maddie White sent me some

information on "Little Free Library" the concept is take a book leave a book, free book exchange. We plan to make a couple for the Town, one (1) at the Farmer's Market and one (1) at the Greenway. The community has been giving me several ideas for community projects.

Rick - Is there one (1) for adults and one (1) for kids?

Connie - We can do that.

Rick - Adults have a lot of books that they need to give away, would be nice to trade out.

Connie - It would be good for the community, especially if we get the greenway and include in the project.

Connie - Hope to see everyone at the LOVEwork unveiling on Friday, May 17 at 10:00 am, the program should not last more than an hour. We will then go directly to Critterville for the Rally "YAY" Project. This will end the Rally grant.

Richard - I had a request from the ladies at the Post Office. They want to be involved in the greenway. They want you to come by and talk to them; they want to do a Blessing Box. They want to be able to supply hygiene items in small packages. They want to take the lead on the project.

Connie - It would be good if they could come to the meeting on May 29.

Mayor Crawford - "Council Member Reports" – Rod Cury

Rod – At the last Planning Commission meeting we had a special guest. Tim would you update the Council.

Tim - The Planning Commission took an active role in the Clinch Valley Walking Trail initial project. The Planning Commission is using money provided by Friends of Southwest Virginia. We have \$26,000 to do a preliminary engineering report as well as \$4000 from Tazewell County RDA. This gives us a total of \$30,000 to use for engineering services to provide more detail type of conceptual cost figures. The design is wide spread because of the concepts. We need details on what it will cost to do the project. We need good cost figures before we can move forward. We must have numbers to get funding. The next meeting is scheduled for June 4, at that time we will have a report from the engineers. The project will affect different parts of Town.

Rod - The next event at the Section House is a Genealogy Workshop by Gaynelle Thompson our Town Historian. She will be conducting a genealogy workshop on May 21 at 6:00pm. If you are interested, you can call Gaynelle. It is on the ACCESS channel as well as on our Downtown Richlands Inc. Facebook page. She has a lot of knowledge on how to do this, she said once you get started it is contagious.

Rod - We are a voluntary group at the Section House. Once school is out I am hoping to dedicate a tremendous amount of time along with some other members developing Story Corps, which is a PBS Program. We already have the program and things to set up. Story Corp is where people can come to the Section House and tell their story, whatever they want to tell. The stories will be recorded; it is extremely interesting to hear people tell about their lives and families.

Rod - We lost one (1) of our employees recently, Richard Vance, he died this past weekend. I have been in contact with his sister, she doesn't know any arrangements at this time but will be on the Singleton Funeral Home website. I think he was an employee here for about 40 years. On behalf of the Council and everyone in the community I want to say we are very sorry and wish the family a lot of peace and comfort. We will miss him.

Mayor Crawford – "Council Member Reports" – Vickie England

Vickie – The other morning when I came into my office I found a very nice card from the Richlands Police Department, they had come by and checked my office during the night. I appreciate that very much. I don't know how many businesses they go by, but I thank you very much, I find it very comforting. The nuisance ordinance regarding grass, I seem to be getting a lot of calls where neighbors are not cutting their grass. I will get with the Police Department to go over the list of yards that need cut.

Mayor Crawford – “Council Member Reports” – Rick Wood

Rick – I have received several calls on the bridge, we fix the holes, but they keep coming back. I know there is not a whole lot we can do.

Tim - We tried patching but the only way to fix for a length of time is do a lot of cut out. We will try and put on the list.

Rick – It is my understanding there are potholes over toward Jim Brown's.

Mayor Paul Crawford – “Council Member Reports” – Richard Brown

Richard – Regarding the list of complaints that each of us have, they are citizen driven. How is the list prioritized?

Tim – Depends on how severe, the pot holes we know, we have already patched twice this year. We try to fix some of them daily. We put gravel in some of them until we can do it right and then we will do it all in a day or two. It will make a bigger impression. As far as bigger jobs if that is what you are talking about, we do have a prioritized list.

Richard - Yes, we keep getting some of the same complaints. We need to get some things done. Just wonder how you prioritized getting them done.

Tim - It is difficult.

Mayor Paul Crawford - In my comments, I have an idea that I talked about with Tim and I am going to ask for Council support.

Richard - Councilman Cury and I think Councilman Ratliff was on the Council with me in 2008/2010 when we had the suit filed that ended up being nonsuited and basically developed the electrical fund. We had “New Town, Old Town” and there was a disparity between citizens in what we called “Old Town” paying the rates to support “New Town” such as Hidden Valley. We didn't own the electrical piece. Over the years Hidden Valley, Daw Road residents and other places have not suffered lack of services thru the years based on their tax dollars. I think it is time to revisit with what is going on with that. I don't think the reserve was meant to be what it is now. We suffer every year trying to budget with Capital, it is hard to see money sitting there not being spent.

Tim - It needs an adjustment, the law suit encouraged us to think about it a little more. The contribution is not equitable, every community that owns an electrical utility transfers a legitimate amount of money that makes sense to the general fund for payment of taxes. If it was Appalachian Power or Dominion Power owned like in the Hidden Valley area they have to contribute taxes. Every community gets a payment, normally the utilities pay the little taxes because utilities use the streets which is a governmental function. They have to provide police protection, security, and snow removal they don't pay for, needs a contribution of some sort. There are formulas for that, we can entertain doing it. It gives a fair equate way for citizens of the “Old Town” to pay for the services that everyone pays for. Appalachian Power pays us taxes for what happens in Hidden Valley. I think we can justify, it won't be what it used to be, right now skewed the other way.

Richard – We suffer every year trying to find money for capital needs. The electrical fund is not what it was meant to be.

Tim - Justifying the transferring of the taxes is normal across the country. We will reduce the PCA if we need to.

Rod - Tim you said it skewed a little bit the other way, what way are you talking about?

Tim – The main problem that exists the folks in town that are paying and subsidizing the taxes for other people. The Council could use those funds for whatever they wanted to, we can't do that now. The "Old Town" supporting the "New Town".

Rod - The "Old Town/New Town" people capitalize on that and make our Town better.

Mayor Paul Crawford - "Council Member Reports" – Mary Ann Strong

Mary Ann – There is a lot of positive activity and a lot of good going on in our Town. One May 4 at Critterville there was a joint effort with Teen Center volunteers, Boy Scouts and Kiwanis to put mulch down at Critterville. I would like to thank the Town for bringing the mulch to Critterville and thanks to all the volunteers that helped with that. Rec Commission will meet Monday night at 7:30pm upstairs in the conference room. Anyone with questions or ideas should come and meet with us. It is always the 3rd Monday of every month. The next big event is "The Great Richlands Road Race", 5K Run/Walk Race on Saturday, June 15, sponsored by three (3) organizations, Parks and Recreation, Kiwanis Club and Clinch Valley Health. Thank you, Chief Gilbert, for working with all the organizations, obviously it takes time to mark the road and be safe. At the event the hospital is giving wellness credits; I expect 100 plus runners. Race starts at 8:00am on June 15. Kiwanis will be serving a pancakes/sausage breakfast after the race to the runners. That will be at the Section House, will be a really nice way to show off the Section House.

Mayor Crawford – We need to appoint two (2) committee members from Council to attend/interact with the Tazewell County Board of Supervisors on negotiation for EMS/Fire Contract. We have Richard and Rick who have volunteered to do that.

Rod - I make the motion for Richard Brown and Rick Wood to represent the Town with Tazewell County Board of Supervisors on negotiation for EMS/Fire Contract, Mary Ann seconded the motion.

Mayor Crawford- 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 Crawford - We need one (1) more budget work session. I think everyone can make it to the meeting tomorrow night. Meetings are for Council's input into the budget.

Rick - I make the motion to have a Budget Work Session on Wednesday, May 15, at 6:30pm, Vickie seconded the motion.

Mayor Crawford- 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 Crawford – We need a work session to prioritize jobs for the Town. We, the Mayor and the Council come up with things that we ask Tim to get done and we have a list. We as a Town need to prioritize the list as Council and Mayor for Tim. Tim can give direction and prioritize with his Town workers. If we prioritize we can tell citizens, it is on the list and let them know it will be done during a certain period. People automatically think it is on the list, but it falls to the wayside. I would like for you to be thinking about having a work session for us to get together. Tim will get the list together for us and then we can prioritize the things we have been talking about. It will be a continued list. I am not satisfied where we are now of keeping people informed or where we are and what is being done. Sometimes you must tell people it is not going to be done. Please give some thought before the next meeting.

Mayor Crawford - Mr. Compton on Shell Street brought up to me about a drain problem. George and Tim, you may already be aware of the problem. Can you please check on that?

Mayor Crawford - I would like to get a quote to get the sound system fixed. People are always telling me that can't hear the meetings.

Tim - It is fixed it is just a connection problem. We will test before the next meeting.

Mayor Crawford - My wife said she has to turn the T.V. up full volume before she can hear the meeting, there is something wrong.

Tim - We need to do a live check before the Council meetings.

Mayor Crawford – "Attorney Comments" – Shannon Cooke

Shannon – I have sent to each of you a suggested draft of two (2) different ordinances, which will supplement the procedures of what you already have in place. The first one deals with trash, weeds, cutting of grass, etc. The general procedure would be someone would have to notify the Police, Council or Town Manager. The Town Manager will send out a letter to the owner of the property, to take care of the weeds, cut the grass or take care of the trash, we will give them 30 days to do it. At the end of the 30 days if the issue has not been resolved the Town has one (1) or two (2) options or both. The Town can step in and take the town workers to clean, mow, haul off trash whatever and charge to the owner, attach charges to the property, and put a lien on the property. If the property is sold the money must be paid back to the Town. The Town can tax sale the property. The other option is for one of Jerry's employees to knock on their door and hand them a summons to appear in Tazewell court on a Monday morning to address a situation for violation of the ordinance. The penalties that I have set within the ordinance are based on the state code on what Towns can do. It is usually a \$50 fine and if there is repeated separate events the fines can go up. This gives the Town some immediate enforcement without involvement of the Town Council, basically the Town Manager sends a letter and they have 30 days to take care of the problem. The second ordinance deals with structures that any endanger public health or safety. The only difference is the notice to the owner by state code is required to be sent certified mail and published in the paper for two (2) consecutive weeks, they have 30 days. The town has two (2) options and they can do both, clean it up, demolish it and remove and charge the owner of the property. If they don't pay it is attached as a lien or the town can issue a summons to see them in court on Monday morning in Tazewell. The maximum is \$1000 fine, that is what is allowed by the state code. This takes the Public Hearing out of it. It is left up to the Town Manager to notify them once the notice is given. The lien process is easy to do. Please review and let me know of any changes you want to make. I think it is the quickest and easiest to get things cleaned up. I did not write these to supplement what is already in the ordinances, I will leave the existing procedure. This gives the Town Manager an option. The reason for that, the state ordinances on which they are based don't allow to tag a resident or renter of these properties, applies only to the owner. What we have in the ordinance books will allow you to enforce on the owner, resident or the occupant. These two (2) ordinances are toward the owner of the property.

Richard - When you refer to the state allowing civil penalties.

Shannon - If anyone is willing to go to court to fight and give reason why he didn't have to mow their yard.

Rick - Do we need to make a motion?

Shannon – I just wanted to propose these two (2) Ordinances for you to review. If you want to make any changes you can make at the next meeting.

Mayor Crawford - I would like to encourage everyone to read the ordinances. Shannon is very available for discussion throughout the month. Let's try to pin this one down at our next regular meeting.

Shannon - I am available anytime unless I am in court. You are welcome to come by my office.

Mary Ann - Does the Town Manager determine if we do both?

Shannon - It is up to the Town Manager, he can run by the Council.

Tim - We will need to establish some guidelines and take a lot of pictures.

Shannon - They will receive a notice. This is the purpose of the ordinance if you won't do it we will do it for you.

Shannon - The food truck ordinance- This is in the final form best that I can get it. I comprised on what Mary Ann said last month and changed and set the permit fee at \$50. I don't know if that is enough or appropriate for the Council. I amended to allow the discretion of the Town Manager to allow any food truck to operate anywhere in the Town regardless of zoning if he has written permission. I put operation hours from 6am-9pm unless approved by the Town Manager. I set the maximum number as four (4) but can be adjusted by the Town Manager. I wanted to see if the Council would treat this as an emergency since the season is already here. We can read tonight and not have to put in the paper.

Mayor Crawford - What is the pleasure of the Council?

Rick - I make the motion to accept the ordinance written without a first and second reading as an emergency measure, Vickie seconded the motion.

Mayor Crawford- 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.

Shannon – Read the ordinance.

Chief Gilbert - One of the restrictions was operating on a public right-a-way. Operating snow/ice cream truck, does that restrict me from driving the neighborhood?

Shannon - You can't block main entry drive ways, loading areas, handicap parking spaces, obstruct the view of any intersection of public rights-of-way or block emergency access or fire lanes.

Rod - I make the motion to accept the ordinance written as read. Rick seconded the motion.

Mayor Crawford- 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.

Rod - I want to thank Mary Ann for bringing up the "The Great Richlands Road Race". We will have our next Section House committee meeting Thursday. We will bring up using the facility for the breakfast after the race. We embrace this idea. It does bring people to the Section House in a very positive way. I talked about "Story Corp". I will be the person working on that, but I don't have the time right now. It is very likely we will have that operational by June 15. It will be an excellent opportunity to tell all kinds of interesting things particularly for runners. I will give you an example, talking about how running has changed their life. We have advertised with ACCESS and Downtown Richlands Inc. Facebook page which supports the Section House. I would also like to thank the Richlands Women's Club who donated a dogwood tree which is the State Flower. With the contribution of the Women's Club, Eleanor Arms, Mr. Kirby, FHA and National History Club, the tree was planted this past week. We are very appreciative to all these people who make it a community effort. We will be meeting with the Garden Club about the landscaping, but we are not quite ready yet.

Richard - Dave Beavers with the school asked me if we could pick up the garbage twice a week at the school. Their garbage truck is broken down. They said we could bill what needed to be billed. We will need to pick up at all three (3) schools.

Tim - We can do that.

Vickie - I believe we have someone in the audience that wants to say something, but they didn't get on the list for tonight.

Christy - I am Christy Hay from Life Church. Me and my husband Brandon are Pastors at Life Church in the Claypool Hill Mall. I was born and raised in Richlands and went to Richlands High School. We love our community and want to serve in the community. I want to do more outreach with our High School students, they have had a really hard year. We want to do an end of the year event for 9th-12th graders at the Rec Park. Some of our local churches are coming together to have the event for the kids. We will have food, door prizes, celebration of life and bring hope and love into their lives. I am asking to use the Rec Park on May 24, next Friday from 5pm-9pm.

Tim - You want to use the Rec Park, I don't know if it is available. Adrienne do you know?

Adrienne – Yes, it is available.

Mary Ann - I make the motion to allow Life Church and churches joining to have an event for Richlands High School students on Friday, May 24 at the Rec Park and waive all fees. Vickie seconded the motion.

Tim - You will have plenty of supervision, correct?

Christy - Yes, I have several volunteers.

Vickie – How are you going to get the word out to students?

Rick - Can we put on the ACCESS channel?

Tim – Yes

Christy - We will put on our church Facebook page. Carlene Absher is going to announce in the schools

Richard - They make morning and evening announcements.

Mary Ann - I will make sure Young Life, Lindsey Belcher will be there.

Christy - I would love for Young Life to be show cased in this event.

Mayor Crawford- 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 Crawford – I am glad to see this happening, maybe it will give a positive outlook for the young people.

Mayor Crawford – “Manager’s Reports” – Tim Taylor

Tim – If you would please take a moment to look at the check register and let me know if you have any questions. Check No. 59983 to American Carpet Care \$32,239.11, tractor mowing, and we use them for other things that we can get done more economically. Check No. 60013, Electronic Systems, Inc. \$31,225.02 – router, device to allow us to have the internet, our system is close to 20 years old. Check No. 60041 – National Meter & Automation \$38,744.50 - pallets of water meters that we use, it is the

meters that allow us to read in a couple of days instead of two (2) weeks. Check No. 60061 – Thompson & Litton, Inc. \$25,637.10 - activities for projects, Check No. 60065 for Ultra Petroleum \$20,594.74.

Richard - Check No. 59983 I noticed that on Board of Supervisors report.

Tim – The county paid us \$2500 to do a piece of property down at Doran.

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

Mayor Crawford- 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 – We advertised for requisite for proposals for auditing services. We had more than one (1) letter of interest, but we only had one (1) bid. The bid we had was from our current firm Robinson, Farmer, Cox Associates for two (2) years' service for fiscal year 2019-2020 for a cost of \$32,000 for the first year and \$1500 increase for the 2nd year, cost for 2020 will be \$33,500. Services and fees required beyond auditing services price would range from \$60 an hour to \$225 an hour based on the type of service. I recommend to award Robinson, Farmer, Cox Associates the contract and you allow me to sign the contract.

Rick - I make the motion to allow Town Manager Tim Taylor to sign the contract with Robinson, Farmer, Cox Associates for auditing services 2019-2020, Vickie seconded the motion.

Mayor Crawford- 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 - Consideration of Resolution for Section 125 Premium Only Plan (Pre-Tax payroll Deduction). We need for Council to approve every year.

Mary Ann - I make the motion that we allow Section 125 Premium Only Plan for the following year, Rod seconded the motion.

Mayor Crawford- 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 – Monthly Power Cost Report of March 2019 – Actual sales came in almost the same as budget sales, wholesale power cost rate of \$84.75/MWH with the dollar cost of \$35,627 lower than budget. Overall, we are performing in line with the budget.

Tim – We have already scheduled the budget work session.

Tim - I have included a letter from Cumberland Plateau Company, Inc. there is some money available thru the sale of robust fiber backbone system. They will have a meeting on May 22 to talk about and make some recommendations to the Board.

Tim – We are working diligently on the Waste Water Treatment Plant Project improvements, we have had numerous meetings. There is going to be some activities and commitment within reason required from Council soon. To give you an idea, at the budget work session you heard Mr. Chitwood talk about the aggressive schedule we had and time it takes to get a project of this magnitude to be funded, funded thru competitive type rates. To qualify for these monies the application must be submitted as a commitment by July 19. Between now and the July meeting we need to have a meeting, so you will know and understand what we are talking about. We had a scope meeting with this project the other day, 60% review, the first preliminary statement will probably cost around \$10.5 million dollars. The goal is to get an application together to be able to start with Phase One improvements. Tonight or at least by the next council meeting we need to commit. We need to get an RFP out for engineering

services. If we don't get the application in on time it will be another year, we will have to get back in line. Completion date would be June 2022.

Rick - You are saying we need to have another meeting.

Tim - Yes, between now and July. You have already heard most of this. It does not obligate you only get in line.

Mary Ann - Would it help if we just go forward tonight?

Tim - If you feel good about doing it tonight.

Rick - We are going have to do it.

Mary Ann - I make the motion to authorize the Town Manager to move forward with the DEQ funding application, it does not obligate us, Rick seconded the motion.

Mayor Crawford- 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 - We are engaged with the Fluoride System Replacement and we have met with the Health Department, we are at 90% process. They should be able to submit the final design to Health Department by June 3 and to have the certificate to operate sometime early September. We have applied for money from Department of Health and hope it will be fully funded. We sent the application in yesterday.

Tim - Disinfection Byproducts – Meet with the Health Department and approved MOU to look at this particular part of the system. This is the water plant, money from Health Department for \$35,000.

Tim - We met today with VA Dept of Transportation concerning the Front Street Bridge, the bridge next to the One Stop, scoped schedule for Sept 8, 2020. We asked for \$3 million dollars, but the estimate came in at \$6 million. The meeting today is for them to understand what we need and what we can get from a design prospective. They understand they need to maintain a passage across the bridge, that will be part of the construction and will keep one-way traffic thru there. The bridge won't be widening at all maybe 6 ft. for a better sidewalk. We will do away with the pedestrian bridge requirement while they are under construction, there is no room. We don't have full funding yet but will have multiple meetings. We want to engage our business community and have meetings with the public. It worked well with Hill Creek Project.

Tim - We did not get funding for paving 2nd Street, we will get in line again.

Tim - Access point on West End – We received the drawings and they looked good, they have been submitted. George has produced us a budget and we will submit to Nature Conservative and hope to get fully funded but it does require us to do the work.

Rod – I notice in our package the transit service activity report; do they send this regularly?

Tim – Quarterly, we pay \$7200 a year for the service.

Rod - It cost very little to ride the transit. The average age rider is from 25 years to 40 plus years. You can schedule, and they will pick you up at your home if you are close to one of the stops. It is important our people know that. It would be nice if they would come and tell us a little more about the service. Is that OK?

Tim - Yes

Mayor Crawford – At this time I need a motion for the Mayor and Members of Council convene in executive closed session for the purpose of discussion of Subsection (A) (7) of Section 2.2-3711, Potential Litigation.

Rod - I make the motion to go into executive session, Richard seconded the motion.

Mayor Crawford- 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 Crawford - I now entertain a motion that the Members of Council reconvene in open session and accept the CERTIFICATE OF EXECUTIVE SESSION certifying that the matters discussed while in executive session were those both lawfully exempted from the open meeting requirements and identified in the motion by which the closed session was convened.

Rick - I make the motion for Council to return from "Closed Session", Richard seconded the motion.

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

Mayor Crawford – Roll Call Vote - Vickie-Yes, Rick-Yes, Mary Ann-Yes, Richard-Yes, and Rod-Yes - Motion carries - 5/0.

Mayor Crawford - "No" action in result of "Closed Session".

Mayor Crawford - I do need to present the Proclamation National Police Week document to Chief Jerry Gilbert and Proclamation EMS Appreciation Week to Gordon Russ.

Jerry Gilbert - Thank you.

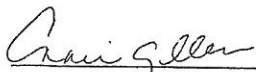
Gordon Russ – Thank you.

Mayor Crawford- Do I have a motion to adjourn?

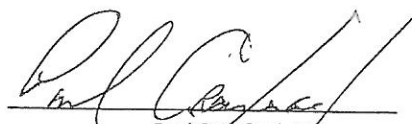
Richard - I make the motion to adjourn, Rod seconded the motion.

Mayor Crawford- 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 Crawford - Adjourned



Connie Allen, Town Clerk



Paul Crawford, Mayor