

The Richlands Town Council held a regular monthly meeting in the Richlands Council Chambers on June 8, 2021, at 6:00 pm with the following present:

Mayor: Rod D. Cury
Town Manager: John O'Daniel
Town Clerk: Connie Allen
Council Members: Mary Ann Strong, Doug Ratliff, Jeff Hurst
Mike Street, Richard Brown
Council Members Absent: Logan Plaster
Town Attorney : Brit Davis-Hoopai

Mayor Cury opened the meeting.

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

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

Mayor Cury - Under Item VI - Please add Richard Smith, he was invertedly left off, he will be item (h). Mr. Breimann, I need to make sure we have your name spelled right, is it Breimann? We will correct on the agenda.

Mayor Cury - Any other additions or deletions to the agenda?

Doug - I have a question, we have a member that is sick, but he wanted to "zoom" in.

Mayor Cury - I will ask John to address.

John – I have looked into it, Council has not adopted an Ordinance to allow for virtual attendance, the other one expired, by the time we heard he was not going to be able to make it I didn't feel like we could put something together that would be adequate for Council to adopt an Ordinance to allow that.

Doug - When did it expire?

John – Sixty (60) days after its passage, I think it was passed in November/December 2020.

John - Is it something Council would like to look into for the future?

Doug - Could the Council do it now so he could zoom in?

John - I don't know if it was because of Covid.

Doug - I think before that if they were sick, they were allowed to "zoom".

John - I don't know I will have to refer to Council.

Mayor Cury - Maybe I can help, I don't think before Covid we did that, but I can't speak to it, we have our legal Council tonight, Brit are you able to address that.

Brit – Under the VA Code members are allowed to "Zoom" in but has to have prerequisites met first the only thing that would not be in place for this, Council has to pass an Ordinance that lays out a general policy for electronic and remote attendance until that is passed no one would be able to attend in that fashion.

Mayor Cury - Any more additions or deletions to the agenda?

John - I made some changes and passed the copies out to you. I add Tazewell County Public Library – Regina Roberts and Dr. Willis. On the Manager’s comments item “p” 2021-2022 Budget, the utility rate schedule is added under that, I shifted the ordinance in proper order.

Mayor Cury - So this is the correct agenda?

John - Yes

Mayor Cury - Members of Council, John has the agenda highlighted, I will go back and note my notations on the old agenda so I will have all in one place. Are all the Council members on board with the changes?

Mayor Cury - On “VI” item “f” correct the spelling of Mr. Breimann’s name and added “h” Richard Smith who was invertedly left off.

Mayor Cury – Are there anyone who is not on the agenda who would like to speak under “Unscheduled Public Comments”?

Mayor Cury – Grace Stewart, Joe McCracken, Ernest Edgell, Blake Ray.

Mayor Cury - I will advise “Scheduled Public Comments” are five (5) minutes and “Unscheduled Public Comments are three (3) minutes. Brian Stilwell is our timekeeper.

Jeff - I make a motion to approve the agenda as amended, Mary Ann seconded the motion.

Mayor Cury- We have a motion and a second, any further discussion? All those in favor of the motion say yes. All those that oppose say no. Roll Call –Mike- Yes, Doug-Yes, Mary Ann-Yes, Richard – Yes, Jeff – Yes Motion carries – 5/0.

Mayor Cury –Are there any corrections, additions, or deletions to the minutes?

Mayor Cury - Minutes of Public Hearing of May 11, Minutes Regular Council Meeting of May 11, Minutes of Public Hearing May 18 and Budget Work Session, Minutes of Budget Work Session May 24.

Mayor Cury - Any changes on the May 11 minutes?

Mary Ann - I have one, page 17 second line on my comments. Should be Lebanon has Surplus Sales.

Mayor Cury - Any more corrections, additions or deletions on May 11, Public Hearing or Regular Council minutes?

Richard - On May 18 Public Hearing, you have me down as absent I was actually present for the Public Hearing portion of that, and I had to leave after the break before Council discussed that. I was here for the actual Public Hearing.

Richard - On page 32 of the Regular Council Meeting on May 11, there was an omission at the end of the meeting there was a motion and a second to adjourn, Council Ratliff made a statement prior to him walking out he made the statement “screw it” and walked out of the meeting.

Doug - That was not my statement I said, “screw you”.

Richard - If you want to put “screw you” that is fine.

Doug - Can I address that?

Mayor Cury – Just a minute.

Doug - I should be able to address that.

Mayor Cury - I am not denying you, just hang tight for a minute. I am not denying you the right to talk just trying to get my things in order.

Mayor Cury - Are there any more changes in the minutes?

Mary Ann - I make a motion that we approve minutes from both Public Hearings and Council Meetings on May 11 and May 18 as amended, Jeff seconded the motion.

Mayor Cury - Any discussion?

Doug - The reason I said that, I was denied the chance to speak by Mr. Street and could not speak and that is against Roberts Rules, after that Mr. Hurst went on that I was rude which I was not, Mr. Street was rude for not letting me speak. You went on and on like it was my fault. I said "screw you" because that was not correct. I might have not said that, but you were wrong and Mr. Street was wrong. I apologize for my remarks.

Jeff - I apologize too.

Mayor Cury - Any more discussions on the minutes?

Mike - I will apologize Doug for interrupting you personally I thought it was not right for you to give your comment when Mary Ann didn't after she was publicly bashed by Council member. Someone bashed you, you didn't like it so you said something Mary Ann didn't, I apologize for that but I did not deserve to be told to shut up. That is not your place I don't care who it is. Those are my statements and I do apologize for interrupting you. I won't let it happen again.

Doug - Any Councilmember has a right, Mary Ann decided to or not, I had the right to defend myself. You had no right, and it was very wrong of you to not let me speak.

Mike - You are absolutely right; you are always right Doug.

Mayor Cury - Assuming there is no more discussion, I will call for a roll call vote.

Mayor Cury- We have a motion and a second, any further discussion? All those in favor of the motion say yes. All those that oppose say no. Roll Call –Mike-Yes, Doug-Yes, Mary Ann – Yes, Richard- Yes, Jeff-Yes Motion carries – 5/0.

Mayor Cury - "Scheduled Public Comments" – Laura Mollo

Laura Mollo – 262 Linwood Drive – The second issue that was brought up that I believe is incorrect, the fact that the Board of Supervisors and their insurance, it has been clarified by the County that if a Board of Supervisors opt in to the County insurance they pay 100% of that cost it is zero cost for the County's citizens. I believe if Council wants to participate in Town insurance it should be at zero cost to the citizens. If a Councilmember chose to participate, they should be responsible for 100% of the premium and be zero cost to the citizens. I also ask to allow part-time EMT's and firefighters the same courtesy as you allowed yourselves to allow themselves and give these men and women health insurance, when we call on them for their services they are literally running into life and death situations and do so willingly, we should make sure they are taken care of in the highest regard and that includes their health insurance. They are at more risk than a Council person Article 1, Section 6 of the Virginia Bill of Rights states that the citizens of Virginia cannot be taxed without their consent. Over the last few weeks, I have heard numerous citizens stand here and tell you the reasons why we do not consent to these tax increases, I don't believe that anyone has any issues in paying these taxes when we see the benefits or our tax dollars. With our tax dollars the case here however, you continue to tell us to pay more but we

are not seeing the reward for our efforts. Our roads are in horrible condition, the Town employees are not being taken care of and getting the benefits they deserve, businesses are being taken advantage of and more people continue to leave to neighboring Towns because their tax dollars are for the good of the citizens. We need Councilmembers who believe that Richlands has the potential to be a great place for everyone not just for a select few, with the right last name or the right connections. If we would take care of the Town in its entirety, we not only will attract new business, but we would also raise property values which in turn would raise more property taxes been collected without rising again. Each positive thing we bring to the Town will result in a bigger positive impact; it takes many small strokes to create a masterpiece. Our small stokes must be purposefully to the entire Town and to every citizen. For example, if Councilmember would agree to pay 100% of their own insurance premium, we could use that budget to install a small splash pad downtown that would work with the downtown revitalization which would make the Town look good physically and the citizens to enjoy the splash pad and attract new businesses and increasing property values. Councilmembers need to look at every citizen equally and fighting for the needs of this Town and its entirety in order to more forward and be successful.

Mayor Cury - "Scheduled Public Comments" – Randall Lester – Regarding a Flag being put on Christmas Tree Hill – "No Show."

Doug - I think what he was going to propose was a Flag on Christmas Tree Hill which I think would be a great idea; of course, we would have to have lights. I think it would give the Town something to look up to, American Flag, I think it is a great idea.

Mayor Cury - Thank you Doug.

Mayor Cury – "Scheduled Public Comments" – Lee Ann Wise

Lee Ann Wise – With your permission I would like to pass out some pictures. 532 Sycamore Lane – I am here to speak about the conditions on Sycamore Lane and all of us in Dalton Addition. The first pictures that you have are pictures of my fire hydrant out in front of my house. It is sunk down to the point where it is unusable and is totally unsafe. When I was put on the agenda, yesterday two (2) Town people were out there by my fire hydrant with shovels digging. I ask what are you doing here we are looking to see what is under here. I was like, I need it fixed, and this is unacceptable. After I finished talking to them, I started thinking how often does the Fire Department go around double checking their fire hydrants. It is level with the ground; it is a safety hazard for us on Sycamore Lane. Everything I am talking about right now is safety problems. On the second page (handout) this is what I have to drive past every single day going to work and coming home, the first two (2) pictures is my neighbor at the top of the hill where he has no trespassing painted on top of a Rubbermaid tub, you really can't see it for all of the grass. Next you can see my driveway you can see that the walls are falling down on the left hand side, there are pot holes and on the right hand side and there is a whole bunch of cars, your choice is do I go this way with the wall falling on me or do I go this way and swipe the cars, no I have to have my suspension, hitting holes, I hate it, our community should not be like this for what I understand from people it use to be a beautiful neighborhood. I remember when Vickie England showed it to me, I first drove down Second Street, I saw the tucked in garages, looks like Hollywood I can see the potential in Richlands, beautiful but it is absolutely run down, and I am ashamed. I can't believe that you would let it get that way. On page 3, this is a picture of the actual wall that is fallen down, it is only about a foot or two, and this is just in three (3) years. We only have one way in and one way out, I feel the Town Council is responsible for taking care of that wall. I was told oh we are working with the property owners, but I heard that has been going on for ten (10) years. You don't wait that long to collect taxes from people, how much longer it is going to go. I am absolutely fed up especially after the funds were granted for a pavilion and then you guys are given yourselves health insurance and raising all the taxes. The safety issues with the people in Dalton Addition are not being addressed. I need for you to take this seriously.

Richard - Do you know the address on that home?

Lee Ann Wise – No, you can't see it thru the grass. The whole area is horrible. I have family and friends to come and visit and they are driving down Second Street and they say on my where did she move and

when they get to the bottom of Second Street, they say oh yeah here we go. I need for you to fix the wall it is a safety issue. If that wall falls down and the fire hydrant you can't access it, Sycamore Street is gone.

Mayor Cury - I gave the pictures to the Town Manager and he will be in touch with you.

Mayor Cury – “Scheduled Public Comments” – Derek & Marie White – “No Show”

Mayor Cury – “Scheduled Public Comments” – Rusty Hess

Rusty Hess – Bob Breimann is speaking for me.

Mayor Cury – “Scheduled Public Comments” – Bob Breimann

Bob Breimann – P.O. Box 2100, Grundy, VA, Mr. Mayor and Members of Council, It is wonderful to see citizens come out and pointing out their concerns. It is impossible to address every single one, but I do know that the Town does try to take care of a number of issues that come to their attention. On May 26 the Town had sent Mr. Hess to Hidden Valley to address a problem with overgrown vegetation. And there had been some potential conflict leading up to that, in a matter of pre-caution he asked an officer to be sent up there to make sure that we are not in breach of peace, while he was up there on the property he was approached by Ms. Mollo and she spoke today and whatever urgency she took of that encounter she went and took out and obtained an emergency protective order against Mr. Hess at the magistrate in less than an hour and served that protective order against Mr. Hess. In 40 years of practicing law, I have never seen that happen, and one must wonder why. For Mr. Hess's benefit we accelerated the hearing for both the emergency and preliminary protective orders of Tazewell County. After Ms. Mollo put on her evidence the court dismissed the emergency protective order and the court dismissed the protective order finding there was no credible evidence that was supporting either of the two orders that was issued. The reason I am here because Mr. Hess was up there at the direction of the Town, on business of the Town and I did not want any of the Councilmembers or the Mayor feel that he had in anyway done anything or said anything that would have brought any questions upon the Town's employees or the Town's activities for the duties the Town is trying to fulfill of much of what I have heard here today. What happened in court may or may not have been accurately represented in Council, I assure the Council after hearing everything Ms. Mollo had to say the court dismissed both proceedings as being incomplete foundation and without basis. If any of you have any questions, I would be more than happy to answer for you.

Mayor Cury - Ms. Mollo he has the floor.

Bob Breimann - Ms. Mollo showed the video and showed multiple videos to the court and they patiently watched them and said there is nothing that would support either of these two things. Both were dismissed that day. If you have any questions, I would be happy to answer them if not thank you.

Mayor Cury - “Scheduled Public Comments” – George Shelton, Jr. – Concerning the Road- “No Show”

Mayor Cury – “Scheduled Public Comments” – Richard Smith

Richard Smith – 207 Terry Drive I am here on behalf of the Planning Commission; I serve on the Richlands Planning Commission. We have been looking at the Zoning Ordinances, most of you are probably aware there is a lot of spot zoning around the Town of Richlands. When we did the annexation many years ago, all the property was put into the R2 zone. We see a need to expand the property zones. The number of zones that we have could definitely be expanded we basically need to have an overall look at the zoning community wide. I am here on behalf of the Planning Commission to request from Council that funds be extended to hire a professional to come in and help us with the zoning for the Town's properties in order to align them more with what they are currently being used for. The possibility of expanding those zoning orders which would make it less cumbersome for this Council when people are approached with request that go against that zoning. The benefit of having an outside

professional to help us with the zoning ordinance, put up some of the spot zoning we have with the Council it would be a non- personal unbiased look at what properties are within the Town of Richlands and the boundaries. I understand there is money in the budget for Council studies, so my request tonight is for Council to put an acquisition for the money that has been set aside for special studies for the zoning ordinances and have a comprehensive look at the Town of Richlands so we can align better with what the future is for the Town and align better with what the property is currently used for. It would be less cumbersome when someone applies for permitting that does not necessary fit within the zone. I appreciate you listening tonight and hope that you would consider that as you go forward.

Mayor Cury - Richard I want to say thank you for serving on the Planning Commission for many years. As position of Mayor, I want to say that we do need this in our community. So many things that come to Council, the Planning Commission does some in-depth studies and all this information that we try to convey it would help to eliminate the subjective and I think it is important. I thank you very much.

Richard Smith - We historically looked at different sections of the Town and have addressed section by section throughout the course of time. The magnitude of the job is great, and we need a comprehensive plan. Not like we are going to Dalton Addition this month and go thru three (3) public hearings and four (4) Council meetings on that and look at the Brick Yard in six (6) months. We need a comprehensive study so we can bring to a point where everyone will benefit.

Mike - Have you looked at what the cost would be?

Richard Smith – We actually had it estimated but no not officially, not an official cost yet. We feel like what has been allocated for Council studies in the budget would certainly fit the bill.

Richard - You mentioned specifically the annex portion, are you looking at trying to take the annex portion and zone it with the rest of the Town as a whole?

Richard Smith - The Town as a whole, the annex portion is all R2, some of that has been addressed like out on Daw Road, if you look at the mapping of the Town it is just spotted, especially in the Brick Yard on uses and what is permitted. Right now, if you look at that area you have manufacturing, housing and retail all within pretty much the same zone. That needs to be addressed accordingly to historically what the property has been and what we see for the future of the property. If we are looking at growing the community and we are looking at a planned growth and we are looking at all the different resources for industry to come in here we have to provide a quality of life and a plan a comprehensive plan for the Town, where is Parks and Rec going to be where is the industry going to be. Right now, we are all over the board. I have been on the Planning Commission for many years, and we have addressed a lot of these issues but really needs a comprehensive look at the whole Town's mapping area. We can bring together for comprehensive look, and everything is cohesive.

Mary Ann - I know he is under "Scheduled Public Comments" but he is also Chairman of the Planning Commission and it is important.

Mayor Cury - He should have been in a different place.

Mayor Cury – Regarding this as being a member of Council for many years and on the Commission, it would be wise for us to have a professional firm, none of us are professionals we want to be but we are not trained to do it, if it is done in objective manner not subjective it is so easy to see in a way you want to see it an outside eye may see it a little differently. It is ultimately up to Council; it is important to understand that concept.

Richard Smith - My final comment we are asking for a proposal but would come thru Planning Commission and ultimately back to you for approval.

Mike - Does that need to be in a form of a motion?

Mayor Cury - Under your comments or now if that is what you want to do.

Mayor Cury - Jeff you are going to talk about that in your comments?

Jeff - Yes

Mayor Cury - "Unscheduled Public Comments" Grace Stuart

Grace Stuart- Sycamore Lane - It is a very nice place, but she is exactly right the wall is going down and the smirk and the smiles, you have to go there to see it. I want to ask a few questions regarding the Public Access Station. I find it amusing that you see much of Tazewell, such as Back of the Dragon located in Tazewell, the Front Porch located in Tazewell and nothing much else located in the County such as Richlands. I understand it is a Public Access Station for the County, but I do believe the Town of Tazewell is not the only area in the County. I find it extremely disconcerting that Council meetings are plastered all over you tube and not on the Public Access Stations. Anyone on you tube can see the meetings regarding Richlands but not on the Public Access Station. I have to wonder how we would attract people in the area when they see so many issues going on in our Town. The privacy issue of providing your name and address could make some reluctant to speak on issues. You Tube is available worldwide unlike our Public Access Channel. My question to Council is why we want to show the world our problems and issues unless you are asking advice from other Towns to help solve our problems. If we are reaching out to other Towns to get ideas to solve all our problems and issues should the citizens be informed. It might be a good idea to come to a consensus on posting our problems and issues on the Public Access Station so people of Richlands can have a voice in changing, improving and moving into the future to make this part of Tazewell County more attractive and inviting.

Mayor Cury - "Unscheduled Public Comments" - Joe McCracken

Joe - 1411 Jewell Street - Five (5) months ago we all sat here and talked and voted on and passed some work to be done over on Jewell Street five (5) months ago. It has not been addressed it has not been touched, you all voted, and all agreed. I just want to know what the problem is. Where are we? We all agreed on it, if the Council passes things and do not follow up what is the use of sitting there. I don't understand. When I was on Council, we passed something, and we followed it up and we had results. Now we pass something and then brush it under the table and forget it. Why, is what going on? We have a new Town Manager I understand that you have to catch up or whatever, but he should be pretty well caught up. Our streets over there have potholes everywhere, weeds knee high, no ditch dug, no drainpipe fixed, you said you would do all that five (5) months ago, nothing has been done. Where are we, just asking the question?

Mayor Cury - It is a valid question I will ask John to contact you, Joe.

Joe - Town employees come by two (2) or three (3) times a week riding in their vehicles they have to dodge the potholes to get thru there, are they not allowed to patch a pot hole when they see. When the trash truck goes by and there is a bag of trash laying there are they not allowed to stop and pick up even though it may not be trash day? They just pass it on by. Our employees need to get a handle on it too. They work for the Town and for the citizens. If you are a Town employee and you see a bag of trash and you are in a company truck stop and pick up that bag of trash, it is your job.

Mayor Cury - Joe we will be in touch with you.

Mayor Cury - "Unscheduled Public Comments" - Blake Ray

Blake Ray - Buchanan Street, Richlands - I just wanted to come and say thank you guys, it can't be easy to sit in those seats you all hear the negatives, there are actions coming out of a couple of people that is causing some negative, not what the community is reflective of. I have seen out of the seven (7) people sitting out of Council over the last year I have seen six (6) of you working with the community volunteering and spending your time trying to make it a better place. I don't think that goes recognized

enough so thank you guys for that. We have a huge opportunity here, there has been so many different tourists within the last year; we have had some great successes. I am counting off the top of my head seven (7) new businesses that have opened downtown and that is in the last twelve (12) months and we are getting better. I understand there is an Economic Development Director position that is going to be hired, urban planning cannot be done the way it is here in Richlands, enforcement has to happen as planned getting ready to raise money on. You guys are doing a great job. I know you are getting drugged thru the mud a little bit I just wanted to make sure you guys knew that.

Mayor Cury - "Unscheduled Public Comments" – Ernest Edgell

Ernest Edgell – 206 Terry Drive – Ms. Wise, there was people here around three (3) years ago complaining about the same things and it has not been taken care of. I have a few questions. Who do we buy our insurance from?

Mayor Cury - What kind?

Ernest Edgell – Health Insurance

Mayor Cury - I will refer to the Town Manager.

John - Blue Cross Blue Shield thru the VML. I can double check to make sure.

Ernest Edgell - That is a question I have heard people say.

Mary Ann – Being in the insurance business, Mr. Edgell, I assure you I am not the agent.

Ernest Edgell - That is one of the questions that I have been asked.

Mary Ann – Yes sir, I am glad you brought that up.

Ernest Edgell - You need to get that out to the public.

Mary Ann – I try to make my comments in a professional manner at these meetings. Municipals, Board of Supervisors and School Boards, they typically go direct to Anthem or United Health Care they don't have an agent or a broker in the middle.

Ernest Edgell - There is some dead trees along Cresswood from Terry Drive over to where Gene Hearl lives, they are falling in the street. I think one did a week or so ago. The issues with people who have their own wells are they have paying sewer charges?

Mayor Cury – John, do you know if people who have their own wells pay a sewer charge?

John – Yes, I think so.

Ernest Edgell - You used two (2) gallons in one (1) month, is there a basic sewer charge?

Mayor Cury - I would ask to refrain from pointing out specific people.

Ernest Edgell - I didn't say anybody's name, everyone knows who I am talking about. I talked to a Cedar Bluff resident, and they had their own well since back in the 80's he thinks he pays \$50 a month sewer bill.

Mayor Cury - John Willis, a former Mayor of Richlands, welcome John.

John - I will apologize I thought I had us on the agenda.

Council - You are on the agenda.

Mayor Cury – If I may apologize to John and Regina, you are on the agenda on Item X and I failed to recognize that.

Mayor Cury – Promotion of Rescue Department Supervisor

John - As many of you know Gordon served the Town as Supervisor for many years and now, he has retired. We have recently appointed Matt Whited in that position, I wanted to bring him here tonight and recognize him in taking that role and let him know how much we appreciate him taking the additional responsibility in serving the community.

Mayor Cury - Matt please come forward, you don't need to state your name you are an employee, and this is an honor. Do you care to speak to the Council or to the members of the audience?

Matt - I appreciate the Town Manager, Mayor and Council for the promotion of Captain. I have been here 26 years and I appreciate it.

Mayor Cury - Thank you Matt, you deserve it. Are those words short and to the point? I have something to say. I have known Matt Whited before he had two (2) boys and before he was married, I can go back awhile and tell you he liked to shop at Cury's but that was a few years ago. The pleasure has been mine to have you in this Town as a fellow citizen and also as an employee of the Town. You have been very accommodating to me personally and I think everyone here. If it is a Policeman, Fireman or EMS guy you seem to wear many hats, not many people are able to do that. I am one of those I am singly focused, you can truly multi-task it is a rare talent. They tell me women do it better than men, but I think you are a living example that is not true. I want to thank you Matt for your service to the community. It does not go unnoticed by anyone not just members of Council or me or the previous Mayors, Members of Council, your neighbors, the people that know your family. It is a very large family; the relatives go on and on and on. I had his son, and we did a project and I saw more people in that family that I had no idea who they were, but they are all related it is part of the mountain culture you better not say anything you would be talking about his family. Come up here Matt, thank you very much. (Handshake and photo taken).

Mayor Cury – It is always important to recognize our employees when they change positions. Sometimes it is hard for me as a human being, I don't understand how anybody could do anymore, but they continue to do it.

Mayor Cury - Drinking Water Plant Recognition – Brad Beavers come forward my friend. Commonwealth of Virginia, Department of Health, Office of Drinking Water in the Abingdon Field Office dated May 10, 2021 to Mr. John O'Daniel Town Manager, Town of Richlands, 200 Washington Square Richlands, Virginia. (Read the letter) 2020 Excellent Work in Operation Performance Award, Gold Water Treatment Level Plant Award. Brad do you want to say anything?

Brad - I had not planned to.

Mayor Cury - Come on up and I will help you. Congratulations to you and your team. Here is the certificate you can get it framed. (Read the certificate)

Mayor Cury – Tazewell County Public Library – Regina Roberts and Dr. Willis

John Willis – We come to bring you good news tonight. Regina Roberts is the Chairman of both the Library Foundation and the Board of Trustees.

Regina - Thank you it is a privilege to be here tonight, and I know most of you all and most of you know me. This is the first time attending a Council meeting even though Richlands has been my hometown all my life. As I stood and listened to the different things, I want to say thank you all, the Mayor, Manager

and the Town Council and members of leadership. While it is a small Town it serves and extremely large area and sometimes, we forget that. We serve Chicken Ridge, Jewell Valley, Jewell Ridge, Doran, Raven and all these mountains and Valleys it is huge. I thank you for your hard work. It is a beautiful Town and I love living here. Listening to the different conversations I am the Chairman for the Trustee Board for the Library I have been serving in that position for over five (5) years. Our Chairman stepped down on the Foundation Board so I am temporary Chair of that. We have been looking at the Tazewell County Library system which includes the Richlands Branch, Tazewell Library, Bluefield Branch Library just last week we were honored and a great victory to bring in the Pocahontas Branch and we opened that. It had been part of our system in time past and then it had kind of fallen away from the standards and needed to be brought back in. We had a ribbon cutting last week and opened back up, so it was exciting, especially during a pandemic when things need worked on and we pulled money together to work on Pocahontas. We have been looking at Richlands the whole time I have been serving the County and the library system. We love the history; we love the Williams House, and we love the location. It is an amazing building and in the center of the Town and you can walk to it. It not only serves the Town but many surrounding areas. We worked really hard on a formal letter to present to Mr. O'Daniel and the Board tonight but somehow in my house it got lost. I will present that as soon as I can recover it and our librarian is back from vacation and send you a copy. I do apologize for that. We are working on, we had looked and done quite a bit of research on and had Mr. Hubert the architect and you are welcome to correct me if I am wrong. If I say something wrong or I get this mixed up. They did a feasibility study for us and looked at the different things as whether we should continue to stay in this library or if we should look at a different location within Richlands to build a new library. As we work thru all of that we came to see that value of the Williams House and where the library is right now, it is really our best option all around, financially in every way and we would like to continue to use this building. However, it is not without its needs, handicap accessibility, the stairs and different things, we have looked at putting an addition on it and putting in a lift chair so the whole building and all of the collections would be accessible for all of our citizens in Richlands and the surrounding areas in Tazewell County. We are working on a capital funding campaign, and I am here tonight to request that we are in the budget line for the Town here asking for money to helping us repair the outside. If you go by the library, it needs painting, new windows, some of them are in disrepair, guttering that is causing some problems with the steps in the walkway. We have assessed all the things and working toward getting this building repaired and getting it up to par and getting it better so we can actually have handicap accessibility and a little more space. As I listen to Richard talk about your planned growth, the new budget year is coming up as this one is ending. I am still unsure of some of the details of how Richlands and Tazewell will work together of the maintenance of the building, but I know we can work together. I know we can make this a better library for everyone. We are willing to take on some of the maintenance and we have done that throughout the time we have been there, fundraised and reached out to get different donations for that. That is why I am here tonight to work with you on this; this might be my first time of attending but not my last. I will see you again and thank you very much for your hard work. Our director Erica Hall will be in touch and so will I, thank you.

Mayor Cury - Ms. Roberts, thank you for presenting, Dr. Willis and Mary Sue Dean, I called these old faithful's, some young faithfuls to the library. I will speak personally; I know nothing about the money at this point which is always an issue and can be but the Williams House is part of Richlands it is a part of our foundation and to have it to be used in this function is wonderful. I think it is important that we treasure these places of heritage that help define us and define our future. I wish you the very best.

Ms. Roberts - I don't want to fail to mention Jamie McDonald is with us, she is the Richlands Librarian. I don't know how long she has been serving there but it was before I came on board.

Jamie McDonald – Twenty (20) years.

Mayor Cury – I want to thank you and your library staff for getting me six (6) volumes on Manhattan Island and what George Washington really said when he landed in Manhattan. It made a big difference to my students; they knew all these things that is here say are not from original manuscripts. It is so valuable.

John Willis - This is going to be for all four (4) floors, I believe where we stand, the maintenance for the outside would be maintained by the Town and the inside by the County system. I thought we already passed it but you know how I am, it is my understanding we would be taking care of the library on inside and outside and by doing that we can have planned maintenance, the library's goal is to keep it up that way, I think good news for the Town, good news for the Library and for the people and it will take a burden off the Town.

Mayor Cury - Ms. Stuart did you want to say something? Please come to the microphone.

Ms. Stuart - I want to ask you a question, do you have a committee for the library or anything like that?

Ms. Roberts - It is Friends of the Library, and it is for Tazewell County as a whole.

Ms. Stuart - If I go to the library, I am going to go Tazewell it is a nicer library.

Ms. Roberts - That is why we are doing this.

Ms. Stuart - Do you have a Reading Club if you do I want to know. I am looking for things to do in this Town.

Ms. Roberts - Jamie keeps those posted and she will be a good resource. You can get on the email list.

Ms. Stuart - I am very interested in the library for a lot of reasons.

John - I met with IDA this morning, Connie had received grant funding to help with the windows and siding of the building, they will continue their meeting Thursday at 8:00am if you could have someone available they have a couple of questions. They don't know exactly what we need to do to get the most benefit, we don't want to put new siding on the building they you all come back and take it off.

Ms. Roberts - The IDA Meeting is this Thursday at 8:00am in this room?

John - Yes

Ms. Roberts - Can I ask others to come?

Mayor Cury - I would suggest as many as possible.

Robin McGlothlin - Is the library a historical building? Where can you get grants?

Rod Cury - It is listed on the Historic Register of Virginia, I did connect the IDA to the Department of Historic Resources (Mike), he came to a meeting, but I don't think John was able to attend. He came to the meeting to give his input as to what would be proper to put on an historical building. Right now, they are a little more open to certain types of materials. Are you familiar with any of this?

Ms. Roberts - Slightly, yes, a little.

Rod Cury - I didn't want to butt into the IDA's business because that was given to them, but I tried to get them on a track that would help them. So, they could maintain the integrity of the building. It is all expensive doesn't matter what you do but to maintain the integrity of the building while approaching it with the most dignity and the best approach for the right money, not the least amount of money never liked that approach but the best.

Ms. Roberts - I agree with you.

Mayor Cury - I just wanted to share, Robin I am glad you asked it, I value things like that. I am so glad it will continue, and we will pray for money.

Ms. Roberts - We need grant writers to help us, we have been searching on information on grant writers, and we would like to work with them to help us with that.

Mayor Cury - I don't know right now but if you don't mind share your number with me. Thank you.

Mayor Cury – Water and Wastewater Upgrade Update – Rick Chitwood – Thompson & Litton

Rick - It has been very interesting tonight to listen to the issues and the good things for the library, I commend you folks it takes special people to do what you do, and I commend you for that. It is easy to throw your hands up and say forget it but you all hang in there and do a good job. I heard about all the taxes and the rate increases you are dealing with; I can assure you without a shadow of doubt none of you want to do that but I also know beyond a shadow of doubt you don't have a check for \$15 million dollars sitting in the Town Manager's office to pay for the two (2) capital improvement projects. Unfortunately, I don't think I have to tell you this, but everybody knows if you been to Lowe's lately to get a 2 X 4 you will see what the prices are if you can get the 2 X 4, I shared with Mr. O'Daniel and he said thanks, but right now we are seeing about 30%/35% increase in construction cost. That is a lot of money when you are talking about \$10 million dollar Wastewater Treatment Plant upgrade. I know you have a very attractive financing package for almost \$3 million in principal forgiveness/grant and then the balance at ½% for 25 years. You got about a \$4 million dollar for Waste Water Treatment Plant and distribution upgrade you are faced with; you have a \$400,000 grant from the Health Department, the balance as a loan for approx. 2% percent for 25 years. I know for a fact you don't like raising your water and sewer on the citizens, but you got to pay for these upgrades. These funding agencies are not going to give you that attractive financing unless you bite that bullet and do it. What I wanted to share with you tonight we are getting close on the Wastewater Treatment Plant. If you will recall we prequalified contract, they give you a bid price for the Wastewater Treatment Plant, has actually been upgraded, Wastewater Treatment Plant in the past. We have fourteen (14) prequalified contractors that we have shortlisted to get prices from. They have been approved with DEQ the funding agency and we are getting very close to start meeting with those folks and start obtaining bid prices to see where we stand. The big issue right now is they have told us to get out to bid and get us the prices and then bring it back to us and let's take a look at it. They will not commit to any more grant money, they will not commit to any more loan money at this time, but they did commit to take a look at it. With the atmospheres where we are right now, I just don't know what to tell you other than we are going to see an increase in what we originally anticipated. Let's go down the path with the funding agencies told us, I need your blessing tonight to let our firm start meeting with these contractors to get prices. Once DEQ approves our plans and specs and they have those all I need tonight from Council is allow us to start getting contractors together take them to the plant and walk thru it and get a bid price. I assume that would be a 60-90day process. I should be back in here early Fall hopefully with some bid prices and we can sit down and look at where we are. The Water Plant we are still moving forward on that, we will have 60% design progress here before too long it is a little way behind the Wastewater Treatment Plant.

Mayor Cury - Rick, thank you very much. Everyone should know that it will cost more money. Thank you for bearing the news. What you need from Council tonight is a motion to allow you to get contractors to get a bid.

Rick - Yes, to get bids, DEQ approved.

Mayor Cury - Based on DEQ approval, this is a preliminary step you need our approval to move forward to get bids, and then you will come back in the Fall.

Rick – Yes, it is only a bid.

Mayor Cury - Is Council ok on what Rick is asking?

Richard - Is it for both projects?

Rick – It is just for the Waste Water Treatment Plant.

Mayor Cury - Is there a motion to allow Thompson and Litton to proceed to get contractors to submit a bid?

Richard - I make the motion, Mike seconded the motion.

Mayor Cury - We are only getting bids and then we would approve them.

Mayor Cury- We have a motion and a second, any further discussion? All those in favor of the motion say yes. All those that oppose say no. Roll Call –Mike- Yes, Doug-Yes, Mary Ann-Yes, Richard – Yes, Jeff – Yes Motion carries – 5/0.

Mayor Cury - Mr. Chitwood, thank you it was painless, tonight.

Rick – I have been doing this for 37 years, I tell my clients the bad news with the good news, it sometimes happens, and no one caused it.

Mary Ann – Thank you so much you are always encouraging even when you have to give bad news. I just wanted to clarify so the citizens of Richlands understand. I am so appreciative that you did say that none of us like to do the hard things and raise rates, taxes and put in new taxes. Just to clarify for the citizens in order to get the grant and the low interest loan we have been told we have to do the recommended increases. If we don't do those our Town will pay 100%, no grant and no low interest loans.

Rick - You are exactly right. Ironically on the water portion they will offer you all the original loan money at the market rate, which interest is about 3%. Mr. Brown who did your rate study, when he recommended the rates for you to implement, that was sent to the Health Department. Once they saw what you were going to raise the rates, qualified you for \$400,000 grant. You are exactly right. I will say this, the Town of Richlands has been very blessed over the years with water and sewer rates, and even with your rate increase you are still going to be cheaper than a lot of your neighbors. It will get you to where you qualified to get principal forgiveness money. When I say I know you don't like it I know you pay it too, nobody likes rate increases but it has to happen. You are right Ms. Strong the funding agencies will not look at the attractive funding package unless the Town raises the rates. They basically say we are not going to give you grant money to supplement your rates when your neighbors are paying higher.

Mary Ann – Thank you so much.

Mayor Cury – “Council Member Reports” – Jeff Hurst

Jeff – I just want to follow up on what Richard Smith had spoken to us about, the zoning study. I know in the last Planning Commission meeting they are looking for support and maybe a motion from the Council to move forward with looking at the possibility of doing a study and how much it would cost, if we could find somebody. John, you were at the meeting I didn't know if you wanted to add anything or what you felt like the cost would be.

John - I think the Council has in the current budget \$30,000 for special studies, if the Council wants to use it for that, that is where that funding would come from. I would image it would not cost more than \$30,000 but don't know until we get a quote. I don't know what organization does that in this area. Don't know exactly what they want to do to find someone to come and do it.

Mayor Cury - One organization is in Richmond, and they came and talked to us about zoning. I don't have the name, but I can find it for you. That is one possibility.

Jeff - I guess I can make the motion. I make the motion that the Council allow Planning Commission to move forward with accepting bids for a proposed zoning study for Town of Richlands. Mike seconded the motion.

Mayor Cury - Any discussion?

Richard - Councilmen Ratliff probably will remember when we annexed Birmingham, Hidden Valley and that whole area I think a portion of that was court ordered that the zoning was very limited back then with deed restrictions. I remember several people like the Buskills came in and they had property that they hunted on. If I am not mistaken maybe something in a court order, we are not looking at taking away from those portions of that property that nothing was changed.

Mayor Cury - I am not on the Commission anymore but I don't think that is the intent of the Commission. Like Richard was saying we have areas of Town that are part of the boundary adjustment, and they all came in as a R2 general residential. There has been rezoning in the Birmingham area but not complete, rezoning by request by Council to rezone in the Brick Yard, they are zoned industrial, and we did in with hopes that two (2) lots would be rezoned for residential so people could build on them and sell them. My thinking at the time was it is OK, but we are encouraging people to spend money on a home sell a home in an industrial area. The other homes that are in that area such as Chestnut Street, most people that live there do not know they are zoned, I did not know my zone for many years. If we go to their home and ask them if they know what zone they are in most people don't know and don't care until it comes time to sell it and that makes a difference. As a consequence, if things are more uniform it is better, it seems like it is better. That is one thing to address Richard and it is all over the Town and the areas you are talking about which is the hunting property of the Buskills and there was other properties that people did not want included in the rezoning of Hidden Valley to R1. Those areas are not in question, we would have to talk to whomever we hire and explain some of these things. I am suggestion I do not know the proper way.

Richard - The reason I brought that out tonight, Richard actually mentioned the annex portion of Birmingham I didn't want the public to think we were taking some of their rights away from them.

Mayor Cury - I understand when you are messing with people's property you can get their hopes and their ...

Doug - What you brought up is still effective on their deeds. I am glad you brought that up Mr. Brown.

Mayor Cury- We have a motion and a second, any further discussion? All those in favor of the motion say yes. All those that oppose say no. Roll Call -Mike- Yes, Doug-Yes, Mary Ann-Yes, Richard - Yes, Jeff - Yes Motion carries - 5/0.

Mayor Cury - Jeff you can convey that to Richard and John you can do the same.

Jeff - Since last meeting I saw where Derek and Marie were coming here to toot their horn so I will toot it for them. Everybody involved with the cycling event downtown, it was pretty crazy on Memorial Day weekend. It was good to see, the cyclists that were here they went thru the Town, and it was something to see especially Monday morning. The congregated at the funeral home, it was pretty neat to watch them go around the Town, all age divisions, all groups and people from everywhere, they were very complimentary. They are eager to come back it was an excellent thing for the Town. We also had a beautiful prom, and everything looked pretty with the Richlands Formal, the following Memorial Day weekend on Friday night was the Senior Parade. They weathered the storm, and we had a great turn out for it. Seniors were excited and people lined the streets to congratulate them, Saturday morning was graduation. They persevered and best of luck to our seniors.

Mayor Cury - Those are exciting things and I appreciate it. Did the Planning Commission have the opportunity to study the request from Mr. Roberts?

Jeff - He did not show up at the meeting. We didn't talk about it, there were some issues; we will take to next month and guess we will reach out to him.

Mary Ann - I am wondering if he clearly understood that he had to attend the meeting. We need to make sure we let him know this time; we kind of made a promise to expedite.

Mayor Cury - I can share a little bit. There is some question about the property that we allowed him to put a mobile home on I think that is what the Commission wants to resolve before they make any recommendations. Is that correct Jeff?

Jeff - That is pretty accurate. That is why we wanted him to come to the meeting.

Mayor Cury - Is it possible to reach out to him to come to the next Planning Commission?

Jeff - I did drive down to East Second Street and Sycamore Lane it is quite unattractive and embarrassing. We may need to look at some possible solutions, the grass is unreal at a couple of houses.

Mayor Cury – Many years ago this is irrelevant, but I don't speak in authority there was question about property that is who is responsible for what property, and this is how it was explained to me in the court of law. If the retaining wall is here, the property and road is here that is not the natural lay of the land the natural lay of the land is like this so when the road came thru somebody had to put a retaining wall to hold this back, there lies the basic question. If the road was dug out and I am assuming, and this is a very dangerous thing this wall had to be put up so dirt won't fall into the road. I just wanted to explain to you how it was explained to me. It is not the natural lay of the land; you have to consider why this is put here.

Audience – Remarks from the audience.

Jeff - That street has been beautiful for years; I think is definitely something we need to look into and address it to see how we clean it up and help them out. I did have a citizen to approach me about becoming a member of the Richlands IDA I didn't know if there were openings or not.

Mayor Cury - There was one (1) opening, is that correct John?

John – Yes

Jeff - I didn't know the procedure, he indicated today to me he wanted to serve.

Jeff - Mr. Blake Ray asked me today I told I would make a motion to appoint him to the IDA, he is willing to serve. Mary Ann seconded the motion.

Mayor Cury - There is a motion to appoint Blake Ray to the IDA, any discussion?

Doug – They approached someone else to be on the IDA, it was Jan White.

Jeff - If she asks first that is fine with me.

Doug - I have no problem, she called me and said they approached her maybe you should talk to the IDA.

Mike - Was she interested?

Doug – Yes, she was.

Mary Ann - Is "they" some members of the IDA?

Doug - Yes, she said she would serve.

Mayor Cury - I was not aware of that, do you want to withdraw until we can find out.

Jeff - I will withdraw my motion.

Mary Ann - I will withdraw my second.

Mayor Cury - The motion and the second have been withdrawn. Blake if you will wait we will find out how this is working.

Mary Ann - I would like to thank Blake for being willing but I think it is imperative that we find out asap. We have a vacancy and they have so many important items, if they don't have a quorum they can't meet.

Mayor Cury - Doug since you are familiar with this would you like to contact Jan?

Doug - Yes, I can contact the person that asked her which would be appropriate.

Mayor Cury - You can let us know at the next meeting.

Mayor Cury - "Council Member Reports" – Doug Ratliff

Doug – I would like to add to what Mr. Hurst said about Derek and Marie White they done a fantastic job you could not get thru Town; it was nice that you opened the bathrooms for them.

Mayor Cury – "Council Member Reports" – Richard Brown

Richard - Follow up with East 2nd someone had sent me a text that address is 702 East 2nd. I was going to ask John what's the update on the stage for the Greenway.

John - We have signed a contract last week, they are getting back with me on a timeline, and they are working with their vendors for supplies and materials. As soon as I get an estimate timeline on that I will pass along to everyone.

Richard - Did the cost change because of the increase in materials?

John - It was a \$6300 increase, there was something on the stage that was not quite clear, we clarified that was \$900 but I can get exact figure. I emailed to everyone when I asked about the additional cost.

Mayor Cury - We do have it, does anybody else want to see it?

Richard - I think there is a Fall Festival planned for the middle of September can we get a completion date prior to that, I think originally it was 90 days. I think it is the weekend before Cedar Bluff's.

John - I didn't want to have construction going on during Summer Fest, I wasn't sure.

Richard - May 28 the governor removed the restrictions regarding Covid and pretty much opened everything back up I don't know about the rest of the Council, but I am ready to move back up to my seat. I don't know if we need a motion for that.

Mayor Cury - I think we are safe if everyone feels safe here the restrictions are lifted, and I can only speak for myself I have been vaccinated.

John - We just have to be careful when we switch back and use our microphones.

Richard - Didn't we spend some money for the Access Channel?

John - They have not come in yet.

Frank - I think they are scheduled for next week.

Mayor Cury - "Council Member Reports" Mary Ann Strong"

Mary Ann - It has been mentioned several times tonight we do have reasons to celebrate, and we have successes to celebrate. One is opening of the pool at the Rec Park it was at capacity over the weekend for the first time in a long time. I know the community is enjoying the Rec Park and there was the first NXT Basketball Tournament last month in May. I think they have June and July scheduled. There has been Middle School Softball at the Rec Park there has also been wrestling, lots of wrestling going on inside which is exciting, pickle ball has moved outside, lot of great fun going on at the Rec Park. I will mention we have two (2) Rec Commission members here, Grace and Cory. Normally our Rec Commission meeting is the Monday following Council, but we meet the 3rd Monday, the way the dates are this month we will be meeting June 21, not next Monday. I welcome citizens to come give this Commission ideas to pursue; they are full of energy and enthusiasm. Jessica Reynolds Lawrence and Dave Ascue have done a fabulous job in getting the pool ready. Dave said that it was the smoothest opening they have had, and he has been doing that for many years and we are very grateful that he continues. I would also like to comment again, I wish Derek and Marie could have been here, just to add to Jeff and Doug's comments, "Chasing the Wild Boar" was beyond what I expected. Supervisor Seth White invited me, and I think he tried to get in touch with everybody to come down when you could. I saw them take off from the Magic Mart on Sunday they did a 100-mile race. It is phenomenal. Most of those same cyclists on Monday, the professional men and women did a 60-minute ride, just like Jeff said where it started thru Town. I went down thought I would be there 30 minutes I was down there over three (3) hours, and I loved every minute of it. The people were from all over the United States and Canada could not say enough positive things about Richlands. They said they would love to come back, from talking to Derek and Marie they want to do again. The only negative I heard was why did people not know about this, I was somewhat apologizing to Derek, he said don't apologize he said we had no idea it was our first time and didn't know how big it would be and we didn't even know if we were going to be able to have it because of Covid. Derek, Marie, Seth and Jan were there and many others I always get into trouble when I mention names, please forgive me for that. I think they were the main players; they got very little sleep for several days. The economic impact was huge, Supervisor White said that based on some things they had done thru other studies with Back of the Dragon. That event most likely brought \$500,000/\$600,000 to our community, hotels, restaurants and buying gas. It was huge and guess what it can bigger and better next year. We were not expecting it, obviously restaurants are closed on Sunday's, and Memorial Day I bet they will be open next year. We could have had several organizations, youth groups and churches they are always trying to raise money, and lots of money can be raised. It is no one's fault we will just build on it next year. We will have our Greenway finished and we can have music. Even with the short things that we had all the people I talked to loved it. Just like they do when they come here for Little League Baseball Tournaments, they really weren't excited about coming to our community, but all said the hospitality was better than any place they have ever been. Two (2) vendors did set up; I would publicly like to say appreciation to. Fannies set up at the Farmer's Market and Frank's Dogs in front of the Town Hall, participants said they loved buying from those vendors. Just a couple more success stories, the RHS Formal, I had a citizen said they wish the Town would do this every year, they thought it was the best one yet, everyone who helped with those needs to be thanked and a big congratulations to the graduates. The only negative thing I want to say East Second Street property, like all of you have said it is very bad. It has been too long, and I know our Town Manager has on the list for improvements; I assure those residents definitely got our attention. Last and we have talked about this for a long time so after we get the budget passed and some sensitive items, I think it is very obvious that we need to have a Code of Conduct and when we get our new attorney hired, I think that should be very high on the list of priorities for the new attorney.

Mayor Cury - "Council Member Reports" - Mike Street

Mike – First thing I want to talk about is Point Broadband, we were going to receive a proposal from Point Broadband, but we found out that did not include Hidden Valley which we want to include because of the amount of houses. They are what they call passing it is a little more difficult because we don't own those; they are going to have power poles so they will have to reach an agreement with AEP to use those easements and right-a-ways. They will be taking on that cost to make ready for Hidden Valley. The proposal that we were going to receive didn't include that, so they went back to figure out the numbers for that, once we send them an updated Town limit file showing in fact that it is in Town Limits. Once we have that we can sit down and look at it and see what it looks like and how the citizens can benefit. We are getting close, I continue to talk about it, something I am passionate about it is definitely going to be awesome for our community and Richlands and eventually moving out. Once the actual infrastructure is within the Town limits and the fiber is available it just branches out, we started talking about Cedar Bluff Raven and different areas but will start with Richlands, and we are the pioneers of this. I do want to make it known that Point Broadband is here, they do have access to fiber on some poles. I won't say you need to reach out to them I don't want to sound like I am trying to promote them or anything like that and I am not, but if you are in their service area you can call, and they can let you know if you are or you are not. That is possible they used to be owned by BVU and they were used on the governmental side and now residential. I am one of those lucky people, I live on Suffolk and the Town Hall has it, it comes right past me, and I was able to take advantage of that. I encourage you to give them a call and if they want to try something else it is totally up to them. Hopefully, we will have a better update next month, they told me that would love to have the proposal with the new numbers as soon as possible. As soon as we get them that file their design engineer is going to be looking at that and getting back to us. That is an exciting thing. Last meeting, I mentioned to Council about some Charter changes, I want to follow up on that, it looks as if the way that is going to happen, John is going to pass out a copy of the Charter and we can highlight the types of changes that we see that we may want to make to our Charter. We can make as many updates as we would like with one swift motion as far as it comes to finding sponsors at a State Level you can do it once; you don't have to do it four (4) or five (5) different times if you want to make that many changes. For me the ones that I mentioned are term limits, I think that is an important one, two (2) terms per Council member one (1) term off of Council and you can serve one (1) more for a total of twelve (12) years. That is something I am passionate about and will push forward with. Another one that I mentioned was the seven (7) members of Council. I give Council a month to think about that and I thought about it myself as well what we are really searching for is clarity. I think clarity is important when it comes to passing Ordinances and Resolutions and making sure that we clearly define the roles within the Town and Town government, with that being said I believe I would rather give that power to the Mayor as far as passing an Ordinances or Resolutions giving him the opportunity to actually vote on a tie. It has been unclear in our Charter as what a Mayor can do in regards to Ordinances and Resolutions. I feel as long as there is clarity, and they have a defined role that would be the better way to go. Obviously, the Charter is there for a reason, and I feel like it shouldn't be updated and changed a lot that is the way things should be done. I want to keep the Mayor there with the responsibilities they have at the meetings to be more clear. That is one thing I am going to highlight, and I urge Council to look at the Charter and really dig into that Charter. The Mayor and you as well, what you feel like would be appropriate for change and what you think might not be. I think it is important for us and in the future the future of Richlands. That is something that is important to me. It will have to be advertised and will also have to have a Public Hearing I am going to work with John. John had one thing as well from a Town standpoint that he thought could go in line with really what it should be; I am going to take that into consideration as well as changing that. We will work thru that and go forward with that and hopefully I have Council's support on that. During campaigning prior to being elected I talked about having a Kids Week this is something that was important to me. I talked about doing a few but that is not feasible but potentially would have been great to do one/two/three kids activities on weekend but volunteers are difficult. We found instead of three (3) different times we just do it a three (3) day weekend. I am going to propose to Council tonight the weekend of August 13,14,15 which is a Friday, Saturday and Sunday for our Back to Kids School Weekend. We want to dedicate this weekend solely to kids in our communities I don't just mean Richlands. I had a lady talk about how we service just more than Richlands because we do and it is important to include all kids. This is something that I am passionate about and we are going to do and hopefully, the way we want to do this is Friday having a movie for the kids. I will have a detailed agenda

at the next meeting as far as whatever things is going to entail and what it's going look like. I want to get started on this soon. Friday will be a movie at Critterville which will be really cool for the kids, Saturday will be the big kid's day. I will be partnering with Jessica Reynolds-Lawrence she and I are going to manage this and see this thru; we are going to involve Ramp-Up Richlands and the Richlands Police Department. It is going to be a pretty big event. We have talked with Jerry, and he can do a lot of things for "Back to School" and that is what we want to do we want to have a huge drive for back-to-school supplies. I have talked to Mary Ann and already have a couple of churches that is going to be volunteering to help with this. We want to incorporate emergency vehicles and a "Touch a Truck Event" where we get our EMS Services and Police Services to actually let the kids jump into the cars and toot the horns and check it out, really a hands-on thing, reach out to the State Police and have them bring down some cool vehicles and lot of cool things the kids can do and spend some time for them. I have been in contact with Ramey in Richlands they have and graciously decided that they want to provide all the food for every kid that comes to this on Saturday. As far as cost we are going to be reaching out for multiple donations from local businesses. When we start talking about kids, I don't think we are going to have any issues. We will be seeking out different games, bouncy house and things of that nature for the kids on Saturday. That is going to be awesome and hoping to get a lot of different volunteers for that, it is going take a village to make something like that happen. Sunday the 15 is where I need Town support, we want to make Sunday August 15 a free swim day at the Rec Park, give that a full three (3) day event kind of "Let's Go Back to School". I believe Jessica told me we used to do that; it may have been with previous Mayor White who suggested that for a 4th of July. It looks like the cost for that is around \$300 that is for five (5) lifeguards and a person working the front desk. I am going to ask Council for approval to move forward with that and give the kids a free swim day on Sunday August 15 to make that a three (3) day weekend for "Back to Kids Weekend". We will be scheduling meetings this month and next month, Jerry involved as well as the churches and I hope to have a full agenda of activities for Council to look over and have at the next meeting.

Mayor Cury - Are those firm dates I can put on my calendar?

Mike – Yes, I have been in contact with Jessica, and she has confirmed that Critterville space as well as the Rec Park are available August 13, 14, 15. That is the weekend before school starts.

Richard - I would like to make a suggestion, when we done this before at the Police Department, we involved the actual administrators and some of the teachers. When you do the back packs, supplies, they actually got to meet their teachers.

Mike - Absolutely, Jessica talked about involving communities and schools I will reach out to them to see what they can provide. I would love to set it up in a way which this group provides paper, pencils, crayons and coloring books. It would be great to just line up with school supplies.

Richard - We did that before and it worked really well with school employees because kids actually got to meet them, look to invite them.

Mike – Absolutely, that is a great idea.

Richard - I make a motion for the Free Swim Day, Mary Ann seconded the motion.

Mayor Cury- We have a motion and a second, any further discussion? All those in favor of the motion say yes. All those that oppose say no. Roll Call –Mike- Abstained due conflict of interest of managing.

Mayor Cury - Mike, I don't think there is a conflict of interest you are just doing something good for the Town, no money involved.

Mayor Cury- We have a motion and a second, any further discussion? All those in favor of the motion say yes. All those that oppose say no. Roll Call –Mike- Yes, Doug-Yes, Mary Ann-Yes, Richard – Yes, Jeff – Yes Motion carries – 5/0.

John - The Charter changes are you following a timeline? Connie passed the Charter out tonight; you can review the next three (3) weeks. Any changes you want to make send to me by July 6 that is before our July meeting and I will have all those compiled so we can discuss, and we can look at the whole picture. If we are consistent on the way, we want to go we can have a Public Hearing at the August meeting and Council would be able to vote on it at the August meeting.

Mayor Cury - I just want to say thank you very much for taking time on this, I talked to Mike with a suggestion and the importance of this and I want to say thank you Mike. Charter changes are a big thing, and we need to take our time and think about it. Does everyone have a copy of the Charter to study? John, you want these back by July 6.

Mayor Cury - Logan emailed this to me and asked me to read this.

Logan's Report:

First of all, I would like to apologize for my absence to this meeting. Each spring, I am prone to pneumonia, and I am afraid it is that time of year. I felt it best to stay home so as not to spread any type of contagion to other members of the community since I have been running a fever today. I appreciate your prayers for my quick recovery. I have a few updates that I have asked Mayor Cury to relay to the citizens in my absence.

For those who have been concerned with regarding the feral cat situation in Town, I spoke with Julia Winston via email yesterday. She informed me of the following:

Five (5) cats went to the Margaret Mitchell Clinic in Bristol this morning to be spayed and neutered. One (1) cat was recently rehomed. We have learned of a possible barn placement for one (1) or possibly more. Linda Keen, Ginger Mullins, and Susan Akers will be collecting donations in front of Grant's on Friday, June 11th.

I would like to thank Lisa Hess for her help in catching a stray, now lovingly named Parker, in Lake Park. Unfortunately, Parker was hit before she could be apprehended but she has been cared for and is under the loving eye and care of Lisa.

I would like to address, as I am sure Council has heard, some of the issues with overgrown yards, the retaining wall, and other issues on East Second Street and in other areas in Town. Now that we have passed one (1) of two (2) ordinances aimed at taking care of these issues, when can we expect these issues to be cared for?

I have received many more concerns from citizens regarding this budget. You have all heard my concerns and I would like to reiterate that I would be voting "No" on all increases and will be voting "No" on this budget as presented.

For the sake of time, I will encapsulate several more of my topics:

I would like to thank Supervisor Seth White and Connie Allen for nominating me to represent the Northwest District on the Tazewell County Tourism Committee. I am very excited to take on this new role since I will no longer be able to assist with community development. I appreciate the confidence that Supervisor White and Connie have in me to represent our district. I am glad to see the speeding signs placed on East First Street and the signs placed at the library. Thank you to Town Manager for his quick work on those requests. I would like to thank Derek and Maria White and their entire fleet of volunteers for the massive success that the "Chasing the Wild Boar" cycling event was and the awesome PR it gave Richlands. I am so proud that this event went well, and they asked me to thank each member of Council as well as the community and the Town employees for their help in making it such a huge success! I would like to ask for an update regarding the water issue on Plantation Drive for Mrs. Lowe and Mr. Horne. Has this been addressed?

Again, I apologize that I am unable to be in attendance tonight. I encourage each member of Council to really think about the citizens that they represent and to think about their well-being before passing this budget as presented.

Mayor Cury - We will take a ten (10) minute break.

Mayor Cury - This meeting will come back to order.

Mayor Cury - "Mayor' Comments"

Mayor Cury - First it was my personal honor and our honor to recognize our Town Water. Stories are always in line Mike, when I was in business and went to New York on buying trips, I was worried about the water in the hotels because it seemed it would not be really good for me, so I asked about it, they said our water is some of the cleanest because it comes from Niagara Falls and also from the Hudson River and it is some of the best. I took comfort in that and now we get an award for our water, and I know our water is just as pure and clean and beautiful as anybody's and it makes me feel so good. Thank You. Sometimes and I am very guilty of this, this is better and that is better, but you know when you really think about it water is water, a diamond that comes out of the ground. I have a note from Alice Wolfe, Blue Ridge Power Agency dated June 8 is from me to her – The Town of Richlands appoints John O'Daniel.

John - That is on my agenda.

Mayor Cury - Email from John O'Daniel to the Mayor and the Council, wanted to let you know I received a phone call from Wilma Simmons this morning. She lives in Cedar Bluff but wanted to call and thank the Town for going above and beyond to celebrate the graduating seniors. She said it meant so much to not only the graduates, but their parents and grandparents. Specifically, she mentioned how great it was to see the photos of the graduates' downtown and how much she appreciated that we were able to host the not-prom downtown. We would not have been able to recognize these seniors if it were not for our staff going above and beyond to make it happen. If you see George West, Chief Gilbert, Allen Compton, James Newberry or Connie Allen please join me in thanking them for making this possible.

Mayor Cury - Message from Allen Compton to John – dated June 2 regarding power outage – “John here is some information on yesterday's power outage 2:20pm tree falls Dalton Addition circuit knocked out, 3:09 pm power restored to everyone except far east and past Edge Water Drive, Pizza Hut and V & V, Roma's, 6:20pm drop down in Dalton Addition, replaced switches in line, 6:21pm power restored to all customers. The total of four (4) hours to cut and clean up the tree, repair broken power lines and restore power, thanks to the Water Department, Street Department and the Electrical Department for their help.” I think it was very nice that he detailed this for us so we can relay to our citizens. I was at school, and I got information that the tree had fallen. Thank you, Allen and members, of all the departments for working together as a team it makes a difference. We are very appreciative.

Mayor Cury - Regarding the cycling, I didn't play a part in it but I was a citizen who saw the cyclists, I was aware they were in Town and aware that I was to look out for the cyclist. It was very exciting, I think it is a great thing and I want to say thank you to all the people who help create that very big event for this Town, it is a healthy thing physically and healthy for us emotionally and spiritually for this Town. Thank you, Marie and Derek, wherever you are, we are sorry you could not be here tonight. I am also looking forward to the Summer Festival, I will be a little incapacitated I have asked John to put me on the sick list for a short time I am going to have a knee replacement. I have needed it for a long time on June 15; I should be able to move some but not that particular weekend. I look forward to everything that Ramp Up Richlands will be doing I think it will be exciting, fresh blood it always helps and the input of everyone.

Regarding the Section House we will meet at the Section House for our regular scheduled meeting at 4:30 for the first time since February 2020 we have not met in the house before Covid. Now they have lifted restrictions and all of our members have been vaccinated we feel safe. We had our first actual Board Meeting there and anyone is always welcome to come and that time. Some of the business that we will be talking about, we have the money to purchase a sign for the Section House to say what it is and finalizing, we need a draft we have the money we are appreciative that we were able to get the money. This will come sometime this summer. For the Summer Festival our idea is to have the Garden Club who has adopted the Section House as a project for landscaping and beautifying, they will be doing a Flower Show. I don't know if you have ever been to them, but they are magnificent if you like that kind of thing or even if you don't it will beautify your soul. They are taking a tremendous interest in the house; they are spending time and money and we are grateful to them. I want to thank the Garden Club for putting up the baskets in this Town and we frequently hear that ours are not as pretty as other peoples, and we all know it just takes water. A green thumb is a dirty thumb it takes a tremendous amount of water because basket over concrete dry out really fast, you can't expect them to look pretty if they are not watered very well. I am imploring on half of the Garden Club to do that and make their efforts worthy and worthwhile and make people proud of our Town. The little things do matter. This is National Garden Week so it could not be a better week to highlight a local Civic Club many of you have family members who are in it or been in it, it is worthwhile. The Richlands Women Club is also interest in meeting there on a regular basis. Dr. Bays asked me about the Beekeepers meeting there. We will be taking up at our Board Meeting and we have someone who is going to be using it for a Retirement Party

coming up. We have had it in place for a while, but it is not formalized, and we have studied it and there is a policy and I want the Council to know what we are trying to do to be good stewards of this historic building. We want to have a policy in place what we call community partners can use this house. People using for parties and anything personally we would as for a donation we are not going to be specific about it to help with the upkeep of the house. We will work on that and present to the Council. We have thought about it but it is not published. For example, if someone comes to say can we use it for an retirement party I can't pop out and say your fee is going to be this, we have to publish things and we are not there. All this has been interrupted by Covid. We have several other things that are taking place. This Historic Home is getting a lot of attraction we are going to be listed on the histopoly for Tazewell County Historical Society, Tazewell County Train Station on one corner and the Richlands Section House on the other corner. If you have driven by recently notice that we have hanging baskets on the front of the porch and side of porch those were started by the Richlands Women Club, but Kim's Greenhouse in Tazewell donated those at no cost, the baskets, planting and the begonias to the house for her fondness of old places. We have put three (3) hanging baskets that the Garden Club donated on the storage building and two (2) on either side of the outdoor bathrooms. Those are being watered faithfully by Joey Christian. He is personally doing that for us and fertilizing. We have really taken interest in it and want it to be as attractive as possible. In the Fall we have not planned a date, probably with the Fall Festival we have at least three (3) artists who want to show their art and have an Art Show. We also have the patio with the engraved bricks that several people bought, and we know it is imperative that we have a dedication, but we are planning what I call a soft dedication. I don't know if it will be during the Fall Festival or when, but we are working on that. We have had numerous people who send us emails asking for pictures of their bricks, it matters to people. Jeff lives in a beautiful historic home the Hyatt House, that family bought about thirty (30) some bricks, none live here but they have the heart here. They founded the Brick Yard, cool to know. The ties that bind us reach way back and reaching out into the future to grab people. They are with us.

Mayor Cury - McClure Concrete that is the Herdon's donated tons of natural sand, eight (8) tons at a cost of \$440, they did not charge the Town for it and deposited it at Critterville. Mary Ann that is something that is important to Rec, this is the invoice that was given to me; I will give back to John. You can also thank the Herdon's. That kind of generosity they probably don't want a lot of recognition but tonight thank you Herndon Family and McClure Family. No one makes you pull a dollar out of your pocket when you give you give with your heart.

Mayor Cury - I want to thank everyone for making my job so easy, I really appreciate it.

Mike - When does the Garden Club do the Beautification Awards?

Mayor Cury - I can find out for you.

Mike - Do they take recommendations?

Mayor Cury - I don't know if they do, I will have to ask them.

Mayor Cury - "Attorney Comments" - Brit do you have anything to say.

Brit - I don't have any formal comments but I know everything has been crazy with Wayne's sudden departure and I want to thank John for being very pleasant to work with during the transition.

Mayor Cury - A pleasure to have you.

Doug - Are you from John's office?

Brit - I am from Wayne's office.

Mayor Cury - "Manager's Report" - John O'Daniel

John - Authorization to Pay Bills - You have the list in your packets.

Mayor Cury - I have a comment on register for 6-8-2021, 10155 - Vance Graphics for \$25, - name band on Mayor's gavel, replace broken one. I got an invoice in my packet and I gave John \$25. I do want you to know it is very nice and I appreciate the efforts, not to say anything but the nicest things about it the wood did not break, the reason being broke it was plastic, I just want to make that clear that I paid for it. I think this looks a little heavier, so I hope it is sturdy.

Mike – 10127 – Kidd Tire Auto Parts – What vehicle is that for?

John - I am not sure.

Richard – Sanitation Truck

Mike - It is the big truck, is it possible for our shop to order tires and let our shop do it, is that unreasonable.

John - I don't know if they have the ability but I can check on that.

Mayor Cury - Richard when the Martins worked here did, they do that?

Richard – They did not, we use Kidd Tire, they bid for state vehicles can get them cheaper than the Town can.

Mary Ann - I make a motion that we allow the Town Manager to pay the bills as presented, Richard seconded the motion.

Mayor Cury- We have a motion and a second, any further discussion? All those in favor of the motion say yes. All those that oppose say no. Roll Call –Mike-Yes, Doug-Yes, Mary Ann – Yes, Richard- Yes, Jeff-Yes Motion carries – 5/0.

John - Consideration of Ordinance O-2021-05-02 Derelict Buildings – I am asking for a motion to approve the Ordinance. I do ask that part of the Ordinance be left out on part A, Wayne is working with the County to try to work out the tax, if we have a rundown property, we want the County to do a tax relief abatement to bring it up to code. I ask that we pass the Ordinance except for that as we work with the County, we can get something in place and then we will add it back in.

Mayor Cury - I have some questions, I read it as careful as I could, in here we have some blanks it is in Exhibit A, is Exhibit a part of the Ordinance?

John - The first two pages are part of the Ordinance; Exhibit A is the actual Ordinance that will be in our files.

Mayor Cury - My questions are, and I am looking at the blanks, The _____ Building Official shall have authority to declare a structure derelict and there are several of these, do we have a way to fill that in I am lost on that. I am not opposed to the ordinance I just thank clarity is important. On page 2 – “Upon declaration that a structure is derelict, the _____ Building Official shall it carries on with that. You know working with property it is a very sensitive thing; I want to do right in how we are doing this, so we don't have any opposition from people. Section 92 – Pre-application meeting; expedited review of ministerial approvals. 1: Town staff, which may include the _____ Building Official, Zoning Administrator, and Subdivision Agent or their designees, shall schedule a meeting with the landowner promptly but in no case later than (15) days following submission of a rehabilitation plan unless otherwise mutually agreed between staff and the landowner, to review the rehabilitation plan. There is another place in Item 2: Following the pre-application meeting, staff and the landowner shall agree on a rehabilitation plan and a schedule for achieving the goals of the rehabilitation plan, which shall be memorialized in a writing signed by the landowner and a representative of the Town. I think this is ok and I think we got this from another Town maybe Lebanon. I think it needs to say what representative like Town Manager of something that is just my thinking, so it is consistently always one person. On page three - Tax abatement for rehabilitation of derelict structures, 1: Prior to commencement of work on the rehabilitation plan, the property owner may request in writing tax abatement from the County. 2: Upon receipt of the request, the Commissioner of the Revenue shall make an assessment of the property in its current derelict condition. 3: On the building permit application, the owner shall declare the costs of demolition, or the cost of materials and labor to complete the renovation. It goes on and I

am concerned, and I found it in the minutes, April minutes on the bottom of page 15 (read section of past minutes). My question is on tax abatement I didn't understand so I looked up the definition, reaching out to the County but no real mention for abatement for the Town of Richlands that I saw. I called David Anderson, Commission of the Revenue; he said he knew nothing about it, so maybe Wayne was reaching out to the wrong people, not the Commissioner. He explained to me his take on abatement from a County point of view, what they can and can't do, but things can be changed, David Anderson can explain better but said Rod tax abatement can be a double edge sword, you might get something, but you could lose something, he would have to explain better than I am able to. I understand the need to take care of derelict properties, but I don't want the Town or this Council to step into anything that has the least bit of margin for error, I am afraid that it is not ready, that is my personal view. There is no mention of what we can do as a Town just says you can talk to the County. I just wanted to suggest for something to think about. I just think we need to talk to him or him come and talk to us.

Mike - I am ok with that myself, it is always better to be clear. If we don't do it now, we need to make it a priority we need for downtown revitalization, so it is extremely important.

Mayor Cury - It is in the minutes; he knows about that.

Mike - We just need to make a priority as far as I am concerned.

Mayor Cury - Other Council members may feel different, but I was trying to read for clarity.

Richard - There is not anything in the current code or Ordinances that would prohibit the enforcement of it right now, we are just putting little more teeth into it by putting tax abatement. I was not going to vote for it based on the fact we pass something that needs taken out of or added to.

Mayor Cury - I am being upfront I know Mike you worked hard, and I know how it feels when someone comes and rains on your parade, I have an umbrella.

Richard - So we are going to defer it.

Mike - We can but we just can't let it go by the wayside.

Mayor Cury - That is what I am saying Mike.

Mike - If you want to get with John, John can you word it the way it needs to be worded.

John - Council wants somewhere in there about the Town.

Mayor Cury - We are suggesting that people can call the County, he give me a specific example, far be it me John for me to try to tell you what it was like, when it ended up the County lost money in the long-term and they never got any money. He said we really have to be careful I don't want to lose money we need to improve our image and help people. I am just suggesting. I think we need to get with David Anderson.

Mike - It may be a situation where we take it out.

Mayor Cury - For the County but we need to put something about the Town, what is the Town going to do? It is not real clear to me.

Mary Ann - I agree with Mike, it has got to be a priority. There are so many derelict buildings.

Mayor Cury - Vickie England and Sparkie, he was a on a clean-up campaign his entire time here. He did a good job and most recently Vickie England brought us over a hundred pictures of places she was concerned about.

Mary Ann – Thanks Mike for all your time.

Mike - It is just not me; we are just trying to do what we can and this is very important to the revitalization project, it needs to be done, we need to get it right.

Mary Ann – If we make changes to it do, we have to have another public hearing?

Mayor Cury - We would have to because it is a change in an Ordinance, which will bring another question later in the meeting. Mike thank you for understanding.

John – Planning Commission Update – A few things brought up and addressed.

John – Dispatch Update – Fire and EMS with the County by the first of the month. We will review and see how things are going, so far, a smooth transition we will continue to monitor in monthly meetings so we can try to work out the kinks.

Mike - Have they formed the advisory committee?

John – They have talked about it but not officially formed yet.

Mike - Can we follow up, we want to make sure our voices are heard in regard to that, when we were talking about doing that was something they were open to and we want to make sure our guys are part of that and have a voice.

John - Authorize line of credit drawdown on the two (2) projects, they has been quite bit of work done. Council has already approved the loans and the funding; we don't have to bring back each month, but I will leave up to Council.

Mayor Cury - We have basically covered this, right John? Do you want approvals every time?

John – We can do it that way I don't know if we have to have approval or just keep Council up to where we were.

Mayor Cury - I will defer to Council.

Mike - I think it is ok to be completely transparent; I don't have an issue with making a motion to authorize line of credit. It may take an extra few minutes but for full transparency, that is my opinion.

Mayor Cury - It is a good thing; I agree with you Mike.

Mike - I make the motion to authorize the line of credit drawdown, Mary Ann seconded the motion.

Mayor Cury- We have a motion and a second, any further discussion? All those in favor of the motion say yes. All those that oppose say no. Roll Call –Mike-Yes, Doug-Yes, Mary Ann – Yes, Richard- Yes, Jeff- Yes Motion carries – 5/0.

John - EMS Service Agreement – I emailed this to you, in one of our budget workshops this is what we came up with the County for a true-up, two (2) year extension , pay the Town \$200,000 , a flat fee for that service , if we to buy a new EMS vehicle, they pay \$110,000 and will renew an additional two (2) years.

Mike - The only thing I want to mention, the last part talks about an automatic renewal, going into this meeting the biggest thing for us is to believe that \$200,000 is suffice in what we need in EMS services and based on the numbers that you have I believe that to be true. The County wanted to remove a true-up so they have a clear understanding as far as what they are going to have to give us so instead of

waiting on numbers here and numbers there. It was important for them to have a number in mind so they knew this was coming and this was going to be the case so they could budget for this. Last year our previous budget did not include capital, so we were happy to meet them in the middle. We are fine with providing EMS Services for the West End but please know that we are providing for services outside the Town of Richlands, and we are using our equipment. So it was important for us to come to an agreement that says they will help us provide capital for Rescue Squad that we are going to need they are probably around \$250,000. Matt can speak more on that we are looking at replacing one of those. You have to start applying for grants but the number that you see here would potentially include that grant already. We are hoping for at least a 50% grant, what you see here is cost of \$110,000 the 50% that we would have to pay for that ambulance and the County has agreed to foot the bill for half of that since we are representing the whole West end. We are very happy to include that and get help with that it is very important that are ambulances are up to date and function thy way they should and have everything that they need to. We were very happy with this; believe this to be a good contract. Something a lot of people don't think about, but we got people on the Rescue Staff that if we are entering to an agreement such as this that don't know year by year if they have a job. They have no idea. This gives them and relief to know they are going to be able to work tomorrow and I will have a job next year. If in fact we get this grant for new ambulance in the next two (2) years, the guarantees they want if they are going to help pay for the ambulance, we are going to continue our partnership. If they put money out towards it, we want them to feel like it is for a reason. I think it is a good deal with the County and a good deal for us, I am absolutely firm believer that we provide the best service in this County 100%, it is important for us to keep it the way it is. I was good to be part of the discussions it was a great meeting.

Richard - Since we did away with the true-up are we doing a yearly statement?

John - It is in there, I think quarterly.

Richard - We did a true-up so they would know where they stood. If there is not going to be a true-up, I don't see the necessity to do quarterly or by yearly. It mentions December 31, that is only six (6) months, I don't want to do anything to change the contract.

John - Provide the County a statement of its year-to-date EMS Expenses and EMS Revenue as of December 31, 2021.

Richard - Is that from July to December or prior to July 1?

John - I think we could just supply the audit.

Richard - I don't want to change anything in the contract I just know a true-up was a big deal with them. I am good to vote on the contract I just want to make sure not any extra work for you guys.

Mayor Cury - On the last page Interim Mayor needs to be corrected, just needs to be Mayor.

Richard - I will make the motion for the Town Manager to sign the EMS Agreement, Mike seconded the motion.

Mayor Cury- We have a motion and a second, any further discussion? All those in favor of the motion say yes. All those that oppose say no. Roll Call -Mike-Yes, Doug-Yes, Mary Ann - Yes, Richard- Yes, Jeff-Yes Motion carries - 5/0.

John - Blue Ridge Power Agency's Board of Directors Appointment - This is the position that Tim held until he retired, and I need your approval to be the representative. There is a Resolution in the packet, need to change the Resolution number to R-2021-06-10 instead of -01.

Mayor Cury - Read Resolution R-2021-06-10 - We need to vote on this.

Mary Ann - I make a motion to adopted R-2021-06-10 appointing John O'Daniel as the Town's representative as Director of Blue Ridge Power Agency, Mike seconded the motion.

Mayor Cury- We have a motion and a second, any further discussion? All those in favor of the motion say yes. All those that oppose say no. Roll Call –Mike-Yes, Doug-Yes, Mary Ann – Yes, Richard- Yes, Jeff-Yes Motion carries – 5/0.

John - Greenspace Approval - I have your consensus to go forward with that additional \$6354.76. I need an approval to go forward with that. It is the increase in cost for supplies from the original one we did several months ago.

Mary Ann - Ken's Construction in Lebanon.

Mary Ann - I make a motion to approve the additional funds for the Greenway space, Jeff seconded the motion.

Mayor Cury- We have a motion and a second, any further discussion? All those in favor of the motion say yes. All those that oppose say no. Roll Call –Mike-Yes, Doug-Yes, Mary Ann – Yes, Richard- Yes, Jeff-Yes Motion carries – 5/0.

John - Property liability insurance renewal, I forwarded you the information, just need Council's approval to move into an agreement for the insurance.

Mayor Cury - Virginia Risk Association covers from July 1, 2021 – July 1, 2022

Richard - With our liability insurance will it cover the Summer Fest? I have been told in the past we pay liability to cover everything event wise. Do vendors need to get their own insurance? Project Graduation had an event at the Rec Park.

John - If something happens it covers us but would recommend that they have their own. It would cover our part but not someone else.

Richard - So they need a rider.

John - I would recommend, we can always reach out to our provider and find out what is covered and what is not covered.

Mary Ann - I think it is a good idea to reach out and ask.

Richard - I know when we had the diving board at the Rec Park we paid as much insurance as we could possibly pay, everything was covered.

Mike - The guys with the blow ups for kids they would need their own insurance.

Richard - I think if the Town sponsors we would cover it, what I was referring to was Project Graduation, one year they had a mechanical bull and the insurance would not cover.

Mike - Can you go ahead and make sure even if the Town sponsors.

Mike - I make the motion to precede with the Insurance renewal, Richard second the motion.

Mayor Cury- We have a motion and a second, any further discussion? All those in favor of the motion say yes. All those that oppose say no. Roll Call –Mike-Yes, Doug-Yes, Mary Ann – Yes, Richard- Yes, Jeff-Yes Motion carries – 5/0.

John – 2021-2022 Budget - Ordinances

Mayor Cury - It was said that we could not vote on these because they were not published in time. I prefer clarity on that.

John - I will prefer legal representation.

Brit - It is really not a black and white situation you mainly have to go by the Charter and it's a matter of interpretation so if someone wanted to challenge in court the judge could take a different interpretation. It seems to me like the notices of just the increase general would have been sufficient. Again, it is a risk because a judge could have a different interpretation.

Mayor Cury - How many days has it been since we advertised John.

John - The changes were advertised. The original ran around a month ago

Mayor Cury - I am just trying to be careful for us. I will defer to Council.

John - One was advertised on the June 2nd.

Richard – Prior to that we advertised the tax increase.

Mayor Cury – The original

John – Update for public hearing.

Mary Ann - Since we are going into executive session, I make the motion that we go into executive session, I don't know the code number to add to discuss the potential litigation if we should approve the Ordinances tonight.

Brit – I believe you can go into "Closed Session" for that if you keep it restricted.

Mary Ann - Do we need the code section?

Mike - While she is finding the code section, can we go to "q" and let John finish.

John – CART was this past weekend a good turnout. Looking at some changes to the agenda so we can change some things up and we are not here as long and speed up our Council meetings and just address the items that we need to, I will get your feedback the next few months, if you don't like them back to the way we were.

Mayor Cury - The CART performance was very nice it was for children, very sweet.

Brit – 2.2-3711 (a) (7)

Mary Ann - I will make the motion that we go into executive closed session pursuant VA Code 2.2-3711 (a) (7), and 2.2-3711 (a) (29) contract negotiations, Mike seconded it.

Mayor Cury- We have a motion and a second, any further discussion? All those in favor of the motion say yes. All those that oppose say no. Roll Call –Mike-Yes, Doug-Yes, Mary Ann – Yes, Richard- Yes, Jeff- Yes Motion carries – 5/0.

Mayor Cury - The meeting will come back to order.

John - We will resume on Item (p) 2021-2022 Budget.

Mayor Cury - 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.

Mike - I make the motion, Jeff seconded the motion.

Mayor Cury- We have a motion and a second, any further discussion? All those in favor of the motion say yes. All those that oppose say no. Roll Call –Mike-Yes, Doug-Yes, Mary Ann – Yes, Richard- Yes, Jeff- Yes Motion carries – 5/0.

Mayor Cury - We are back in "Open Session".

John - We will resume on Item (p) 2021-2022 Budget. I will ask for Council to table item 1, 2 and 3, we will have to schedule another meeting, would like to look at some tentative dates.

Richard - We can meet on the 1st or 2nd of July?

Mike - I am available on either of those days.

Mayor Cury - I am going to suggest July 2nd.

Mary Ann - I am fine with July 2nd.

Mike - Will it be another public hearing as well?

Mayor Cury - I don't think so. I think we have met the public hearing requirements. Brit, can you comment on that please?

Brit – I believe that you have met the Public Hearing requirements if I see anything that tells me otherwise, we can schedule a Public Hearing after this meeting.

Mayor Cury - How does July 2 look for everyone? Maybe we should stick to our regular time 6:00pm.

Mike - Friday at 12:00noon – Lunch

Mayor Cury - July 2 at 12:00 noon

Doug - I want it at 6:00pm but if I am outvoted.

Mayor Cury - July 2 at 10:00am, is everyone ok with that.

Doug - I can go open up and get back.

Mayor Cury - I think a "Special Called Meeting" is in order or we could simply "Recess". So we are just going to "Recess."

Mike - We may be discussing contract negotiations.

Mayor Cury – Possible

John - July 2 at 10:00am, we will be discussing Items 1, 2 and 3.

Mayor Cury - Do you want us to consider Items 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 and 9?

John – I would like for you to.

Mayor Cury - Do you want an individual vote on each on those?

John – Yes

Mayor Cury - Garbage Fee Ordinance O-2021-06-04 – Do I hear a motion to approve the Ordinance?

Richard - I have a question, do I need to read the disclosure or wait until the Budget Ordinance?

Mayor Cury - I think the Overall Budget, I will look for clarification.

John - I think you are fine to vote on it was not related to your position, your job or your benefits it is more broad, if you prefer to read it and you are more comfortable you can.

Richard – I think No. 9 was what I was getting at, it includes the budget for the Police Department.

John - I think you are safe either way.

Mayor Cury - You want to wait until No. 9?

Richard – Yes

Brit - We will need a motion to dispense with the second reading.

Mayor Cury - Garbage Fee Ordinance O-2021-06-04, we need a motion to dispense with the second reading.

Mary Ann - I make the motion to dispense with the second reading, Mike second the motion.

Mayor Cury- We have a motion and a second, any further discussion? All those in favor of the motion say yes. All those that oppose say no. Roll Call –Mike-Yes, Doug-Yes, Mary Ann – Yes, Richard- Yes, Jeff- Yes Motion carries – 5/0.

Mayor Cury - Garbage Fee Ordinance O-2021-06-04 – We need a motion to adopt the Ordinance.

Mike - I make the motion to adopt the Ordinance, Mary Ann second the motion.

Mike - I meant to mention on the last motion, I want the public to know the reason we are dispensing with the second reading these have to be passed within this month, we don't have time to go for a second reading at the next meeting because we will be past our time for our budget which is due July 1. I think it is important that the public know that is the reason why we are doing that.

Mayor Cury- We have a motion and a second, any further discussion? All those in favor of the motion say yes. All those that oppose say no. Roll Call –Mike-Yes, Doug-No, Mary Ann – Yes, Richard- Yes, Jeff- Yes Motion carries – 4/1.

Mayor Cury – Utility Rate Schedule – O-2021-06-05 – Is there a motion to dispense with the second reading.

Brit - Before going on to that one I think there should be a motion that it should be considered an emergency ordinance.

Mayor Cury - For each one of these?

Brit – Yes, if it is July 2, we don't need that if it is more than a month away.

Mike - That is before our next meeting.

Brit – Ok, I think it will be fine if you don't do it.

Mayor Cury - John, do you want an emergency measure?

John – I will leave it up to the attorney.

Mayor Cury – We can do as a safety measure.

Brit - My concern was to be effective on July 1, if it doesn't it don't need to be an emergency measure.

Mayor Cury - I think we need to do it to be safe.

Mayor Cury - I will go back to No 4 and I will ask for an emergency measure to make effective July 1 for the Garbage Fee Ordinance.

Mike - I make the motion, Mary Ann seconded the motion.

John - Let's put July 7.

Mayor Cury - You want to put July 7 on it?

Mike - I will make the motion for July 7 correction, Mary Ann - correction

Mayor Cury- We have a motion and a second, any further discussion? All those in favor of the motion say yes. All those that oppose say no. Roll Call –Mike-Yes, Doug-No, Mary Ann – Yes, Richard- Yes, Jeff-Yes Motion carries – 4/1.

Mayor Cury – Utility Rate Schedule – O-2021-06-05 – Is there a motion to dispense with the second reading.

Mike - I make the motion, Richard seconded the motion.

Mayor Cury- We have a motion and a second, any further discussion? All those in favor of the motion say yes. All those that oppose say no. Roll Call –Mike-Yes, Doug-Yes, Mary Ann – Yes, Richard- Yes, Jeff-Yes Motion carries – 5/0.

Mayor Cury – We need a motion to adopt the Utility Rate Schedule.

Mike - I make the motion, Jeff second the motion.

John - We need the motion for emergency measure.

Mayor Cury - I am going to make in three (3) different motions.

Brit - It is OK to cover in one (1) motion.

Mayor Cury - I have already got one I will correct on the next one.

Mayor Cury- We have a motion and a second, any further discussion? All those in favor of the motion say yes. All those that oppose say no. Roll Call –Mike-Yes, Doug-Yes, Mary Ann – Yes, Richard- Yes, Jeff-Yes Motion carries – 5/0.

Mayor Cury - I need a motion as an emergency measure for July 7.

Mike - I make the motion, Jeff seconded the motion.

Mayor Cury- We have a motion and a second, any further discussion? All those in favor of the motion say yes. All those that oppose say no. Roll Call –Mike-Yes, Doug-No, Mary Ann – Yes, Richard- Yes, Jeff-Yes Motion carries – 4/1.

Mayor Cury - Water Rate Ordinance – O-2021-06-06 – Council needs a motion to dispense with the second reading.

Mike - I make the motion, Jeff seconded the motion.

Mayor Cury- We have a motion and a second, any further discussion? All those in favor of the motion say yes. All those that oppose say no. Roll Call –Mike-Yes, Doug-Yes, Mary Ann – Yes, Richard- Yes, Jeff-Yes Motion carries – 5/0.

Mayor Cury - I need a motion to adopt this Ordinance as an emergency measure and become effective on July 7.

Doug - Before you do that, the next two (2) I will have to abstain I have personal interest.

Mayor Cury - For Water and Sewer, I think you just have to say you have a conflict of interest but I will refer to Brit.

Richard - You can read my disclosure.

Brit – You can read the disclosure.

Richard - Just leave out the Police Department.

Mayor Cury - Doug you want to read the disclosure?

Doug - Doug read the disclosure.

Mayor Cury – Water Rate Ordinance - Do we have a motion to dispense with the second reading?

Richard – I make the motion; Mike seconded the motion.

Connie - We need to adopt.

Mayor Cury - We will start over; I need a motion to adopt the Water Rate Ordinance as an emergency measure to become effective July 7.

Mike - I make the motion, Mary Ann seconded the motion.

Mayor Cury- We have a motion and a second, any further discussion? All those in favor of the motion say yes. All those that oppose say no. Roll Call –Mike-Yes, Doug-Abstained, Mary Ann – Yes, Richard-Yes, Jeff-Yes Motion carries – 4/1. (Doug Abstained)

Mayor Cury – Sewer Rate Ordinance O-2021-06-07 – Doug do you want to abstain from this one too?

Doug – Yes

Mayor Cury - Is it acceptable to say "Ditto". Doug has abstained.

Mayor Cury - We need a motion to dispense with the second reading.

Mike - I make the motion, Jeff second the motion.

Mayor Cury- We have a motion and a second, any further discussion? All those in favor of the motion say yes. All those that oppose say no. Roll Call –Mike-Yes, Doug- Abstained Mary Ann – Yes, Richard- Yes, Jeff-Yes Motion carries – 4/1. Doug – Abstained.

Mayor Cury - We need a motion to adopt the Sewer Rate Ordinance as an emergency measure and become effective July 7.

Mike – I make the motion; Jeff seconded the motion.

Mayor Cury- We have a motion and a second, any further discussion? All those in favor of the motion say yes. All those that oppose say no. Roll Call –Mike-Yes, Doug-Abstained, Mary Ann – Yes, Richard- Yes, Jeff-Yes Motion carries – 4/1. (Doug abstained)

Mayor Cury – Electric Rate Ordinance – O-2021-06-08 – Motion to dispense with the second reading.

Mike - I make the motion, Jeff seconded the motion.

Mayor Cury- We have a motion and a second, any further discussion? All those in favor of the motion say yes. All those that oppose say no. Roll Call –Mike-Yes, Doug-No, Mary Ann – Yes, Richard- Yes, Jeff- Yes Motion carries – 4/1.

Mayor Cury - We need a motion to adopt as an emergency measure and become effective July 7- Electric Rate Ordinance

Mike - I make the motion, Jeff second the motion.

Mayor Cury- We have a motion and a second, any further discussion? All those in favor of the motion say yes. All those that oppose say no. Roll Call –Mike-Yes, Doug-No, Mary Ann – Yes, Richard- Yes, Jeff- Yes Motion carries – 4/1.

Mayor Cury – Budget Ordinance – O-2021-06-09 - Need a motion to dispense with the second reading.

Mayor Cury - Do we have a member of Council that needs to Abstain.

Richard - No, I just have to disclose.

Mike - I make the motion, Jeff second the motion.

Mayor Cury- We have a motion and a second, any further discussion? All those in favor of the motion say yes. All those that oppose say no. Roll Call –Mike-Yes, Doug-No, Mary Ann – Yes, Richard- Yes, Jeff- Yes Motion carries – 4/1.

Mayor Cury - I need a motion to adopt the Budget Ordinance as an emergency measure to become effective July 7, 2021.

Mike - I make the motion, Jeff second the motion.

Richard - Why are we doing the Budget Ordinance? To be adopted July 7.

Mayor Cury - I am questioning that myself, I think we should hold on the Budget Ordinance.

John - I think we have to have it passed, I think it would make it easier to go back and add the other three (3) that we did not vote on. It should be effective July 1.

Mayor Cury - So this one needs to be effective July 1?

Mayor Cury – We passed the motion to adopt without a second reading I want to clarify my words and we are looking for a motion to adopt the Budget Ordinance as an emergency measure to be adopted by July 1.

Richard - I make the motion, Mike seconded the motion.

Richard - Read his disclosure.

Mayor Cury- We have a motion and a second, any further discussion? All those in favor of the motion say yes. All those that oppose say no. Roll Call –Mike-Yes, Doug-No, Mary Ann – Yes, Richard- Yes, Jeff-Yes Motion carries – 4/1.

Mayor Cury - Thank you Council for your consideration of these Ordinances and personally thank you for your help.

Mayor Cury - John is there anything else you would like to discuss?

Mayor Cury – We have a meeting to interview potential employees for Attorney’s Position on July 9 at 7:00pm here at the Council Chambers. Any other meetings except for the Recess meeting coming up that we need to be aware of.

Mary Ann - We are not recessing are we?

Mayor Cury - We are not recessing we will adjourn. I am sorry.

Mayor Cury - I need someone to make a motion to adjourn.

Doug - If you do that you will have to announce it.

Mayor Cury - I thought it was a recess but?

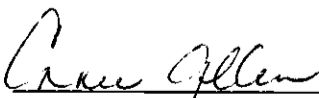
John – We will put on the Access Channel and Facebook.

Mayor Cury - Doug thank you for your input?

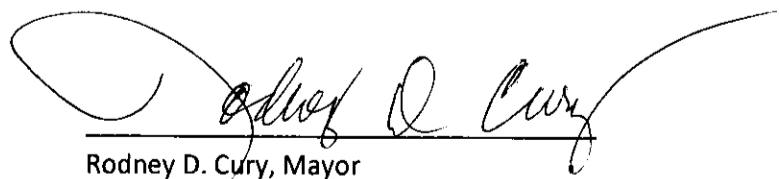
Mary Ann - I make a motion to adjourn, Mike seconded the motion.

Mayor Cury- We have a motion and a second, any further discussion? All those in favor of the motion say yes. All those that oppose say no. Roll Call –Mike-Yes, Doug-Yes, Mary Ann – Yes, Richard- Yes, Jeff-Yes Motion carries – 5/0.

Meeting Adjourned



Connie Allen, Town Clerk



Rodney D. Cury, Mayor