

The Richlands Town Council held a regular monthly meeting in the Richlands Council Chambers on September 8, 2015 at 7:30 pm with the following present:

Mayor:	Jannis White
Town Manager:	Tim Taylor
Town Attorney:	Brad Ratliff
Acting Town Clerk:	Sue Wade
Council Members:	Joe McCracken, Doug Ratliff, Frances Meadows Mary Ann Strong, and Rod Cury
Absent Member:	Larry Johnson

Mayor White called the meeting to order.

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

Mayor White asks if there were any additions or deletions to the agenda. Do we have anyone who would want to speak that is not on the agenda? We have some new regulations on three minute time limits for each speaker who would be added to the agenda. Are there anymore additions or deletions to the agenda? If not do I hear a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Motion made by Rod Cury, seconded by Joe McCracken to approve the agenda as presented. Vote, all in favor, 5/0. Motion carried.

Mayor White asks if there were there any corrections, additions, or deletions to the minutes?

There were corrections in: Richlands town council held a public hearing needs to be changed correctly to the regular monthly meeting; correct spelling in Mayor White's name; capitalize Commonwealth Attorney; Warren Hinkle needs to be added to Jim Talbert's section, representing the animal shelter and had gone to the board of supervisors and you were not delivering a message, you were just delivering message via the animal shelter. Mr. Cury clarified this with Mr. Talbert.

Does anyone have any corrections, additions, or deletions? If not do I hear a motion to approve the minutes as amended. Joe McCracken made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Frances Meadows. Motion passed 5/0.

Scheduled Public Comments:

Maryann Strong presented and read the Resolution in honor of Mr. Bahjet J. (Bob) Nassif and Mrs. Nona France Thomas Nassif for their outstanding commitment to the Richlands Community Mayor White allowed more than five minutes should she need it. Be it further resolved that a tested copy of this resolution was unanimously adopted on this eight day of September 2015 shall be presented to Badjet Joseph Nassiff and his wife Nona France Thomas Nassiff and shall be publically be recorded in the minutes as an official record of the Town of Richlands. Signed by the honorable Mayor Jannis R White and entrusted by our clerk Sue Wade. Thank you so much for coming tonight I know you do not like recognition and you do not like fan fair. But we couldn't allow you to leave our community without giving you some small expression how much you mean to all of us.

Bob Nassif said with tears in our hearts, we thank you. The lord will be with us. We thank you and god bless you and stay nice. Our hearts will always be with you. This is our home.

Mayor White said that they will not only be missed by this town and community but also the adjoining counties too. I remember when I worked in Buchanan County how helpful you were there too. When we needed something we could just go over to your shop and ask for it and you were always willing to help us find what we needed. We really appreciated that. We wish we had a town full of citizens like you. You will certainly be remembered in this town.

Motion made by Mary Ann Strong to adopt the resolution, seconded by Doug Ratliff. Motion passed 5/0. Motion carried.

Unscheduled Public Comments:

There were no unscheduled public comments

Council Reports:

Rod Cury: Mayor White the first thing that I found out tonight and you probably know this is that Kelly Goodman is no longer with us. So I asked Sue and she said she would do it for a month and that is her limit. So we need to get on a ball and find a clerk and so I bring that to the council's attention. How should we do this, advertise? This came as a surprise to me so I don't have anyone in mind at the moment unless anybody else does. If we have suggestions should we present them to you?

Mayor White had a few people that Sue had spoken to. I didn't get you the number of the other one. Sue Wade had two and we had one in house but she is probably going to adopt her grandson.

Mary Ann- I know last time we had some applicants and did interviews. I would be open to help again if you have some applicants.

Tim Taylor that would be your pleasure to do but you don't have to advertise. Please do it as quickly as possible because Sue is very valuable to the office and this takes time to do this if you do it right. This is an appointed position.

Mayor White said there are some people that have done this before and we thought Sue might talk to them. The numbers will be provided and then we can contact them to set up interviews.

Council Reports**Rod Cury:**

Informed members during the Planning Commission meeting they had a conference call with Sam Tuggle. I told Tim since my voice isn't the best tonight would he report what we discussed.

Tim reported that Sam Tuggle is the professional representative of Community Planning Partners that is assisting the Planning Commission with the development of the comprehensive plan which is required for all localities to have. Basically the conversation and pursuant to one of the members in summary was their firm was put together from assistance of previous meetings with the Planning Commission some documents and some things to move the process along. The next phase would be to establish a public hearing for the Planning Commission, not the council. The way this process will work is to solicit public comments and every how many times they would like to do that in order to get a document in draft form ready for council. The council will be required to go through a similar process for a public hearing also. So it's a fairly lengthy process to do but we are in the final stages with the Planning Commission. Hopefully soon we will be able to get the comprehensive plan document soon to council for review, provide input and comments.

Joe McCracken:

I would like to thank the town's crew for being diligent and working hard. They have patched a lot of potholes in town. I have mentioned to Mr. Taylor we need to take care of our own parking lot outside. The grass cutting people is back on track and doing a good job. That's all I have tonight. No complaints no phone calls; first time and it feels pretty good too.

Frances Meadows:

I would like for Joe and Mary Ann, Street Committee, to visit Mason Lane. There are a lot of citizens over in our area that are concerned about stealing and stuff like that. At one time there was a dust to dawn light installed where Mr. Short lived before he passed away. I don't know if he had the light or not but it is gone now and it is so dark. There are a lot of things that are being rumbled through. It's coming a lot from the mobile home park behind us. I was wondering if you could go over there and check this area. I would pay for the light if we could have one because it is very dark back there.

Joe McCracken has been in that neighborhood and it is very dark. There are a couple of entrances there that you can come into pitch dark.

I am also concerned about the Code Enforcement Officer. I know he has probably been busy but I am seeing a lot of mobile homes that have not gotten their sticker on like they are suppose to have.

Tim informed her that mobile home owners have to pay for the license fee but they don't have to display a decal anymore.

Sue said that the town has a list of the people that own the mobile homes and we mark them off as they come in to pay. There are some that sale their mobile homes, but we get the majority of them.

Frances ask how things are going with the mobile home parks and has anyone went and checked on them. For example, Mr. Tackett's trailer park which I was concerned about before.

Tim asks Gary Childress if he had anything on the status of the mobile home enforcement issues. The only thing he had was some places that needed to be cleaned up. We will follow up on this issue.

Joe had a question about mobile homes that had been abandoned on rented lots. The person is still the owner but there has been no tax paid on it for several years that I know of. The person that owns the park wants to know what he can do to correct this issue. The town is not getting their money on it and the mobile home owner is getting no rent form it. They are tying up a rental space. So what does the mobile home owner do to correct this issue? All he does is rent the space, but it's not his mobile home sitting on the lot.

Tim explained that as far as the town is concerned the rules and regulations, and the attorney may elaborate; it is the park owner's responsibility.

Brad stated this is a common problem. Obviously the park owner has the responsibility when the mobile home is abandoned on their property. Then the Virginia Abandon Vehicle Statue are available to them to get the claim title to the mobile home so they can move it. Another option unlawful detained is where they can file to have it moved off the property. The people that abandoned it are not going to respond though. The abandon statue can get the title to it so if they destroy it or move it.

Joe said the park owner has gone the extra step and it is still sitting there. The park owner should be able to do something because it is sitting there the town is not getting any taxes and it is taking up space for him and he is receiving no rent.

Brad explained he can exercise that statue. With the Abandoned Vehicle Statue, he can talk to an attorney; he can file with the DMV to determine if there is a lean against the mobile home. That is the first order of business. If financed through a bank, you must notify the bank. Then from that moment you can get claim to the title going through the procedure.

Joe thanked him and will pass this information along. I know he is not the only mobile home park owner that is in the same situation.

Frances- the last thing I have was some vehicles in these mobile home parks are not tagged or doesn't have anything on them, uncovered. I know when we first started having this clean up about the vehicles; I was one of the first people that got a note on my car. I know this is still enforced. So if it's in a mobile home park does it still do the same thing?

Tim- Actually it's a little more intense. The park owner is supposed to have on file a set of our rules and regulations and some minimum standards are in the zoning ordinance. They were adopted by council when they were established. Once established this procedure becomes their rules which are enforceable by the town.

Doug Ratliff:

Wanted to know when council will interact and provide input with Community Planner Partners?

Tim- The part that the Council is working on with the long range plan, other than the comprehensive plan piece, is another part of that group that is wanting to meet with the Council. This is in my report; basically what they want to do is schedule a meeting with Council on a non regular business night. They picked October 20th to be the day. They will be ready with everything they have worked on to the date and bring with them on Tuesday October 20th if that is acceptable to the Council members. They have a couple alternate dates of October 27th and 29th. Those are the three dates they have available. I was just trying to pick the earliest.

October 29th at 7:00 pm was scheduled for the meeting.

Doug wanted to express his opinion. I am disappointed in how this is going because we are spending forty/sixty thousand dollars on this and Council has been taken completely out of it. Council has not had any input and only met with us one time.

Tim- He said they would meet with us multiple times and we would have input. They have been working on the maps.

Doug -When we talked to him we said we wanted to meet with them every three months and I have not seen him. We pushed it harder than anyone else and it's been a whole year. We are spending forty/sixty thousand dollars of tax money and hope that council will get to meet with him and we will get to have input. When I see him I'm gonna say I told you I wanted to speak with you every three months and I haven't seen you.

Mary Ann- I think it would be good if you express that when we see him.

Doug-I think this is being handled very poorly. What I'm afraid of is he will come up with some cookie cutter plan that we spent all of this money for and will do us no good at all.

Tim- We don't have to accept that.

Doug -When we spend tax money I want something out of it and nobody knows more than the council and the community how much the aspects of why we need to merge if you know what I'm talking about. If you talk to him tell him I'm highly disappointed.

Tim- I'll tell him to be prepared for plenty of discussion. I'll tell him to bring everything he has with him.

Doug asks for an update on the gas.

Tim- I have been swamped from day to day work and other than giving the engineers everything they requested; I had not gotten anything more from the group. I will ask for an updated report.

Doug- Can we put that as a check for next council meeting?

Tim-Hopefully he will be done with the whole report by then. As soon as I get it I will forward it to everyone.

Doug- I think it is encouraging that we move quickly. This has drug on and on so we need to make some decisions on the gas.

Doug-When can we have an electric meeting; an update for the committee?

Tim- We didn't have the year-end numbers until just lately.

Doug - We don't exactly have to hear the numbers. I just want to know how we are doing since we voted in the electric increase.

Tim- The bills just went up last month. The bills from last month were off set. We are just now starting to collect on the increase in electric revenue.

Doug-Like the beginning of the year like January, February, March. I was hoping the committee could see every three months how we have progressed.

Tim-I was thinking like in October. Cause really right now you are only collecting what was billed in July.

Doug-If you look back on the minutes we were supposed to have a meeting in August.

Tim- Yes but we didn't have anything new to report. We will try to push to get those goals. This one has been difficult. We have lost a lot of good people this month.

Doug-It would be good for us to know how we are doing before and then after it is implemented and see how we progress.

Mary Ann- I agree with you.

Tim- Sue and I talked about it prior to tonight's meeting saying we need to have a budget work session in October.

Doug- One of, if not the most important thing in the whole town right now, is what we decide on the gas. That should be a priority.

Tim- I'll try to get that finished up as soon as possible.

Doug-The next thing is the fence in Lake Park. Some of the citizens said they couldn't see; it was hazardous for them to pull out, and there could be an accident. I don't want an accident to happen and they say Doug Ratliff didn't do anything. They would come to me and say hey we told you and you didn't do anything.

Brad-I have an update if I may. I apologize for missing the last meeting. In July I contacted Mr. and Mrs. Morris personally on Ridge Avenue. I knew them personally and had represented them before. Given the dynamics of the situation they had thought they had sold their house. They have actually just relocated. I took it upon myself to talk to them which turned into a mistake as I ran into a lot of resistance. I thought it was going to be an easy way to resolve this as opposed to sending them a stern letter of notice that your license has been revoked. I would like to remind the council that the license agreement that was entered was an irrefutable license it is clearly an irrefutable license. We gave them permission to erect the fence but only at the council's pleasure. Anytime we can give them a thirty day notice and have it removed; in emergency situations, without the notice. After that conversation my understanding was that Mrs. Morris was going to contact some council members and maybe come to council. I encouraged her to do that. I sort of became a villain I think at that time talking to her. I prepared the letter to send thinking she or her husband would be here to discuss it and to try to explore those things with council. I have a draft copy of that letter for council to look at. It's ready to go out at any point and time now. I apologize for not having done so. I thought it was going to resolve itself in a different way.

Doug-I don't mean to interrupt but he called me. He gave me the impression that he had already received a letter. I told him point blank that it was the consensus of council that it had to come down.

Brad-In that case it is based on council pleasure.

Joe-What about having a negotiation of sitting the fence back. Would that help them and satisfy the complaint. He has a big yard.

Doug-If you look at it the fence is sitting right at his door. I mean if you sit it back two feet you are going to be right on his doorstep.

Mary Ann-Originally I thought they wanted the fence because they had small children. I wonder if the renter has children. Who knows if it was really for him?

Doug-I regret on my part and I don't think the town should ever get in this position again. Because putting a private fence on town land opens the town up for a lawsuit.

Joe-That's why I said what about if he sits it back on his property.

Doug-How far does that street go back?

Tim-Just guessing probably about six or seven feet. Is that right George? George confirmed.

Mary Ann- I drive by there a lot because I have rental property on Ratliff Street. I can't see it being feasible to move it back any. I think we are to the point to where you try to have a conversation and give them the letter giving them thirty days for the fence to be removed. If it doesn't then we take emergency measures.

Brad-I will apologize to council I thought I would be able to do that in a very polite way but it didn't work out that way. I should have proceeded with the letter instead of trying to work it out.

Joe-If it's his property and he sits the fence back to his property then it's not a decision from council. That's what I'm getting at.

Tim- There are no setbacks. If he sets the fence back on his property there wouldn't be a problem with visibility. Just a legal question so we know we are right, there is an area, with my conversation with them, that they interpret the agreement a little different. Census probably wouldn't be good enough; do you think council should vote on this?

Brad-I do. I was going to ask for that so I could make it official and go on with the letter that I have.

Rod-I happen to agree with what is being said. I think it would be advisable to know what their perception is. It is different and they have called me and have been very nice. I'm sorry I can't talk Tim can you explain.

Tim- I can't remember the section but I can remember talking with them. The point that the eligibility of it being there. They thought as long as they owned the property they could let anybody live there. I don't think that was intent of the town council.

Brad-Regardless there are two specific provisions that make it irrevocable.

Joe-I'm fine with giving them the thirty days. With the provision that he might want to sit it back on his property. I make that motion. Doug seconded the motion. Motion passed 5/0

Larry is sick tonight and couldn't make it. We will move on to Mary Ann.

Mary Ann:

Like Councilman McCracken I would like to thank the street crew for all they have done they have patched a lot of potholes and I know a lot of citizens are very pleased with that.

Larry is not here but I wanted to thank him for the good job in cleaning up the Walt Keen property over behind Magic Mart.

I'd like to thank our attorney, Brad Ratliff, for all his help in preparing the beautiful resolution for the Nassifs. It was a tremendous amount of information that I sent his way and I think he did a commendable job in assembling that in a very beautiful way. Thank you that is all that I have.

Mayor Jan White:

Dave Harrison came and talked to me the other day about putting pictures of the murals on the website with an explanation of what each of them means. I'm pretty sure that Ellen would write up the description for us if we ask her. He has been working with her helping to redo the one on Norfolk Street. He asks if we could put those on the town website with an explanation of them and who sponsored them. I told him I was sure there wouldn't be any problem with that. That someone would need to get the information to your staff.

Rod-I am familiar with what Mayor White is talking about. Correct me if I need some improvement here. His idea is that in that vicinity where we have three murals, we have the original historic mural on the old BFW White building; the mural that the students at the community college did under Ellen's direction on the building of Norfolk; and the mural she is currently painting for the section house property. I think what his attempt is to not only put them on the website but to talk about the growth of our public arts program here in Richlands to show the connection. I think that on the website we have the drawings of the mural but he wants pictures. Of course the one at the section house with the train

is not completed but it wouldn't hurt a thing to show it in progress. I tell you another reason for that is that mural was being funded by VCA, Virginia Commission for the Arts. I talked with Ellen about it and she said Rod I would like to have more pictures, she emphasized that it not about me working, but it's about the community. Because in their final analysis, VCA will want to see the progress as it was moving along and so it has been documented some. Since Jim Talbert is here, she thinks there has been some news print but not all.

Tim- The description that you are talking about is going to be provided by Ellen.

Rod- She will do that and the other thing we will probably talk about in our meeting. When she was painting the mural in Abingdon, WCYB came and did a segment on the mural and she said Rod when we presented that and included that for the final review for VCA. It was a real clincher along with the media. That's something that we could certainly discuss with council. This is a town owned project and I think that if anybody has connections with WVVA it is Jan since you have done a lot through them with the freedom festival. Maybe you could suggest someone that we could call who could come down and maybe do a segment on that because it is about town improvement, so I would welcome your input on that. One more thing that I want to mention to you, sorry to keep bothering you, but it is important. She has asked that you just write down your name in her little book for anyone that has visited the mural. She has already filled one book completely. So if anyone goes over be sure to ask her about it. She is just keeping it for her own personal record to see who is coming by and what their interest are. It's pretty amazing to hear how people are interested in it. Thought I would share that with you and if you get time go by and look at it. Is Everett M. Mullins one of you relatives from the lumber business?

Mary Ann-Yes.

Rod-Well his truck is promptly there with his name on it. I figured that was one from the lumber business from the old days.

Rod- All of those are from actual photographs of Richlands, not things that are made up. It's the real deal as you might expect from someone like Ellen.

Jan-I tell you another station is 59. They are really willing to come and do things on Richlands.

Rod-I know you all are busy but our next Section House Committee meeting is scheduled for Thursday at 3:30 pm at the Town Hall. If you want to come and help with that particular part you are most welcome. Sue or one of the staff is always willing to take the minutes.

Department Head Reports:

Mayor White asks if anyone have questions for any of the department heads.

Joe- Commented on Mr. Russ's on his report where he provided cost of medical supplies. This shows where he is spending his money. Thank you for putting that in there.

Frances-I think it is important because a lot of this equipment Gordon and his team are very imperative that they have it on the squad. It's up to date so I think it is important that they have all that.

Mary Ann- Unfortunately I knew someone who passed away in the Lake Park section and the family was extremely complimentary on how long they worked trying to save him. We are very blessed to have you all Gordon.

Tim- I think the police department has a recommendation for Halloween. Frank isn't with us tonight since he has training the next few days.

Gary Childress- This year Halloween falls on a Saturday night so we would like to go ahead; gluten for punishment and ask to observance Halloween on the day when it falls, October 31st from 6:00-8:30 pm.

Mary Ann- It's nice this year to not have all the controversy as before. I make a motion that we accept the request for Saturday night for Halloween. Joe McCracken seconded the motion. Motion carried 5/0

Mayor White asks if anyone has any more comments on the department head reports. If not then, Brad do you have anything to add?

Brad Ratliff:

I have been working with Alicia Manson at American Publishing on the codification. I would like to report we have been delivered the binders and each member of council has been provided a disk copy of the codification. Tim and I are going to meet at some point and discuss this and identify any discrepancies. My goal is to have everything wrapped up and ready at the next meeting. The binders are beautiful and documentations are excellent but there are some deficiencies we need to fix. The ordinance will be ready by next meeting.

Tim- If we are finished then basically we are ready to advertise and have a public hearing. The public hearing will be before the council meeting. This will be contingent upon completing the review of the deficiencies.

Manager's Report:

Tim asks members look at the monthly check register and asks if there were any questions.

Check #51143, American Legal, is one of the last one installments for that project. We do have some other options, like being available on line and housing some of that which we want to take advantage of that but they are additional cost. I'm pretty sure I have that counted but I think that is pretty much close to the finalization of that project.

Rod-I might have misunderstood. I thought when we had American Legal it was part of the deal.

Tim- It is but there is a separate line item as they did a certain percentage and at the end we have the right to chose that or not. The reason it is separate is because that would be an ongoing maintenance. They house it in other words there would be a link from here to there. So they can make sure it is secure and maintained. As we approve ordinances and sent the data to them, they will update the information.

Rod- We need to consider the value of the cost of what we are getting.

Tim- This is a budgetary item that we get every year for that maintenance. It's pretty much impossible to do that without an IT staff.

On the second page there is check # 52225 Treasurer of Virginia, DEQ. That is our yearly payment to the Department of Environmental Quality to be able to discharge into the river. We have to pay to discharge into the river as well as to pay to take it out.

Check #52154 Bradley Dean Hess is for when the electric department had to replace some cables on their doors.

Check #52191 Jones Lawn Care our final payment and prorated expense.

Check #52141 American Carpet is for carpet cleaning, grass cutting and tractor mowing too. Possibly janitorial service also.

Tim-When the grass cutting companies are contracted, they are supposed to blow the sidewalks off. They don't always do the job. That was some of the issues we had with Jones Lawn Care.

Jan-I have had a couple of complaints and then I noticed it also in front of my business so we blowed it off ourselves.

Tim- I will ask if they can be a little tolerant with them because they have had a mess to clean up. Usually if they get started early in the season they don't have these issues. I saw you had cleaned the debris from yours and the others weren't cleaned off. They can't keep it to the level of the ownership obviously wants but really the owner is supposed to keep the grass off too.

Mayor White asks for a motion to pay the bills. Rod made the motion to approve the bills, seconded by Frances. Motion passed 5/0.

Doug-I just wanted to know what is McCurry Environmental Service check #52197?

Tim- That is the lead paint and asbestos testing we had done on Section House; one of the environmental issues we had. It was easier not to have a third party. We had to do it our self or through Hills Studio.

We have been working on the national weather station project and I am pleased to announce that it is up and running. What you are going to basically hear is an automated message. I had to take the battery out because it doesn't have an on and off switch since it is suppose to be for emergency use. They sell these at a lot of places. I think our frequency is 164.425 megahertz. Basically if you have this radio you will hear a constant discussion of weather and forecast and so forth. But you probably don't want to listen to all that. But the beauty of it is that if you leave it on silence mode it will trigger an advisory. I don't know all the details until we met with the national weather service. If this one was set on auto mode then you wouldn't hear anything until you had an advisory, watch, or warning; you would get different notifications instantly from the national weather service in Blacksburg. It is functioning; it wasn't the primary purpose of what we did at the site of Claypool Hill. Our primary purpose of that was to get the EMS radios in better shape. Right now we have moved some stuff around we have a little bit more work to do with their radios cause of the heighth of the antennas. I think paging is still giving us a little bit of trouble but overall the lighting will be better once we get it fined tuned. But today it is functioning and can put a closure to that project. It took a long time. We talked about getting together but we haven't been able to finalize that since it just happened in last few days. We will try to get something on paper and get it out to folks. Maybe one of our squads can go on a mission to get this information out to our residents. We have done things like that in the past. It's a good project to finally put to rest. At the end of the day we have communications at Claypool hill for fire and rescue services that have generationed back up and hopefully will have better coverage for the whole entire areas. This should enhance the quality of life in emergency spots for our citizens and surrounding area. We are glad to hear that anyway.

We would like to talk to you about recreation park project update. Fred you can interject anytime you like; I know you don't like the speaking part. We are about \$15,000 short on the money. The county was unable to give us the full \$30,000. They only gave us \$15,000. We are short to bid that project without the allocation of that money. So we are in limbo mode with this. You have tried pretty much every effort to recover that from different sources and have not been very successful short term, correct?

Fred Phillips- Yes sir I have tried everywhere the last two years for the floor and the roofing. From Kentucky to Knoxville Tennessee. I have tried every organization and every grant. It's been about \$129,000 that I have gotten, but just having trouble collecting the remaining amount.

Tim- In order to get the roof replaced in this year and proceed on to the floor we are saying if council would allocate the money today for that and we will continue to search for organizations to cover it. Then we can get it done now. If we don't allocate the \$15,000 out of good faith we can't bid it because the funding is not available. We would be wasting a lot of people time. Now we could get lucky and it might be \$10,000 or \$8,000. Then we could get unlucky and could be \$20,000. So we are going to ask for the \$15,000 in good faith and hoping that we will allocate \$15,000 to that project above what we have budgeted then we can try to move through it and try to recover it in a different fashion a little later. So I understand Fred its time for you to speak up you are running out of time. If you can get that allocation tonight then we can probably get the roof and the floor done by the end of the year correct.

Fred Phillips-Yes by December 1st.

Mary Ann- I would be happy to make the motion cause I think it would be very much a shame that we have came this far. Fred has worked hard and came this far for it to be delayed. Rod seconded the motion to approve the additional \$15,000 allocation. Motion passed 5/0.

Tim-This will come from general fund budget but we will try to look at every avenue we can to get it. Maybe another grant or foundation. We have a little money in one of the foundations but we would have to sacrifice and that would be our last resort.

Doug-I have a question- the county promised thirty and then only went through with fifteen thousand.

Tim- I never had conversation with them and will let Fred discusses this.

Fred - I think they just said that is all they could afford at this time. They gave \$7500.00 from each of their districts.

Tim- I didn't ask this but did they make any indication that might be monies they could give next year.

Fred- Yes sir

Doug- But they promised you thirty and then changed their mind.

Fred-No they didn't give me an amount. They just said they would take care of the rest. Then I came to them with a number. Mr. Ratliff I have done everything. I am going to always keep trying to hustle money for our program.

Mary Ann would also like to encourage council if we come across any sources that we know of that would help this project, please do so.

Mayor White -All those in favor of the motion say yes. Those that oppose say no. Motion carries 5/0.

Tim- we will get our roof bid request out probably tomorrow and we will get moving on that project.

Tim- We have had quite a few turnovers in the town that you are obviously aware of; some of our key personnel have retired.

Tim-Going back to the streets- Our scheduled plan for paving is to start next week for the season. I know citizens asked why here and not there. Some streets are patched and cleaned now and some are not. We have to get prepared for that particular part of it. That is \$300,000 worth of paving.

We were awarded in the state's budget \$200,000 on the revenue sharing program for the next physical year which totals \$400,000. That is \$200,000 that the council needs to be thinking about putting into the budget for the next physical year 2016-17. That is \$.50 cents on the dollar for paving so this is a great investment.

Doug-Have you already negotiated the price? I know asphalt price is supposed to drop pretty quickly.

Tim- Yes, the bid process has already been completed.

Tim-We do have an index factor in there. We did put that in there to take some risks away from us and them. We use a method that VDOT uses to actually index the asphalt product. Sometimes it hurts a little bit but it helped us this time. I mentioned this because we have got to apply for the next funding cycle for paving which is the next one beyond the one we have. I know it's hard to budget for small towns because that is obviously a lot of money but you have to start a couple of years ahead. In today's environment if the fuel and asphalt products remains low, our paving bids were 25% percent lower than what it was the last time we did them. So we can do 25% more paving for the same amount of money. Next month we will have a resolution to obligate the funds to future budget monies. They can always turn us down but that is the only program left with VDOT that you are getting unless you go through that HB2 prioritized set of networking through the state that we have had to adhere to. We will be presenting that based upon what we can get prepared and what needs it the worst. We have to do an analysis on it because it is based on the needs of the roads themselves that are qualified. A resolution will be prepared, find out how much we should do and then we will have to work on getting the money in the budget process. But we don't want to over extend ourselves so please keep that in mind.

Joe -So we are going to stay with our paving list that we currently have.

Tim- Yes and they are prioritized. Not only do you have to tell which streets you are going to pave, you have to prioritize based on the computer model unless council just wants to pay for it 100 percent then to have to go through the hoops that they tell you to. Technically it is to put the needs in the right place. This is about the only way we can pave the way we have been paving lately.

Joe-I have seen some of the street paving done and then stop on the street and go somewhere else.

Tim- We try not to do that if we can help it. That does happen occasionally because of utility work. If we have to put in brand new storm drains, sewer and water lines, then we can't pave.

Joe-I didn't know why that happened like it did. I'm glad to get some paving done; we have needed it. I've already had a little relief coming from people from the other end of town coming into town.

Tim- The paving list is on the website. Tim asked George West when the improvements at the Huddle House are going to be finished so everybody will know.

George-Probably will take three weeks to complete. We will start on the inlays tomorrow at the Huddle House.

Tim- Basically we want to inlay that area with brick pavers. We are really excited about the new sidewalks.

Mayor White-Do you need to go into close session for anything?

There was no need.

Does anyone have anything else to discuss?

There was no further discussion.

Joe made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Rod.

Mary Ann asks for one minute.

Mr. Bob Nassif-I am a man of few words at times. Times like this it is very difficult to express what you did for a boy that came from Brooklyn, New York to Richlands, Virginia in 1939 and to this day I will tell you with all the cuts and bruises and whatever I had to put up with, it was a blessing. The good lord has his hand upon us from Brooklyn to Richlands. I just want you to know how much that means to us and it will never be forgotten ever no matter where we go. We go because the time has come but this will always be our home. Richlands and the communities will always be our family; never to be forgotten. God bless you all and thank you so much again for the honor and I accept it on behalf of all those people out there who do so much more than I can ever do and never get recognized for it. I accept it for them. Thank you and bless you.

Those in favor of the motion to adjourn, say yes. Those that oppose say no. Motion carries 5/0,

Jannis White, Mayor

Sue Wade, Acting Town Clerk.