

The Rural Retreat Town Council held a Joint Public Hearing with the Rural Retreat Planning Commission on September 23, 2008, at 7:00 p.m. in the Rural Retreat Town Hall Council Chambers.

PRESENT RURAL RETREAT TOWN COUNCIL MEMBERS

Mayor Timothy Litz
Vice-Mayor Keith Crigger
Ed Schaack

Scott Mecimore
Jerrell Hall
Kristie Osborne

ABSENT

Dale Yontz

PRESENT RURAL RETREAT PLANNING COMMISSION MEMBERS

Chairman Charles McMillan
Vice-Chairman Ed Schaack

James A. Hall
Larry Lindsey

ABSENT

Peggy Hash
George Reasor

Brenda Atwell

ADMINISTRATION PRESENT

Raymond Matney, Town Manager
Lori Guynn, Clerk/Treasurer
Scott Mitchell, Police Chief

OTHERS PRESENT

There were no guests present.

DETERMINATION OF A QUORUM

Mayor Litz called the meeting to order and determined the presence of a quorum.

INVOCATION

The invocation was given by Rev. Ed Schaack.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor Litz.

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JOINT PUBLIC HEARING

PLANNED UNIT DEVELOPMENT ORDINANCE – Chairman McMillan read the public notice as published in the *Wytheville Enterprise*. A copy of the notice is attached and hereby made a part of these minutes. The public hearing was opened for public comment. There being no one present to comment, the public hearing was closed.

Chairman McMillan asked the Planning Commission for comments or questions. At this time, Mr. Matney explained there had been some minor changes made to the draft ordinance such as punctuation and subheadings. There being no comments from the Commissioners, he then asked for a recommendation. Vice-Chairman Schaack made a motion to recommend to the Town Council to approve the Planned Unit Development Ordinance as written. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hall and passed by a vote of four (4) for and zero (0) against with the following voting in favor: Charles McMillan, Ed Schaack, James A. Hall and Larry Lindsey. Commissioners Atwell, Hash and Reasor were not present at the meeting.

Chairman McMillan informed Mayor Litz the Planning Commission's recommended the Town Council adopting the Planned Unit Development Ordinance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Councilmember Scott Mecimore, seconded by Councilmember Kristie Osborne to approve the minutes of the September 9, 2008 regular meeting as written. The motion passed by a vote of five (5) for and zero (0) against.

CITIZEN'S TIME

There was no one present to address the Town Council.

CORRESPONDENCE

Mr. Matney read a letter from the Rural Retreat Middle School seventh grade teachers requesting funding support to send approximately 92 students on a school sponsored trip to tour Washington, D.C. in April 2009. Mr. Matney further stated in the past the council has not granted funding for this type of request due to tax payers money already supporting the school system. Mayor Litz stated the council should continue to deny this type of request. Mayor Litz asked Mr. Matney to respond to the request received.

POLICE REPORT

Chief Mitchell stated the month of September had been slow thus far. He further stated the Rural Retreat High School Homecoming Parade held on September 12, 2008 went well.

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UNFINISHED BUSINESS

PLANNED UNIT DEVELOPMENT ORDINANCE – Councilmember Mecimore made the motion to adopt the Planned Unit Development Ordinance as written, effective upon adoption. Vice-Mayor Schaack seconded the motion.

Prior to the vote, Councilmember Hall asked who would approve the final site plan. Mr. Matney stated it would be the decision of the Town Council. Vice-Mayor Crigger asked if the entire site plan had to be presented to the planning commission or if the developer would be allowed to build individual units and have them approved prior to building. Mr. Matney explained the entire plan must be submitted to the Planning Commission for approval then the plan would be forwarded to the Town Council in which a Joint Public Hearing will be held prior to the final decision being made.

There being no additional discussion, the motion was approved by a vote of five (5) for and zero (0) against.

NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business to be addressed.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Mayor Litz reported on the Heritage Days Committee in the absence of Chairman Yontz. Mayor Litz explained the committee is planning to meet throughout the year. Discussion was held on the success of the car show, children's activities and entertainment. The date of the Heritage Day Festival was a concern expressed because there is a conflict with the Highlands Festival in Abingdon. Mr. Matney stated another concern was the displays in the community center due to the public not being aware of the local industrial displays in the building. He further explained signage would aid in directing patrons to various locations.

TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

The Town Manager's report is attached and is hereby made a part of these minutes. The following items were discussed and/or acted upon:

2007/2008 FISCAL YEAR AUDIT – The fieldwork for the 2007/2008 fiscal year audit has been completed.

PERSONAL PROPERTY TAX RELIEF ACT (PPTRA) – The proposed personal property tax relief rate for 2008 is 56.75%. This is down from 57.75% for 2007. Vice-Mayor Crigger made a motion to adopt the 2008 personal property tax relief rate at 56.75%. Councilmember Hall seconded the motion and it passed by a vote of five (5) for and zero (0) against.

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APPOINTMENT TO MRPDC – The Wythe County Board of Supervisors reappointed Councilmember Yontz to serve on the Mount Rogers Planning District Commission Board, as recommended by the Council.

SPECIAL ASSESSMENTS FOR AGRICULTURE OR HORTICULTURE REAL ESTATE – Upon speaking with Wythe County Administrator Cellell Dalton, Mr. Dalton stated he thought the adoption of a resolution to participate in the ordinance adopted by Wythe County would be sufficient.

Mr. Matney read the draft resolution stating the town's intent to participate in the Wythe County Agriculture or Horticulture Ordinance. Councilmember Hall made a motion to adopt the proposed resolution as read. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Osborne and passed by a vote of five (5) for and zero (0) against.

REQUEST FOR WATER SERVICE – A request for water service by Melissa Hawthorne on Cedar Springs Road, lot 7 of the former Charlie Steffey property has been received. Mr. Matney recommended approving this request and stated there was a six-inch water line on Cedar Springs Road that would sufficiently serve the property. A motion was made by Vice-Mayor Crigger to approve the water service request for lot 7 on Cedar Springs Road. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Schaack and was passed by a vote of five (5) for and zero (0) against.

TEA-21 2008 APPLICATION – The deadline for the 2008 TEA-21 is early November. In the past Anderson & Associates has been completing the applications and to date has been very successful in obtaining funding. The correspondence received from Anderson & Associates stated they will charge an hourly rate, not to exceed \$2,500 to prepare and submit the application.

A motion was made by Vice-Mayor Crigger to proceed with the 2008 TEA-21 application to be completed by Anderson & Associates based on an hourly rate, not to exceed \$2,500. Councilmember Mecimore seconded the motion and it was passed by a vote of five (5) for and zero (0) against.

EAST RAILROAD AVENUE TRUCK TRAFFICE ISSUES – A meeting has been scheduled with VDOT to discuss the need for signage on East Railroad Avenue to deter heavy truck traffic. The majority of the trucks traveling this street are going to the Rural Retreat Industrial Park. The drivers are receiving directions from navigational devices and aren't following current signage on North Main Street that directs them to the industrial area.

JOINT GOVERNMENTAL BODIES MEETING – The Joint Governmental Bodies with the Wythe County Board of Supervisors and towns of Wytheville and Rural Retreat scheduled for September 29, 2008 has been cancelled.

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KLÖCKNER PENTAPLAST VISIT – The meeting with Klöckner Pentaplast is scheduled for Monday, September 29, 2008. Representatives from the Joint Industrial Development Authority and Wythe County will also be present.

TREASURER’S REPORT

The bills for September 23, 2008 were read and approved by a vote of five (5) for and zero (0) against.

TALK OF THE TOWN

Mayor Litz is to attend the Talk of the Town radio program at WYVE/WXBX radio station on Wednesday morning.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no additional business, the meeting was adjourned upon a motion by Councilmember Schaack.

Mayor

Clerk