

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE WYTHEVILLE TOWN COUNCIL
HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS ON MONDAY, JULY 13, 2020, AT 7:00 P.M.**

Members present: Beth A. Taylor, Mark J. Bloomfield, Cathy D. Pattison, Holly E. Atkins, Gary L. Gillman

Others present: Town Manager Stephen A. Moore, Town Clerk Sharon G. Corvin, Town Attorney/Director of Administrative Services Christopher R. Menerick, Director of Operations T. Brian Freeman, J.C. Hash, Ronald Hash, J.C. Hash, Colette Hash, Gary Hash, Kenny Hash, Glenda Crockett-Eans, Kerry Eans, Joshua Jones, Darren Umberger, Chris Irvin, Kerrington Eans, David Suthers, Barbara Suthers, Clarissa Wheeler, Lieutenant John D. Claypool, Jamie Claypool, Sergeant Tommy Lester, Linda Lester, Bryan Bard, Eric Sayers, Leah Sayers, Taylor Sayers, Zayne Sayers, Easton Sayers, Mary Mathis, Sharon Hensley, Emily Stone, Lindsey Sayers, Kalla Sayers, Ronald Scott, Curt Hash, Kelly White, Misty Dalton, Zac Taylor, Daniel Cassell, Dallas Shumate, Nathan Miller, Chief of Police Joel Hash, Zenna Hash, Marcus Hash, Phyllis Ashworth, Lonnie Anders, Cavin Newman, Whitney Stamper, James Wheeler, Ashley Bennett, Amarrah Carter-Bennett, Tremayne Bennett, Joseph E. Hand, Jr., Candice Johnson, Betty Johnson, WDBJ-7 Reporter, Officer Todd Matthews

RE: CALL TO ORDER, QUORUM, PLEDGE

Mayor Taylor called the meeting to order and established that a quorum of Council members was present. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Councilman Bloomfield.

RE: REORGANIZATION OF COUNCIL

Mayor Taylor advised that at the first regular meeting in July following the election and qualification of members, the Town Council reorganizes. She stated that she is pleased to announce that Ms. Holly E. Atkins and Mr. Gary L. Gillman were elected to the Council at the election held on May 19, 2020, and have qualified for the office as required by law and are, accordingly, now seated as members of the Town Council.

Mayor Taylor remarked that she would now open the floor for nominations and election of the Vice-Mayor. A motion was made by Councilman Bloomfield and seconded by Councilman Gillman to appoint Cathy D. Pattison as the Vice-Mayor for the Council. Mayor Taylor inquired if there was any discussion on the motion to appoint Cathy D. Pattison as the Vice-Mayor. There being none, the motion was approved with the following voting in favor and there being no opposition: For: Beth A. Taylor, Mark J. Bloomfield, Cathy D. Pattison, Holly E. Atkins, Gary L. Gillman. Against: None. Vice-Mayor Pattison thanked the Council for electing her as the new Vice-Mayor of the Town Council.

Mayor Taylor stated that it will now be necessary to consider the appointment of members to several committees. She appointed Councilman Bloomfield and Councilwoman Atkins to the Budget and Finance Committee and Vice-Mayor Pattison and Councilman Gillman to the Public Works Committee. Mayor Taylor reappointed Vice-Mayor Cathy D. Pattison as the liaison to the Wytheville Planning Commission. She appointed Councilwoman Atkins as the liaison to the Wall of Honor Committee. Mayor Taylor appointed Councilman Gillman to the Wytheville Recreation Commission. She appointed Councilman Bloomfield to the Homestead Museum Advisory Board. Mayor Taylor appointed Councilwoman Atkins as the Council liaison to the Wytheville Redevelopment and Housing Authority. She appointed Town Manager Stephen A. Moore, Vice-Mayor Pattison and Councilman Bloomfield to the New River Regional Water Authority. Mayor Taylor appointed Councilwoman Atkins as the member to the District Three Governmental Cooperative and Councilman Gillman as the alternate. She appointed Councilman Gillman to the Downtown Wytheville, Incorporated Board of Directors. Mayor Taylor appointed herself to the Tree Advisory Committee, the Beautification Task Force and the Joint Industrial Development Authority of Wythe County. She reappointed Town Attorney/Director of Administrative Services Menerick as the Freedom of Information Officer. Mayor Taylor appointed herself and Town Manager Moore to the Crossroads Regional Industrial Facility Authority. Mayor Taylor advised that this completes the Reorganization of Council.

RE: CONSENT AGENDA

Mayor Taylor presented the consent agenda consisting of the minutes of the regular meeting of June 22, 2020. Mayor Taylor inquired if there was a motion to approve the consent agenda as

presented or to somehow be amended. A motion was made by Councilman Bloomfield and seconded by Vice-Mayor Pattison to approve the consent agenda consisting of the minutes of the regular meeting of June 22, 2020, as presented. Mayor Taylor inquired if there was any discussion on the motion to approve the consent agenda. There being none, the motion was approved with the following voting in favor and there being no opposition: For: Beth A. Taylor, Mark J. Bloomfield, Cathy D. Pattison, Holly E. Atkins, Gary L. Gillman. Against: None.

RE: CITIZENS' PERIOD – PRESENTATION OF RESOLUTION

Mayor Taylor advised that the next agenda item is the presentation of a resolution to former Councilman Joseph E. Hand, Jr. commending him for his service to the Town of Wytheville. She stated that the Council has a copy of the resolution. Mayor Taylor inquired if there is a motion to adopt the resolution for former Councilman Joseph E. Hand, Jr. A motion was made by Vice-Mayor Pattison and seconded by Councilman Bloomfield to adopt a resolution for former Councilman Joseph E. Hand, Jr. commending him for his service to the Town of Wytheville while serving on the Town Council. Mayor Taylor inquired if there is any discussion on the motion to adopt the resolution for former Councilman Hand. There being none, the motion was approved with the following voting in favor and there being no opposition: For: Beth A. Taylor, Mark J. Bloomfield, Cathy D. Pattison, Holly E. Atkins, Gary L. Gillman. Against: None.

Mayor Taylor presented the resolution to former Councilman Hand and noted that the resolution read as follows:

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the Town Council of the Town of Wytheville, Virginia, desires to express its appreciation for the service of Councilman Joseph E. Hand, Jr. to the Wytheville Town Council; and,

WHEREAS, Councilman Hand served on the Town Council for a period of four years from July 1, 2016, to June 30, 2020; and,

WHEREAS, during Councilman Hand's term, he served on the Public Works Committee, Planning Commission, Tree Advisory Committee, Beautification Task Force, Sidewalk Committee and New River Regional Water Authority; and,

WHEREAS, Councilman Hand is a highly respected and successful businessman who is the Owner/Broker of RE/MAX Landmark Real Estate; and,

WHEREAS, Councilman Hand has received well deserved recognition from the Wytheville-Wythe-Bland Chamber of Commerce for his dedication to his community, and he was presented with the Community Service Award and the Adopt-A-Pot Award; and,

WHEREAS, Councilman Hand worked faithfully and diligently in developing services and projects that would be of benefit to the Town citizens including the Downtown Wytheville Improvements Project, the East Main Street Project and the Edgemont Sewer Project; and,

WHEREAS, Councilman Hand has worked countless hours painting the McWane Swimming Pool, and planting trees and thousands of flowers for the beautification of the town, and he was instrumental in ordering the banners that enhance downtown Wytheville and North Fourth Street; and,

WHEREAS, the Wytheville Town Council, through the adoption of this resolution, expresses its utmost esteem, respect and appreciation.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Council of the Town of Wytheville, Virginia, officially commends and recognizes Councilman Joseph E. Hand, Jr. for his outstanding and dedicated service to the Town.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Town Council of the Town of Wytheville, Virginia, extends to Councilman Hand its sincere and best wishes for future successes.

RE: CITIZENS' PERIOD

Mayor Taylor advised that the next agenda item is Citizens' Period. She noted that there are no citizens attending the meeting who stated on the sign in sheet that they wished to address the Council during Citizens' Period, however, if anyone has changed their mind and would like to

speak, now is the time to do so. She noted that if no one wished to address the Council, she would proceed with the agenda.

RE: OLD BUSINESS

Under Old Business, Town Manager Sutherland reported the following:

1. The next Council Work Session will be held on Tuesday, July 14, 2020, at 7:00 a.m., in the Council Chambers.
2. The New River Regional Water Authority will meet on Thursday, July 16, 2020, at 10:00 a.m., in the Council Chambers.
3. The Homestead Museum Advisory Board will meet on Thursday, July 23, 2020, at 10:00 a.m., in Conference Room B.
4. The Joint Industrial Development Authority of Wythe County will meet on Thursday, July 23, 2020, at 3:00 p.m., in the Council Chambers.

RE: BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

Councilman Bloomfield, reporting for the Budget and Finance Committee, stated that over the past year, the Municipal Code Corporation has been updating the Town's Code and confirming that State Code sections are properly referenced. He explained that this update has been completed, and the new copies of the Code have been distributed to the Town Council Members and the Town Staff. Councilman Bloomfield explained that, in addition, an electronic version is available online through the Town's website at www.wytheville.org. He remarked that from this website link, a copy can be searched by topic, and sections of the Code can be downloaded and printed. Councilman Bloomfield commented that the Budget and Finance Committee is pleased to announce that this important document is not only updated, but through the online version, it is more readily available to the Town's citizens in a user friendly format.

Councilman Bloomfield reported that the Crossroads Regional Industrial Facility Authority (CRIFA) was established through the Virginia Regional Industrial Facilities Act by Wythe County, the Town of Wytheville and Bland County. He stated that the formation of this organization allowed the three governments to invest in facilities for industrial development and to recoup the benefits of this joint investment through a shared distribution of the machinery and tools tax from the host locality. Councilman Bloomfield advised that this year the Budget and Finance Committee is pleased to announce that CRIFA has declared a dividend to Wytheville, and Town Treasurer Mike Stephens has received a check in the amount of \$170,203.51. A copy of the Budget and Finance Committee report is attached and made part of these minutes.

RE: PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE REPORT

Vice-Mayor Pattison, reporting for the Public Works Committee, stated that the Town's ordinance relating to the cutting of grass, weeds, vegetation or other foreign growth provides for specific areas and times during which such growth must be cut. She noted, heretofore, the ordinance has not specifically addressed the mowing of stormwater detention ponds and conveyance channels. Vice-Mayor Pattison explained that as a result, after a few years, these important areas tend to become overgrown. She commented that the proposed ordinance change would require that each person owning a stormwater management facility be required to cut these detention areas a minimum of two times per year, once before May 15 and once before September 15. Vice-Mayor Pattison advised that the Public Works Committee thinks that this is a worthwhile addition to this ordinance and would recommend its adoption to protect the integrity of these important stormwater management facilities. She advised that in order to adequately inform citizens of this requirement before the required mowing dates prescribed, it would be the recommendation of the Public Works Committee that when the ordinance is considered later in the meeting that it be adopted on first and final reading.

Vice-Mayor Pattison reported that for a number of years, the Town has permitted hunting on approximately half of the Town's property on Sand Mountain known as the Crystal Springs Watershed. She stated that the other half is reserved for recreational purposes, such as walking and biking trails. Vice-Mayor Pattison noted that the Town issues up to 50 hunting permits each year to applicants. She commented that when the number of applicants exceeds 50, the permittees are chosen by lottery, and the chosen applicants are informed of the hunting regulations in effect for this property when they are issued permits. Vice-Mayor Pattison remarked that, recently, the Council has revised the hunting regulations for this property to

mirror the requirements that the Department of Game and Inland Fisheries (DGIF) has established on the adjacent Big Survey property. DGIF has indicated that with this change, they will patrol the Town's property and enforce these regulations. She explained that the Public Works Committee feels that this is a positive step and that it may improve the regulation and safety of hunting on this property. Vice-Mayor Pattison advised that it would be the recommendation of the Public Works Committee to adopt these revised regulations and to issue the hunting permits. A motion was made by Vice-Mayor Pattison and seconded by Councilman Gillman to adopt the Department of Game and Inland Fisheries hunting regulations for the Town owned property on Sand Mountain, known as the Crystal Springs Watershed, and to approve the issuance of up to 50 hunting permits on this property for the 2020 hunting season. Mayor Taylor inquired if there is any discussion on the motion to adopt the the revised hunting regulations and approve the issuance of up to 50 hunting permits. There being none, the motion was approved with the following voting in favor and there being no opposition: For: Beth A. Taylor, Mark J. Bloomfield, Cathy D. Pattison, Holly E. Atkins, Gary L. Gillman. Against: None. A copy of the Public Works Committee report is attached and made part of these minutes.

RE: APPOINTMENTS – CHIEF OF POLICE

Mayor Taylor advised that the next agenda item is to consider the recommendation from the Town Manager regarding the appointment of a Chief of Police. Town Manager Moore stated that it was his distinct pleasure to recommend that Acting Chief Joel Hash be appointed as the Town's new Chief of Police. He noted that Mr. Hash has the education, training and experience, along with his tenure with the Town of Wytheville, that make him an ideal candidate and a uniquely qualified candidate for this position. Town Manager Moore stated that he would like to ask for the Council's concurrence in this recommendation. Mayor Taylor inquired if there is a motion regarding Town Manager Moore's recommendation to appoint Acting Chief Joel Hash as the Police Chief. A motion was made by Councilman Gillman and seconded by Councilman Bloomfield to appoint Acting Chief Joel Hash as Police Chief, as recommended by the Town Manager, effective immediately. Mayor Taylor inquired if there was any discussion on the motion to appoint Acting Chief Hash as Police Chief. There being none, the motion was approved with the following voting in favor and there being no opposition: For: Beth A. Taylor, Mark J. Bloomfield, Cathy D. Pattison, Holly E. Atkins, Gary L. Gillman. Against: None.

Mayor Taylor congratulated Police Chief Hash on his appointment. Mayor Taylor and Vice-Mayor Pattison pinned Police Chief Hash.

RE: ORDINANCE NO. 1384

Mayor Taylor presented Ordinance No. 1384, an ordinance amending and reenacting Chapter 12, Solid Waste Collection and Disposal, Article VI. Condition of Premises, Division 2. Removal of Weeds, Etc., Section 12-91. Duty of Owner of Property, of the Code of the Town of Wytheville, Virginia, on first reading. She noted that this ordinance comes as a recommendation from the Public Works Committee. A motion was made by Vice-Mayor Pattison and seconded by Councilman Gillman to suspend the rules and adopt Ordinance No. 1384, an ordinance amending and reenacting Chapter 12, Solid Waste Collection and Disposal, Article VI. Condition of Premises, Division 2. Removal of Weeds, Etc., Section 12-91. Duty of Owner of Property, of the Code of the Town of Wytheville, Virginia, on first and final reading. Mayor Taylor inquired if there was any discussion on the motion to adopt the ordinance on first and final reading. There being none, the motion was approved with the following voting in favor and there being no opposition:

FOR: Beth A. Taylor, Mark J. Bloomfield, Cathy D. Pattison, Holly E. Atkins, Gary L. Gillman

AGAINST: None

ABSTENTIONS: None

Ordinance No. 1384 was adopted on first and final reading.

RE: RESOLUTION – SMART SCALE PROJECTS

Mayor Taylor advised that the next agenda item is to consider adopting a resolution endorsing the Town of Wytheville's Smart Scale Projects Priority List. She inquired if there is a motion to adopt the resolution. A motion was made by Vice-Mayor Pattison and seconded by Councilman Gillman to adopt a resolution endorsing the Town of Wytheville's Smart Scale Projects Priority List. Mayor Taylor inquired if there was any discussion on the motion to adopt the resolution. There being none, the motion was approved with the following voting in favor and there being

no opposition: For: Beth A. Taylor, Mark J. Bloomfield, Cathy D. Pattison, Holly E. Atkins, Gary L. Gillman. Against: None.

RE: PLANNING COMMISSION RECOMMENDATION – SIDE YARD REGULATIONS

Mayor Taylor advised that the next agenda item is to reset a public hearing to consider revisions to various sections in the Town of Wytheville Zoning Ordinance regarding Yard Regulations, Side Yard Regulations, for the following Residential Zoning Districts: R-1, R-1A, R-1M, R-2, R-2FH, R-3 and R-3MH. She explained the reason for the rescheduling of the public hearing and noted that it could be rescheduled for the August 10, 2020, Council meeting. It was the consensus of the Council to set a public hearing for the August 10, 2020, Town Council meeting to consider revisions to various sections in the Town of Wytheville Zoning Ordinance regarding Yard Regulations, Side Yard Regulations, for the following Residential Zoning Districts: R-1, R-1A, R-1M, R-2, R-2FH, R-3 and R-3MH.

RE: PLANNING COMMISSION RECOMMENDATION – BUFFER YARD REQUIREMENTS

Mayor Taylor advised that the next agenda item is to reset a public hearing to consider proposed revisions to Article XVI – General Provisions, Subsection 16-16 – Buffer Yard and Screening, Subsection 16-16.3 – Buffer Yard – When Required, of the Town of Wytheville Zoning Ordinance. She explained the reason for the rescheduling of the public hearing and noted that it could be rescheduled for the August 10, 2020, Council meeting. It was the consensus of the Council to set a public hearing for the August 10, 2020, Town Council meeting to consider proposed revisions to Article XVI – General Provisions, Subsection 16-16 – Buffer Yard and Screening, Subsection 16-16.3 – Buffer Yard – When Required, of the Town of Wytheville Zoning Ordinance.

RE: ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to be discussed, a motion was duly made, seconded and carried to adjourn the meeting (7:24 p.m.).

Beth A. Taylor, Mayor

Sharon G. Corvin, CMC, Town Clerk

BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

JULY 13, 2020

1. Over the past year, the Municipal Code Corporation has been updating the Town's Code and confirming that State Code sections are properly referenced. This update has been completed, and the new copies of the Code have been distributed to the Town Council Members and the Town Staff. In addition, an electronic version is available online through the Town's website at www.wytheville.org. From this website link, a copy can be searched by topic, and sections of the Code can be downloaded and printed. We are pleased to announce that this important document is not only updated, but through the online version, it is more readily available to our citizens in a user friendly format.
2. The Crossroads Regional Industrial Facility Authority (CRIFA) was established through the Virginia Regional Industrial Facilities Act by Wythe County, the Town of Wytheville and Bland County. The formation of this organization allowed the three governments to invest in facilities for industrial development and to recoup the benefits of this joint investment through a shared distribution of the machinery and tools tax from the host locality. This year we are pleased to announce that CRIFA has declared a dividend to Wytheville, and Town Treasurer Mike Stephens has received a check in the amount of \$170,203.51.

Mark J. Bloomfield

Holly E. Atkins

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE REPORT

JULY 13, 2020

1. The Town's ordinance relating to the cutting of grass, weeds, vegetation or other foreign growth provides for specific areas and times during which such growth must be cut. Heretofore, the ordinance has not specifically addressed the mowing of stormwater detention ponds and conveyance channels. As a result, after a few years, these important areas tend to become overgrown. The proposed ordinance change would require that each person owning a stormwater management facility be required to cut these detention areas a minimum of two times per year, once before May 15 and once before September 15.

We think that this is a worthwhile addition to this ordinance and would recommend its adoption to protect the integrity of these important stormwater management facilities. In order to adequately inform citizens of this requirement before the required mowing dates prescribed, it would be the recommendation of the Public Works Committee that when the ordinance is considered later in the meeting that it be adopted on first and final reading.

2. For a number of years, the Town has permitted hunting on approximately half of the Town's property on Sand Mountain known as the Crystal Springs Watershed. The other half is reserved for recreational purposes, such as walking and biking trails. The Town issues up to 50 hunting permits each year to applicants. When the number of applicants exceeds 50, the permittees are chosen by lottery, and the

chosen applicants are informed of the hunting regulations in effect for this property when they are issued permits.

Recently, we have revised the hunting regulations for this property to mirror the requirements that the Department of Game and Inland Fisheries (DGIF) has established on the adjacent Big Survey property. DGIF has indicated that with this change, they will patrol the Town's property and enforce these regulations. We feel that this is a positive step and that it may improve the regulation and safety of hunting on this property. It would be the recommendation of the Public Works Committee to adopt these revised regulations and to issue the hunting permits.

Cathy D. Pattison

Gary L. Gillman