

The Richlands Town Council held a "Recess Meeting from June 17" in the Richlands Council Chambers on June 23, 2020 at 7:30pm with the following present:

Mayor:	Paul Crawford
Town Manager:	Tim Taylor
Town Clerk:	Connie Allen
Council Members:	Richard Brown, Mary Ann Strong, Rick Wood, Doug Ratliff Rod Cury
Town Attorney :	K.W. McClanahan

Mayor Crawford opened the meeting.

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

Mayor Crawford - Recess Meeting from June 9 and June 17. On June 9 we had public comments. We let everyone comment that wanted to comment and had a couple people had two(2) rounds to comment. There will be no public discussion tonight. I am going to try to conduct the meeting in a way it should have always been conducted. I like being a little more informal with "Robert's Rules", I think it makes a much more meaningful meeting. When I go back and watch the meetings, sometimes it looks like I am herding cats. I don't like for the meetings to look like that.

Doug - Can I say something?

Mayor Crawford - Not yet.

Mayor Crawford – Do not speak until you are recognized by the Chair. If you want to be recognized raise your hand and I will recognize you. If you want to make a comment, raise your hand to be recognized. Anything to be discussed needs a motion and a second before we will discuss it. Does everyone understand?

Doug – I would like the Town Attorney's opinion about comments. I think with the Charter, there can be comments. Wayne will you give your opinion.

Wayne – Are you referring to the embedded motion in the minutes from the 2015 meeting?

Doug – Yes

Wayne - That resolution is not embedded in those minutes. There is a 6/0 vote which allows for people who are not on the agenda to be able to comment for a period of up to three (3) minutes, just to make a comment not to engage in any questions and answers. I do ultimately refer to the discretion of the Mayor as Chair of the meeting. I advised him of that resolution prior to the meeting. This is a continuation meeting and Council did provide everyone with the opportunity. It is at the Mayor's discretion to take those comments.

Mayor Crawford - Discussion of FY 2020-2021 Proposed Budget - Does any Council member have anything to discuss?

Mary Ann – I will once again make an effort to keep the Town moving forward to avoid any services being stopped. I would like to make a motion to approve the budget for the upcoming year as presented. Rod seconded the motion.

Mayor Crawford - We have a motion and a second to approve the budget as presented. Any discussion?

Doug - No services will be stopped if we don't pass the budget. The electricity and public services will go on. It is a Federal law that you cannot cut the electricity off. If we pass the budget or not there is not going to be any interruption of services.

Mary Ann - I didn't specifically mention any particular service. I would like to ask our Town Attorney to expound upon what he explained to us previously if the budget is not approved in a timely manner.

Wayne – Specifically in regard to the electricity services?

Mary Ann - The electricity will stay on, but I understood that no one would be allowed to work for the Town and be compensated. For example, if there were an electrical power outage there would be no one to service and other services the Town provides which are critical would cease.

Wayne - That is my opinion. I do think there are some SEC regulations in regard to interruption of electricity service. I would not anticipate on July 1 if we don't have a budget there would be any interruption. Electricity service certainly does not put the Town in an ideal situation. I feel the FLSA issues that I previously brought to Council attention still applies. I don't think it would be prudent for the Town Council to direct employees to work without promise pay. I don't think we can require them to volunteer in the event that some people do volunteer even if there is not an FLSA claim that is lodged against the Town. It is still not an ideal situation to be in. If the Town would take any action to replace them or terminate them based on their failure to want to "volunteer" still potential adverse employment law liability. That only relates to electricity generation. I was able to find an instance where this happened to another municipality here in the Commonwealth, Parkersburg, VA where there was a similar budget not passed, ultimately the Governor stepped in. Basically, Richmond decided to run the Town, no interruption of services. Again, that is positive in one sense; the citizens don't have to deal with any sort of service lapse. It still does not put the Town in an ideal situation whatsoever to have the Governor's office come in and run services like that.

Doug - With all due respect, two (2) different opinions whether people could work. I have another opinion that they could. It has happened to other communities where they have brought them in, and they have worked for two (2) or three (3) weeks. That period of time they were paid their salary after the budget was passed. The Federal Government, I know you don't agree but it functioned, and they didn't have a budget for two (2) years. They functioned quite well, probably better. I can assure all the citizens there is not going to be any interruption of water or electricity. For one thing the Health Department would not allow it and second there is a Federal Law. Can you imagine if we cut the electricity off and someone's health was a risk? That would be a much stronger lawsuit than sending someone in to take care of keeping the power and water on. You have a Federal Law that says you will not lose our power, water or public utilities.

Mayor Crawford - I would like to make one comment, I hate to see us planning to fail I would rather us all plan to pass the budget before the end of the month. That is what I would like to see happen. I don't think we are going to look good in the eyes of the State, County or anybody if we fail to pass the budget.

Mary Ann - I would like to point out that we were all given a handout two (2) weeks ago. It was from the Commonwealth of Virginia Auditor of Public Accounts. Just some points from that report. Report had studies from Tazewell, Bluefield and Richlands. I am not going to read Bluefield, I feel like they have more businesses, restaurants and so forth than we have but just for citizens information. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2019, general property tax in Richlands generated \$399,550, Tazewell \$704,565. Our current tax rate is \$0.16, and we are proposing an \$0.03 increase which would take to \$0.19, Tazewell's is \$0.25. Meals tax last year, Richlands collected \$775,145, Tazewell \$821,109, Cigarette Tax – Richlands \$90,308, Tazewell \$107,677. We have not had a real estate increase since 1986. I don't know of any businessperson around that can operate business with absolutely no increases in that many years. I don't see how a Town can remain viable doing that. Again, last week I mentioned that Tazewell County had reached out to me and they already have Tax Relief Assistance Program for the elderly and the disabled. There is no reason Richlands cannot offer the same assistance for those that the \$0.03 increase, which by the way would be \$30.00 per year on \$100,000 home. As I said last week I would much rather have a fire truck and by the way we all voted on and we knew how we had to pay for it, and know that if my home or my business should catch fire there is going to be adequate fire services. Under \$100,000 it is less than \$30.00 per year. Again, we are going to propose and hopefully have assistance for those that are under that and need the help. I don't see how we can survive without some increases.

Doug - With all due respect we have had several increases in real estate taxes since 1987. I think there has been three (3) or four (4). Every time the County reassesses your property it automatically goes up for that amount. You have been assessed by the county three(3) or four (4) times so it had to raise several times. Real estate tax, as far as the programs you are talking about very few would qualify. You are saying \$30, \$30 is a lot of money for some people. You are proposing three (3) or four (4) other taxes including a meals tax, every penny adds up . Our electric rates are high, I had one lady text me and said she had income of \$1200 month and her electric bill is \$800 a month. She had \$400 to live on for the rest of the month. The \$30 you are talking about is going to mean a lot to her. I think there are four (4) other taxes that you have not mentioned that you guys are proposing to raise. Most people in Richlands are on a set income, it is not like Tazewell they have a higher income average per capita than we do. Richlands is in a different situation than Tazewell and the other Towns that you mentioned. I would ask that we don't put anymore burdens on the citizens in Town in raising these taxes.

Mayor Crawford - Any further discussion?

Rick - What are you proposing in your budget right now?

Mayor Crawford - We are not talking about any taxes right now in this motion. We are proposing to accept the budget as presented and discuss the taxes. We can't do anything on the taxes until June 27. We could not vote on them tonight either way.

Doug - If the Council would give their word, they would not pass any taxes, no real estate taxes or any other taxes on the community and citizens I am sure the budget would pass. If you would reduce it and give your word there would be no tax raises , no one would object to the budget.

Mayor Crawford - If you are asking me for that promise, I would not make it.

Doug - I don't think any of the Council would.

Mary Ann - One point, and all respect to you Doug, the lady that you mentioned my heart goes out to her only having \$400 left from income after her electricity but I doubt if her home is worth \$100,000, so I doubt her increase would be \$30.00.

Doug - With a bill of \$800, with that much electricity her house must be over \$100,000 but I am not sure.

Mayor Crawford - The thing you have to be careful about when people say that have this amount of an electric bill a lot of times it is how the house is built, how it is insulated and if the windows and doors are open. You pay a set rate per kilo hour. My home which is a pretty good size home , the electric bill is usually around \$350.00 but that is APCO. If it was in the Town, it would not be \$400. Any home using \$800 a month in electricity a month they have some problem, they are using a lot of electricity.

Doug - I know three (3) or four (4) years ago we were fourth from the bottom on the price of electricity out of 80 communities. The last three (3) or four (4) years our electricity rates raised four (4) to five (5) times besides the power cost adjustment. We are above AEP now ; we have gone from the bottom to the top . If we don't get our budget in order and cut it and stop raising taxes the next thing that is going to go up is the electric rate.

Mayor Crawford - Any further discussion?

Wayne - Before you do entertain a vote, Mr. Brown needs to read his disclosure.

Richard- I am hereby making my required disclosure pursuant to Va. Code Section 2.2-3115, subsection H, that I have a personal interest in this transaction. This transaction involves the Town's overall budget, which includes the budget for the Richlands Police Department. The nature of my personal interest in this transaction is that I am currently an employee of the Richlands Police Department and receive a salary from the Department of more than \$5000 a year. However, I am a member of a group of three (3) or more, the members of which are all affected by the transaction; this transaction does not involve just the Richlands Police Department by itself but involves all the Departments and employees of the

Town. I hereby state that I am able to participate in this transaction fairly, objectively and in the public interest. Therefore, I may participate in this transaction fairly, objectively and in the public interest. Therefore, I may participate in this transaction pursuant to Virginia Code section 2.2-3112, subsection B, subdivision 1. However, I will abstain for any specific discussion or vote regarding transactions specifically and solely pertaining to the Richlands Police Department.

Mary Ann - I would like to point out from the study, again comparing Richlands and Tazewell. I applaud Tazewell for the many great events that have, I get ask all the time why they have all these great events why we can't have them. This was interesting to me for expenditures for the year ending 2019, Community Development expenditures Richlands \$54,309, Tazewell \$397,942, that is huge. Parks, Recreation and Culture, Richlands \$462,720, Tazewell \$523,943. If you go thru this study, I will share with anyone you will find that Richlands is the lowest in every category .

Doug – I looked at Tazewell's budget, most of it is grants. They spend \$600,000 plus on their recreation all but \$240,000 is all that they spend. I have the budget in the car. When we put \$450,000 in the Rec, they only spend \$240,000. What she mentioned most of it is grants I assure you. They put a lot less in the community than we do. The police force, the budget is much lower , everything is much lower than we have. The reason we don't have much to spend because most of it goes to three (3) departments, Rec, Police Department and Administration. Three (3) or four (4) years ago the Finance Department's budget was a little over \$200,000, in three (3) or four (4) years it has gone to \$800,000 it is quadruple. Every department if you check including the Rec that you are a part of has went substantial higher every year the last three(3) or four (4) years. I can show you the budgets to prove it.

Mary Ann - This is the last thing I am going to say, we can beat it to death about Tazewell Rec budget , they received \$300,000 grant this year from VDOT for the Back of the Dragon area where the Little League Fields are. If they don't use that grant money as specified it has to be returned. I am very proud, and I make it perfectly clear I am really proud to refer to as the "Powers that be for Recreation" If you will look on that in the upper left-hand corner where it says recreation, I am really proud of our recreation facility. We have ball fields and indoor facilities; Tazewell gives \$0.10 of their cigarette tax to the YMCA because they don't have an indoor facility. We have the best facilities around, every year I have been on Council we have been under budget. I don't know how you can be critical of the Rec budget when they stay under the budget. They are given a budget and they have managed to say under it.

Doug - Everybody wants recreation for the kids, and I am all for that. We could have a lot more recreation and spend more money on the kids if we would watch our budget and not have a wasteful budget. As far as being under budget, if I give you an open check for \$400,000 or you gave me \$400,000 a year, I am going to stay in my budget too. We give them exactly what they ask for. That is an open check with no accountability. All I am asking that we watch our budget. We don't have much to offer in Richlands, the reason we don't have much money to spend, we are wasteful in the budget. We have a dispatch we don't need that is \$250,000. Within five (5) minutes with Mr. Taylor I could cut a million dollars off the budget and never miss a thing and have better service. We would have money to have a much better recreation than we have now.

Mayor Crawford - Any other comments?

Mayor Crawford - I will have roll call on the motion.

Connie - Rick – Yes, Doug – No, Mary Ann- Yes, Richard-Yes, Rod- Yes

Mayor Crawford - Motion carries 4/1.

Mayor Crawford - The next business we have to go into with the budget is the allocation of funds, the taxes and all of that. We will be doing on the night of June 29. Does any other Council have any other business?

Wayne - For clarification did the Council just vote on consideration of Ordinance O-2020-06-08 which is the budget ordinance which contains appropriations.

Mayor Crawford - I am not sure about containing the appropriations, it includes the appropriations in there now but none of the tax increases.

Wayne - Did Council just vote to approve the budget or vote to adopt the ordinance presented?

Mayor Crawford - Is it not the same thing?

Wayne – No

Wayne - I may suggest that we read the ordinance.

Rick - I agreed to adopt the budget.

Doug - Even with the taxes in it?

Mayor Crawford - Rick can you say that again.

Mayor Crawford - Did you vote opposite the way that you wanted to?

Rick – No, I voted to adopt the budget.

Richard - He voted to adopt the budget.

Doug - Was taxes included in the budget?

Mayor Crawford - Taxes are not included in the budget.

Rod - What we did was vote to adopt the budget not the ordinance. Is that what you are saying?

Wayne - That is correct.

Mayor Crawford - Can you read the ordinance?

Wayne - Yes, if you entertain a motion to adopt Ordinance O-2020-06-08, which includes language to approve the budget and appropriation of monies there under, we can read that and then entertain a motion to waive the second reading, if Council wants to do that and then entertain a motion to come effective immediately, if Council wishes to do so.

Wayne -- I just wanted clarification if this was just simply a vote to approve the budget as submitted without an appropriation ordinance .

Mayor Crawford - Can you read the ordinance.

Wayne - (Read Ordinance O-2020-06-08)

Rod - I would like to make a motion to waive the second reading, Mary Ann seconded the motion.

Mayor Crawford - Any discussion?

Doug - If those taxes are not in it, would you reduce the total of the budget?

Wayne - The revenue figures are not in; it is from a legal permissible standpoint. As long as the expenditures do not exceed 1% of the total expenditures listed in the proposed budget, that is fine. I will defer to Mr. Taylor regarding those issues.

Doug - On June 29 when the Council brings up all these taxes that they want to pass , how many votes does it take?

Wayne - By ordinance an affirmative four (4) person vote of Council.

Doug - You are talking about real estate .

Wayne - All of the taxes.

Doug - It will take an affirmative four (4) votes.

Wayne - Section 3.8 of the Town Charter to increase it would be by ordinance, it is specifically listed in the Town Charter requiring an affirmative four (4) person vote of Council.

Doug - I want you to explain what happen to Mr. Hurst and why he is not here tonight.

Mayor Crawford - That is not part of this discussion. You will have to bring up separately.

Wayne - I will comment when this discussion is over.

Doug - That is fine. If they move again to appoint someone by the judge which I have an opinion that you can't I am not sure they will listen to it, they would have the four (4) votes to pass the budget.

Wayne - I can comment in regard to Mr. Hurst. It takes four (4) votes to pass the budget.

Doug - They would have the four (4) votes .

Wayne - I can't comment what the potential interim would be.

Rod - I appreciate what you are saying but that part of the discussion should come after this motion has been put the rest, positively or negatively.

Mayor Crawford - Anyone else?

Mayor Crawford - We have a motion and a second to dispense with the second reading and pass effective today, all those in favor of the motion say yes. All those oppose say no. Rick – Yes, Doug-No, Mary Ann- Yes, Richard-Yes, Rod-Yes Motion carries 4/1.

Doug - Would you explain why Mr. Hurst is not here tonight?

Wayne - I received a phone call this afternoon around 3:00/3:30 from the court informing me the court would be rescinding its previous order of making interim appointment of Mr. Hurst to the Richlands Town Council. The court did briefly explain to me its reasoning. I did obtain a copy of that order from circuit court this evening. I can read the points of it, according to this order on the 18th day of June 2020 enter an order appointing Jeffery Hurst as an interim Council member pursuant to a majority vote in a dually called Town Council meeting recommending the same and therefore on the date of this order the court became aware of an allegation that a Council Member claim to exerted influence on the court in its decision, the judge referring to the order of appointing Mr. Hurst. The court hereby asserts had no direct or indirect communication of any member of Richlands Town Council and was not influenced in any manner in the decision to enter into above referenced order however in according to Section 2B of the Canon of Judicial Conduct which includes a quote "a judge shall not precede in office to advance the private interest of the judge or others nor shall they judge they will convey or permit others to convey the impression they are in a special position to influence the judge. The court did bold the last section and emphasis added therefore being within 21 days of the above reference order and the abundant to caution to avoid any appearance of impropriety the court hereby vacates the order of June 18, 2020 and voids the appointment of an interim council member. In addition, the judge has refused himself of any further proceedings, becoming aware of that allegation, they were not subject to any influence at all. However out of the abundance of caution to avoid even the slightest appearance of impropriety the court has chosen to vacate that order. That is why Mr. Hurst is not here. The court did state to me that these matters will be referred to another judge, that judge would be available on Thursday to hear any such petition that the Council directs me to file regarding an interim appointment. To briefly expound on, I already expressed to you after receiving the initial order. I do think it is most appropriate and I would feel most confident regarding a direction for me to file a petition if it was by an affirmative four (4) person vote from Council pursuant to a resolution. That being said, it is somewhat questionable, if I am directed by 3/2 majority vote to petition the court, I will do so, let me know where we all stand, such an action could be challenged don't know what results will be, don't know what challenges would be in courts hands.

Doug - I have an opinion on that from my lawyers. One other question on another matter. I have a card from the Richlands Fire and Rescue, it has an emergency number of 276-964-9134. I would like to point out and you will have to check this out. There is a law that you cannot advertise any number but "911". I will read it; it is from the State of Virginia. The digits "911" shall be designated an emergency telephone number in Virginia, no public safety agency shall advertise or otherwise promote use of any number for emergency response service other than "911". Our Public Safety Department is breaking the law; you can check it out when they propose this number. If we have a consensus from the Council for our Town Attorney to check it out .

Wayne - I will check it out with Mr. Gilbert to make sure we are in compliance with the applicable state law.

Mary Ann - I was also made aware of that and I have already spoken to the Police Department about this matter. They are immediately working on adding "911" to the card that Mr. Ratliff has and all publications involving public safety in our Town.

Doug - Are they going to take that number off the other one?

Mary Ann - I am not sure they are checking, maybe Mr. McClanahan can investigate that it could be "911" or not.

Doug - The law says you cannot promote any other number.

Mayor Crawford - We will check on that, Thank you.

Mary Ann - I want to make a motion to direct the Town Attorney to petition the court to fill the vacant seat of Council with Jeffery Hurst. Rod seconded the motion.

Mayor Crawford - Any discussion?

Doug - I believe if you put him on the Council it would be a conflict because I think our Charter says there can only be one (1) person from the Rec Department serving on Council. It would be a direct conflict. If he were, one of you would have to step down from the Rec Department just wanted to make that clear.

Mary Ann - Mr. Hurst is aware that he would have to resign from the Rec Commission. For example, when Francis Meadows was a Council member, she was the Council member for the Rec Commission as I serve in that role and again very proud to do that. When Mr. Hurst becomes a Council member he will have to resign from that position.

Mayor Crawford - Any other discussion?

Richard - What is the chances of the court recommending an order by sua sponte regards to that without a motion.

Wayne - This is only my speculation, probably won't, not to say the court would not they do what they want to.

Wayne - Both orders appointing Mr. Hurst on June 18 was sua sponte on submission of Mr. Hurst's name and the order revoking that order was sua sponte. A judge will be available on Thursday and would be willing to hear this matter on an emergency basis to har any such petitions before a full relief.

Doug - I ask that if it does pass, I have an opinion backing your opinion that you feel, and I would ask that it be accompany by that petition.

Wayne - I don't understand what you are asking.

Doug - I have a different opinion from my lawyers and I would ask if you do ask Judge Patterson to appoint someone to the Council that this accompany that order or response from the Council and be taken into consideration by him, which backs your feeling also.

Wayne - Again, just to restate what I said a moment ago I feel it is most appropriate and I would feel most comfortable petitioning the court pursuing to a resolution and a four (4) person vote however as I said I will do the pleasure and discretion of the Council . I do think it is a gray area to whether the Council has the authority to do that. If it is challenged on a 3/2 vote I don't want to speculate what that challenge would be. I just want Council to be aware of that in the event they direct me to do so on a 3/2 majority vote.

Doug - You have no problem accompanying this with the petition .

Wayne - I certainly would not.

Mayor Crawford - We have a motion and a seconded to direct our attorney to petition the court to fill the Council seat with Jeff Hurst.

Connie - Roll Call - Rick – No, Doug- No, Mary Ann – Yes, Richard – Yes, Rod- Yes – Motion carries 3/2

Mayor Crawford - That is your majority so that is what we will go with.

Doug - How can I get this in the record that it will accompany the petition.

Wayne - You can just give it to me.

Mayor Crawford - Any other things we need to discuss?

Mary Ann – We receive FOIA requests and I think there should be some discussion this evening about the expense of the FOIA request to be paid by the requestor. Can you explain Mr. McClanahan?

Wayne - I did confer with the Ethics Advisor Council and they did inform me that it is permissible to adopt a fee structure in regard to responding to FOIA request provided that fee structure is geared toward cost recovery and not revenue generation. What that means the Town obviously can't profit off of responding to FOIA request, that being said if the Town occurs any actual expense in obtaining the information or complying of the information we can also charge for primary review of that information of exclusive purposes. What I mean by primary, for instance it would be permissible if Mr. Taylor was going to use information for exclusive purposes it would be permissible for Council to direct him to provide an estimate to request for his time in that we just could not bill for a secondary review. If I did that or vice versa. The short version for all that yes if Council directs us to adopt to charge people for FOIA request we can provide an estimate of those charges , it is permissible to require all that money up front as a deposit if directed to.

Mary Ann - It is my understanding that the Town of Cedar Bluff and other areas do have a fee structure for FOIA request.

Mayor Crawford - Tim is working on a fee structure, correct?

Tim - Based what I just heard it would be based on cost, correct? Basically, whoever reviews and cost of them to review.

Wayne - If you had any expenses in gathering and compiling that would be permissible. You can provide an estimate to the requestor regarding how much time you anticipate it to take to review that information for exclusion purposes or the information requested was not readily attainable and the information had to be pulled and put into some legible report. You provide an estimate for that and then require them to pay that up front before the Town incurred that expense.

Tim - It will be driven by whatever the request is.

Mayor Crawford – Tazewell charges per copy.

Tim - We can figure that out and put in our cost structure.

Mayor Crawford - Do you need action from Council to do that?

Wayne - Just direction from Town Manager to do that, that is Mr. Taylor's discretion, my understanding he would get some direction from Council on how to structure.

Mayor Crawford – Do you need direction from Council?

Tim - It would be based on case by case, based on who has the need for it. If it is as easy as pushing a button and give them a digital copy, we are not going to charge for that. If we have to put someone on that. It will be based on case by case basis and who we have to put on the request to get the information, no inflation just cost recovery. If you direct me to do cost recovery, I am good with it.

Doug - I understand that but how would we objectively know how much time it took . In other words, how can we make sure that they are not charged to many fees.

Mayor Crawford - Would there be a price breakdown?

Tim - If it is an HR person, legal review or if it is something I can look at and it doesn't cost anyone than what we normally do it won't cost anything.

Wayne - We just have to make the estimates in good faith and they are reasonable in the event, you estimate it is going to cost \$500 in the event it cost more than that it is permissible to bill the requester or if it takes less than that we are required to refund any money. We have affirmative duty to make sure the estimates are in good faith.

Doug - I wish you had used \$20 instead of \$500.

Wayne - I will make 100% sure that if it is going to be more than \$200 I think that is the threshold in which you can require deposit upfront, anything less than \$200 you don't have to get pre authorization from the requestor to incur that expense.

Doug - You are still out of my league.

Rod - I have a thought to present, I really appreciate what we are taking about case by case. To avoid any appearance of picking and choosing we can do across the board if they ask for FOIA it stands to reason.

Mayor Crawford - I agree with that.

Tim - I don't understand what you are saying, I am a little confused.

Rod - Case by Case on whether you are going to charge or not or how much.

Tim - If someone ask for something simple and it is FOIA request and if it is in the duty of normal operation, we won't worry about it, it is kind of hard to charge for that especially if I can go to the computer and give it to them right then, if I have to do volumes of stuff someone has to be assigned to it to spend hours to pull out of a box somewhere that is what I am talking about. It has to be case by case because if I assign to a person that makes \$10 an hour or if it is someone at a higher level that makes \$15 that would be two (2) different costs. You have trust me to put the right person on it, we can best guess how long it will take to gather the information. I don't think a flat rate is fair.

Rod - I am not suggesting a flat rate, what I am saying for example I come and I FOIA something, I can print it for you right now , when I go out and say I got this from the Town Hall anyone it's free. If someone else comes up and needs ten pages you would have to charge. In the mind of the public I have to prove.

Tim - Printing cost will be per copy, digital does not cost anything. Ms. Cordle can figure out how much per page.

Adrienne - We charge the cost now to print documents.

Mayor Crawford - I think the point Rod is making we would not do for free.

Tim - It would not be free, and we would put in writing to make sure.

Mayor Crawford - Any other points to be discussed?

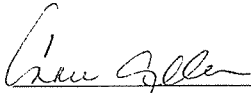
Mayor Crawford - I entertain someone to make a motion to adjourn

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

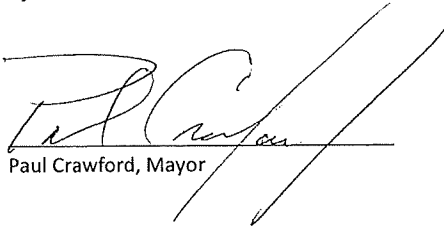
Mayor Crawford - Any discussion on that

Connie - Roll Call - Rick – Yes, Doug-Yes, Mary Ann-Yes, Richard – Yes, Rod – Yes

Mayor Crawford – Motion carries 5/0 - We are adjourned until June 29.



Connie Allen, Town Clerk



Paul Crawford, Mayor