

The Rural Retreat Town Council held a regular scheduled meeting on January 26, 2010, 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

Dale Yontz  
Jerrell Hall  
Peggy Hash

### **ABSENT**

There were no members absent.

### **ADMINISTRATION PRESENT**

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

### **OTHERS PRESENT**

Bob Lewis and Jack Weaver

### **DETERMINATION OF A QUORUM**

Mayor Litz called the meeting to order and determined a quorum was present.

### **INVOCATION**

The invocation was given by Rev. Ed Schaack.

### **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor Litz.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

A motion was made by Vice-Mayor Keith Crigger, seconded by Councilmember Peggy Hash to approve the minutes of the January 12, 2010 regular meeting as written. The motion passed by a vote of five (5) for, zero (0) against and one (1) abstention: Jerrell Hall whom was absent from the meeting.

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### **CITIZEN'S TIME**

Jack Weaver asked Mayor Litz for an update on the Rural Retreat Depot. Mayor Litz responded by stating Mr. Weaver knew as much as the town did regarding this issue.

### **CORRESPONDENCE**

There was no correspondence to be shared.

### **POLICE REPORT**

Chief Mitchell was absent from the meeting at this time due to being dispatched to an emergency. The police report was given later in the meeting upon Chief Mitchell's return. He addressed the possible addition of a police auxiliary and recommended the council not pursue this due the expense the town would incur.

### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

FUNDING REQUEST FROM FRIENDS OF THE RURAL RETREAT LIBRARY – Mr. Matney stated he had spoken to Rose Lester, President of the Friends of the Rural Retreat Public Library concerning the installation of a new roof on the public library building. Mrs. Lester explained the contract was for a total of \$11,185. Through donations received and other funding the Friends are in need of \$3,710 to cover the full cost. The balance is available in reserve funds however the Friends would prefer to not deplete those funds. Vice-Mayor Crigger made a motion to allocate \$3,710 from undesignated funds to assist the Friends of the Rural Retreat Public Library with the cost of a new roof on the library building. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Yontz and passed by a vote of six (6) for and zero (0) against.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

RURAL RETREAT EMERGENCY SERVICES – Councilmember Hash gave the council an update on the Rural Retreat Volunteer Emergency Services in which she is a member of the Board of Directors. Councilmember Hash explained effective February 8, 2010 the rescue squad will be changing to a paid organization instead of relying solely on volunteers. Four individuals have been hired full-time to work rotating 16 hour daytime shifts with each shift having two workers. Five volunteers have agreed to work the remaining shift hours. Other volunteers will continue to respond to calls on an as needed basis.

Councilmember Mecimore asked Councilmember Hash why the Board of Directors decided to change the emergency services to a paid basis instead of leaving it volunteer. Councilmember Hash responded by stating there wasn't enough volunteers, donations were not being received and there was some discord among the members. Councilmember Schaack asked how the rescue squad will be paid. Councilmember Hash stated the person's insurance will be billed for the service. Mr. Matney asked how payment is received if the person being transported does not

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have insurance. Councilmember Hash responded the individual will be billed directly and if payment isn't received the bill will be disregarded. She added Guardian Ambulance Service in Wytheville will still be available to assist with calls if needed.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**HERITAGE DAY** – Chairman Yontz stated the committee is pursuing a major recording artist to headline this year's event and a decision was made to change the vendor for the children's entertainment. The next meeting will be held Tuesday, February 9, 2010 at 6:00 p.m.

**PERSONNEL** – Chairman Schaack distributed a copy of salary ranges from across Virginia for town/city/county administrators for the council's review on the Town Manager/Assistant Town Manager position. He stated the next committee meeting will be held Tuesday, February 16, 2010 at 7:00 in the council chambers. Chairman Schaack invited all councilmember's to the meeting.

### **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:

**WYTHEVILLE-WYTHE-BLAND CHAMBER OF COMMERCE** – The Wytheville-Wythe-Bland Chamber of Commerce has requested the town adopt a proclamation designating February as "Wytheville-Wythe-Bland Chamber of Commerce Month." Councilmember Yontz made a motion to adopt the draft resolution as written. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Schaack and passed by a vote of six (6) for and zero (0) against.

**RURAL RETREAT PUBLIC LIBRARY ROOF PROJECT** – This item was previously addressed.

**COMMUNITY WIDE WARNING SYSTEM** – The closing instructions have been requested from Rural Development for the community wide warning system.

**WELLNESS / FITNESS CONCEPTUAL STUDY** – An organizational meeting for the Wellness / Fitness Study has been scheduled for Tuesday, February 2, 2010 at 7:00 p.m. in the council chambers. Those who have agreed to participate on this committee are Council members Hash, Mecimore and Schaack, Steve Sage, Rick Hilton and Robin Yontz. Scott Wilson and Bill White with Thompson & Litton will be in attendance.

**OUT-OF-TOWN WATER PROJECT** – A representative with the Commonwealth of Virginia's Division of Real Estate has indicated the easement for the Rural Retreat Lake property will be signed this week. The Dalton's have agreed to the easement for the construction of the line from Genow Road to Rural Retreat Elementary School but it has not been signed. The Ander's family has requested two water taps but upon speaking with them earlier today they are now considering one tap. Mr. Matney stated he anticipated this easement will be signed soon.

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TRASH TRUCK – The 1993 trash truck has approximately 60,000 miles and is in need of compactor bed repairs or replacement. The approximate cost to repair the compactor bed is \$15,000 or replacement ranges \$45,000 - \$50,000. To replace the entire trash truck is estimated to be \$100,000 - \$125,000.

MONTHLY STATUS REPORT – The monthly status report from Anderson & Associates is available for review.

WATER ACCOUNTABILITY – Accountability for December decreased to 34%. Mr. Matney added some significant leaks that developed during December have been repaired.

MEETING REMINDERS – The Joint Industrial Development Authority will be hosting an Industrial Tenure Luncheon on Thursday, January 28 at 12:00 noon. Vice-Mayor Crigger, Councilmember Hall and Mr. Matney will be attending this recognition luncheon. Mayor-Litz and Council members Yontz and Hash were reminded of the Crooked Road Meeting they are to attend the same day at 11:30 a.m. Both meetings will be at the Wytheville Meeting Center.

**TREASURER’S REPORT**

The bills for January 26, 2010 were read and approved.

**TALK OF THE TOWN**

No councilmember was available to attend the *Talk of the Town* radio program at the WYVE/WXBX radio station on Wednesday morning.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no additional business for discussion, the meeting was adjourned upon a motion by Councilmember Schaack and was duly seconded and approved.

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Mayor

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Clerk