

The Richlands Town Council held a regular monthly meeting in the Richlands Council Chambers on February 13, 2018 at 7:30pm with the following present:

Mayor: Jannis White
Town Manager: Sue Wade – Representing Tim Taylor
Town Clerk: Connie Allen
Council Members: Mary Ann Strong, Vickie England
Rick Wood, Rod Cury, Doug Ratliff
Council Member Absent: Larry Johnson
Town Attorney: Brad Ratliff

Mayor White opened the meeting.

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

Mayor White - Please delete from "Scheduled Public Comments" – Pete Vance, POW Chair and Olivia Baldwin, Representing the Voice of Healing and Deliverance. Add Corbin Stone – Audit Presentation

Mayor - Brad, what is the section number for Personnel for Closed Session.

Brad – Section 2.2-3711-(A) (1) Personnel

Mayor - Please add to "Closed Session" Section 2.2-3711-(A) (1) Personnel.

Mayor White - Do we have anyone who would like to speak that is not on the agenda? We can add to "Unscheduled Public Comments".

Mayor White - Do we have any other additions/deletions to the agenda?

Mayor White – Do we have a motion to approve the agenda as amended? Mary Ann made the motion, Vickie seconded the motion.

Mayor White - 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. Motion carries- 5/0.

Mayor White – We have a copy of the Regular Council Meeting. Are there any corrections, additions or deletions to the minutes?

Mayor White - Do I have a motion to approve the minutes as presented?

Mary Ann - I make a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Rod seconded the motion.

Mayor White - 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. Motion carries - 5/0.

Mayor White - "Scheduled Public Comments" – Corbin Stone.

Corbin Stone - You should have a copy of the Audit Presentation. Your audit went well; your staff does a really good job in keeping the books and maintaining documents. We didn't have any problems with the audit. (Reviewed the information in the presentation). I will go over the financial data on page one (1). General Fund Balance, Enterprise Funds and Assets we show totals for eight (8) years. The General Fund had a balance of \$455,857 at the end of the year; \$276,000 was restricted or designated for a specific purpose, leaving an unassigned amount of \$175,000. We would like to see the unassigned balance at a minimum of \$500,000. We would like to see 10% in the unrestricted portion, providing a cushion for about five (5) weeks. The Enterprise Funds, Water and Sewer Fund, Net Assets peaked in 2013. You showed a decrease since 2013 mainly because of the pension liabilities when you joined the Virginia

Retirement System. Total cash in bank was \$5,915,070. VDOT money received was \$700,000. They send quarterly payments and you must spend on eligible items. It is unearned revenue so it doesn't increase fund balance. Total outstanding debt \$2,861,252. The Town has low debt. Pension Liability \$7,409,478. The Debt per Capital is really good at \$491. We don't have state average except for 2010. Summary of Original Tax Assessments- Page 2 - Annualized Growth Rates - Real Estate 1.324%, PSC Tax 1.227%, total of 1.319%. Audit Recommendations – Page 3 – Economic Interest Statements/Real Estate Disclosure Forms – Some appointees of the Town (IDA and Board of Zoning Appeals) did not submit forms to the Town as required by State Code. In the future, these forms should be filed with the Clerk of Council by the statutory deadline. Unclaimed Property – In reviewing the Town's bank reconciliation, we noted that a number of checks were outstanding for more than a year. We recommended that the Town review the listing and turn over the amounts to the State's unclaimed property, as necessary. It is our understanding that the Town is currently in the process of remitting unclaimed property to the State. Independent Account's Report- Page 3 - Management's assertion that the census data reported to the Virginia Retirement System by the Town of Richlands, Virginia during the year ended June 30, 2017, were complete and accurate based on the criteria set forth by the Virginia Retirement System on the Board of Trustees' plan provisions as mandated in section 51.1.136 of the Code of Virginia is fairly stated, in all material respects. Your data and current employees were correct. Page 6 & 7 – Our letter to those in charge of governments. If we come in to do an audit and your folks are not agreeable and do not supply the information we need, we let Council know about it. Everyone was very cooperative and provided what we needed. For your Town size, you do a really good job. The audit went very well but would like to see the fund balance a little bit higher. We would like to see level adequate reserves.

Mayor White - From your perspective, is the Town in pretty good shape?

Corbin Stone - I would like to see the fund balance a little higher. You are doing a great job in keeping your records.

Mary Ann - Thank you and sorry we kept you so late.

Mayor White - Statement from the Planning Commission – Consideration of adding Fortune Teller/Palmist in a Zone B-2 in the Town of Richlands Zoning Ordinance.

Rod - Randy Smith, our temporary chairman will make the statement.

Randy Smith - It was a very tough decision from the Planning Commission. We looked at it as a business decision. Planning Commission does not regulate religion, it is a business decision. The Town of Richlands Planning Commission, having conducted a joint public hearing with the Richlands Town Council to consider revising and amending the Zoning Ordinance to include for the purpose of taking public comment on a request for the added use of Fortune Teller/Palmist in Zone B-2 of the Town of Richlands Zoning Ordinance. Said hearing being on 7:00 pm, on Tuesday, 13th, February 2018, in the Richlands Municipal Building, pursuant to public notice as required by law, citizen's comments being solicited at that time, does hereby report to the Richlands Town Council that the motion to revise the B-2 zoning to include Fortune Teller/Palmist failed.

Mayor White - "Council Member Reports" – Rod Cury

Rod – I want to thank the Town Crew for working so diligently during the recent flooding. A lot of people suffered and has for years. I am also appreciative for the Town Crew who worked so diligently to keep our power on during the extreme cold evenings and days. I would also like to thank all the people who spoke on both sides of this issue tonight.

Mayor White – "Council Member Reports" – Vickie England

Vickie - I just want to say I agree with Rod's comments.

Mayor White – "Council Member Reports" – Rick Wood

Rick – I just want to thank George and his crew for taking care of the tree at Hill Creek.

Mayor White - “Council Member Reports” – Doug Ratliff

Doug – I don’t have anything tonight.

Mayor White – “Council Member Reports” – Mary Ann Strong

Mary Ann – I would like to thank Dr. Willis and everyone on his committee that worked very hard on the Honey Festival. It was very successful. It brought great recognition to our Town and brought revenue in. They deserve a lot of appreciation and recognition.

The Richlands Recreation Commission will meet next Monday, February 19 at 7:30pm in the meeting room upstairs at the Rec Park. I would like to mention a couple things that we have started at the Rec Park since our last meeting. We have Indoor Soccer on Sunday afternoons, thanks to some very active citizens in Town, Jeff Hurst, LaRhonda Lindsey, and Mike & Misty Bandy. Fred is out four (4) or five (5) nights a week with Basketball. We have Corn Hole on Sunday afternoons. Jessica Reynolds teaches Ripped on Monday night. We have a lot of great things going on at the Rec Park. Richard Brown emailed me some information about Archery, which I appreciate, and we discussed this at the Rec Commission meeting. Monday night we are going to take a closer look at that and maybe start offering Archery. I appreciate Mr. Phillips and everyone is working very hard to improve programming at the Rec Park. I would also like to thank all the citizens that came out to speak tonight.

Mayor White – Does any of the Department Heads want to add to the reports that you submitted?

Mayor White - “Mayor’s Comments”

Mayor White - Greg Smith has been on the Airport Authority for one (1) term. I would like to recommend that Council reappoint Greg Smith. I will need a motion.

Rick - I make a motion to reappoint Greg Smith, Vickie seconded the motion.

Mayor White - 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. Motion carries - 5/0.

Mayor White - We thought there was going to be a Downtown Coordinator in place to handle the Festival. Since that did not happen, I would like to ask Council to consider giving Karen Deel \$2000 to coordinate the Yard Sale and the Festival. She already has all the paperwork and contacts.

Rick - What about the parades?

Mayor White - I have been doing the parades. Larry and Angie Johnson did the Veterans Parade. I am sure she would take that on too with my help. I am going to help her organize.

Vickie - Is our Downtown Coordinator totally dead at this time?

Mayor White - Even if one was appointed next month it would be too hard for someone to come and reinvent the wheel. We have all the paperwork and contacts. It is up to the Council. I would hate not to have the Festival.

Rod - Is the \$2000 to help fund the Festival or is that a salary for her?

Mayor White – It would be a salary for her. There is a lot of paperwork for these events.

Doug - I make a motion to give Karen \$2000 to coordinate the Yard Sale and the Festival. Rick seconded the motion.

Mayor White - 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. Mary Ann – Yes, Rick – Yes, Doug-Yes, Rod- No, Vickie-No - Motion carries – 3/2.

Mary Ann – I would like to say I agree with you if we hired a Downtown Coordinator tonight, but they would not be able to get the Festival going. I certainly hope that we will continue very soon to pursue that position. That is one of the reasons I voted in favor of the two (2) taxes to be able to hire a Downtown Coordinator. Again, last month I applauded the Town of Tazewell, they have great economic development on their Main Street, a lot of great activities. I would like for us to pursue hiring that person in the near future.

Mayor White – Karen has volunteered her time for the past five (5) years. We met practically every day coordinating the events. I know \$2000 sounds like a lot of money but she works far more than that. I appreciate the vote. If we hire a Downtown Coordinator, they can take over these activities.

Mary Ann – Hopefully, if we hire one before then, they could work side by side to see how it has been done in the past.

Doug - Can I ask the Council to consider something? The Town needs a grant writer. There are several at the College. Could we pursue someone to be a grant writer for the Town? We are desperately in need of money for different projects. Would the Council consider one of us contacting someone and work on that?

Sue – Is Lynna Mitchell doing that?

Mary Ann - That is who I was going to mention, she is.

Rod - She is doing that as a full-time job for Appalachian Agency.

Mary Ann - I don't think she would have the extra time.

Doug - I have not spoken to her but there is a lady that does it for the College. I think she would consider doing for the Town. I can't remember her name.

Mary Ann - Is it Phyllis Roberts?

Doug - It could be.

Mary Ann - She is an excellent grant writer. Rod, I think Lynna might be part-time.

Rod - She is, but can't speak any more on that. I learned something yesterday in a meeting that had a consultant. It was shocking figures. Last year in America \$397 billion dollars was given to 501-C3. He broke that down into individuals, foundations, corporations and request. Out of the \$397 billion, individuals gave more and foundations gave good money. We certainly need to apply for grants.

Mayor White - I would like to add about the money for the coordinator. Most of the time we get donations, the salary could come from that.

Vickie - We had high hopes, we lost so much to other communities and surrounding counties. They surpass our activities. This is the reason I brought this up last year.

Doug - If it is alright with Council I will contact someone about grant writing.

Mayor White – “Attorney’s Comments” Brad Ratliff

Brad – I have a copy of an agreement to renew emergency medical services between the Town of Richlands and Tazewell County. If Council will remember we had a contract with the county to provide fire and emergency medical coverage in the western & northwestern counties. This contract has been in place since 2007 and has been renewed since 2013. I have reviewed the agreement. It is identical to the past years. I need Council to authorize Tim Taylor to endorse the agreement prior to March 1.

Mayor White - Basically the same agreement as the previous years. We need a motion to allow Mr. Taylor to sign the agreement.

Rick - I make the motion for Mr. Taylor to sign the agreement. Rod seconded the motion.

Mayor White - 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. Motion carries - 5/0.

Mayor White - "Manager's Report" - Sue Wade representing Tim Taylor

Sue – Please review the Check Register and let me know if you have any questions. Check Number 57483 – Schwartz & Associates, Inc. – \$37,880.00 for Bridge Inspection and load ratings on some of the bridges. That is why it is higher this year. It is required every five (5) years. Twin Enterprises- Request #8 \$67,604.37. The total monthly bills are \$237,735.41. The AMP bill for December was \$566,263.06. Adrienne is this normal for December?

Adrienne – Yes, it is normal for December.

Mayor White - Any further questions? Do we have a motion to allow Mr. Taylor to pay the bills?

Rod - I make the motion for Mr. Taylor to pay the bills. Rick seconded the motion.

Mayor White - 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. Motion carries - 5/0.

Sue - Included in your package was a Monthly Power Cost Report for December 2107. Adrienne also gave you additional information. Do you have any questions on the report? We will provide you a copy each month.

Mayor White - I have gotten a lot of calls from people about their bills being higher. I noticed on my bill that the reading was for 36 days.

Sue - When we have holidays, in order to get the bills to the people at the first of the month, we had to read them earlier last month, making the next month higher. Also with the eight (8) days when it was bitter cold made the bills go up.

Mayor White - Is there any way to correct that?

Sue - No, it was due to the holidays, we didn't have anybody to read the meters.

Doug - Will that happen all the time?

Sue – Not unless the holidays fall a certain way.

Adrienne - They probably would not have noticed as much but due to the eight (8) days of bitter cold weather made the bills higher. Our load was 2 million kilowatts more from last January compared to this January.

Doug - Is there anyway, if we foresee that is going to happen again we can do something? It is a big burden of 36 days.

Adrienne - That is the issue we don't know what the weather will be. When we do planning we have AMP and GDS Consultants. GDS is the second look. When we purchase our power a lot of our fixed assets are purchased capacity for a 30 year term. The blocks that we fill the gaps with outside of those assets are contracts like Morgan Stanley. Those purchase power agreements are normally purchased two (2) years in advance. There is a lot of thought process that goes into that. They look at our history data and what we normally use. They will look at weather reports and history. They see what our load is so we don't purchase too much power. If we purchase too much power someone is going to have to pay for it whether we use it or not. You will sell back to the market for less.

Doug – Any way we can double up and keep it at 30 days? Maybe we can look at it next year and double up. It is a hardship on people. I know it's hard but keep it as close to 30 days as possible. I'm sure the people would appreciate it.

Sue - The Town did get their renewal on hospitalization. It must be completed by April 1. There was 14.1% increase. During our first work session, we need to figure out how we are going to handle that.

Sue - Cigarette Tax - Letters have been delivered by the Police Department to all the vendors. On March 1 the Police Officers will go to each vendor and do a count on the vendor's inventory. We will bill them at that time. Three (3) distributors have contacted us and we have received checks from two (2) of the vendors.

Doug - When will we be charging the vendors?

Sue – Not yet

Doug - I talked to one (1) person at a convenient store and they said they have already raised \$1.00 a carton.

Sue - It doesn't go into effect until March 1.

Doug - I will double check, they should not be charging now.

Sue – GDS representatives are supposed to come to the first work session on the electric rates and discuss how we buy electricity.

Mary Ann – Sue/Adrienne, I have a question. The memo we received from Mr. Taylor on the 3rd of January about the PCA's, is that something that needs to be acted on soon?

Sue - Brad, did Tim discuss this with you?

Brad – Recommendation that the PCA be adjusted to the level of the cost of service month's bill. That is already taken care of in the budget the way I understand it. It's not really an increase just a cost adjustment. In the memo he has made it pretty clear what the needs were. Had to be brought before the Council to vote

Doug - The Council has to Ok?

Brad – Yes, it must be brought before Council to vote.

Sue – When you got the cost rate study, we said we would look at it after six months and we did. We are short of money. We need to look at this.

Doug - I would ask Council to wait until the next bill and see how it comes out to see how much we need.

Sue - If you keep deferring this, the rate will go up.

Doug - I don't think we know the implications until we have the bill.

Adrienne – The bill will be here this week.

Doug - Electric bills are out of the roof, if we add anymore on it, it is going to be tough on people.

Sue – I don't like it either, but if you don't have enough money to operate, you must do something.

Doug - There is some things we can do. We added a consumer tax two (2) or three (3) years ago. We are taking \$160,000 to \$200,000 out of the electrical fund. Maybe with the volatility of it and the cost some of the citizens may not be able to pay. We need to rethink and not take it out.

Adrienne - You are taking money out of your governmental, which the Auditors told us cash is already low. It is charged for the electric usage and always been there.

Doug - We did that a few years ago.

Adrienne - 2007

Doug - The governmental is low but we need to take a look at other things like the Rec Park. Let them pay their fair share and look at the other departments.

Adrienne- When you remove the utility consumer tax you are taking money away from your governmental fund.

Doug – I agree but citizens can't keep paying electric bills when they keep going up out of sight. It is a burden on the electric fund.

Adrienne – It's burden everywhere. The PCA - Power Cost Adjustment – Basically when you have a budget, within your budget you have OM cost, operating and maintenance, cost of the employees that work in your electrical department, lineman or electricians, materials that you buy for high voltage, transforms and such. You have your purchase power, that's what we have to pay to get power. We have to pay for the power, we have to pay transmission charges and we have to pay capacity charges. Electricity is very complicated, 85% of the electric budget consists of your purchase power cost. When you institute a PCA what you are recouping is your purchase power cost. In other words, we have a base rate that we have to charge just to be able to pay for the power that we get to the consumer. When we don't collect or we have to pay more for the power than what we are charging base rates to our customers, we must charge a PCA in order to pay for the power. If you have a power purchase cost adjustment in your bill. that does not necessarily mean it is going to pay for your employees. That covers the cost of what you are charging for less than your purchase power cost.

Vickie - I heard that Richlands charges less than AEP which is not always a good thing. How does the AEP work in similar situations?

Adrienne - You mean in their rate structure?

Vickie – Yes

Adrienne - Last time I look, the rates could have changed, in our last cost of service study a basic 1000 kilo watts hour bill would be \$115.00.

Doug – In the last six months we have raised the electric rates 12%.

Adrienne- We have not raised the rates.

Doug - Yes, we raised the rates, total of 12%. There is only so much people can take.

Adrienne - I agree, I live in Richlands and I understand completely. It is hard for me to pay too with a family of five (5). We can't continue to supply power without at least getting the cost of the burden to get it.

Doug - We don't look at other departments. Let the Rec Park pay their fair share. We send \$360,000 to the Rec Park every year. We get nothing back. Most Rec Departments will pay at least half of that in events and things that they have. How can you ask people to continually pay high electric rates? We send \$360,000 just to that one (1) department and don't expect anything back.

Adrienne - We charge the Rec Park for electric.

Doug - You have raised the tax on cigarettes and tax on utilities. All we do is raise taxes. Why don't we look at each department and make each department responsible for the amount that they use?

Rod - I understand, trying to think what we need right now. Was everyone contacted about the PCA from the Town Manager? (YES) It is not a surprise. I thought that the consensus was that we would do it in January or February. The last time I talked to the Town Manager, he opt to do this in February.

Doug - Talked to Tim, he said it was not an emergency that we would handle in this Council meeting, Mary Ann was there.

Sue - We had a meeting and he said we did need to do it.

Doug - You can vote another increase but all we do is tax. We never look at departments and check our budget. There is going to be a point where people cannot pay.

Rod - We have checked the budget numerous times and we have asked the departments to cut 10% across the board. We are trying not to go in a hole, is that what you are saying?

Adrienne - Yes

Doug - Rec Centers like the Coomes Center in Abingdon; they have a budget of \$1.2 million. They make up \$700,000 of that budget from participation. Do you know how much we get from the Rec Center \$0?

Adrienne - Has nothing to do with your electricity, two different funds, we can't transfer money.

Doug - I am trying to show you where you can get money so we don't have to tax people to death. Approx. 70 to 80 percent of the people are from out of town. Who foots the bill for that? The in-town people do. We can raise money by charging a little bit more for people out of town that use the Rec Center. Why do 6000 people have to keep up 21,000 surrounding people? I don't understand. Every time you turn around Richlands is raising taxes. People will get tired of it and they can't pay it.

Brad - At this point it is a budgetary issue that needs to be addressed. The recommendation from Mr. Taylor - The impact to the budget as displayed in the above chart is \$401,152 above the normal January bill. This will have to be paid for from reserves. We have determined the revenue reserves withdrawal will place the town in a financial situation that lowers our balance to a level of noncompliance with our power suppliers. It will affect our credit rating.

Doug - We billed out almost a million dollars of fees this month. We don't know what the bill is going to be that you will be getting in the next few days.

Brad - At this moment the recommendation is that PCA be adjusted to the level of the recommendations of the Cost of Service Study by GDS in this month's billing. This action must be approved by Friday the

26th to meet the first billing cycle. If the Council must act and delay this will only cause the PCA rate to be higher if delayed to the March meeting. Please let me know asap.

Mayor White - We don't have the January bill at this time. Is that correct?

Adrienne - We do not have the bill. I do have an estimate from GDS.

Doug - You billed out \$970,000 you are going to make up most of that.

Adrienne- We are going into our shoulder months. We lose money on electricity from March until June. The only time we are in the black is in the winter. When we have months like January, we are footing the bill and not charging them the full rate that we have to pay.

Doug - You are using the electric fund to keep up the general budget.

Adrienne - No we are not, it was voted by Council that monies could not be transferred.

Doug - You really are when you tax it. You are transferring \$160,000 to \$200,000 from Electric to General Fund. Why can't we look at the other departments and take money from them. People can't pay their electric bills as it is. It is not an emergency that we have to do it this month. We still have 1.7 million in reserves. Is that correct?

Adrienne – No, we don't.

Doug - Last time I looked we did. How much do we have? In the meeting we had, we had 1.7 million.

Mary Ann - I am on the Electric Committee with Doug and we did meet with Mr. Taylor after we received the memo that he sent to each Council member. Mr. Taylor's desire is that we would have made a decision before now, if I understood him correctly. That is why I felt obligated to bring it up, the memo speaks for itself. He asked if we didn't make a decision, we would have a called meeting. Mr. Taylor's recommendation and opinion was that we had to make a decision tonight.

Vickie – Did you feel it was as urgent when you meet with Tim?

Mary Ann - I did and in my phone conversations with him. I am just like Adrienne, everybody's power bill at least doubled at my home and my business. I have great sympathy, but when you hear your auditors say that our fund balance was low, I felt he was very concerned. Someway we have to be able to pay the bills. When we talk about recreation, I think that is a separate budgetary item. Ever year Mr. Phillips has been the Director, he has been under budget. The Council sets the budget for him. We are doing everything in our power to bring in programming. We want revenue, programming and tournaments. In mid-March, there are thirteen (13) teams coming in from out of town. Unfortunately, we are not the Coomes Center but everybody in their power is trying to create programming to bring in money.

Doug - We are the only center that is totally funded. We get nothing back. How long have you been here Mr. Phillips?

Mr. Phillips - Six (6) years

Doug - When you first come on board, I looked at you and I said to you, you have to help us with our budget. We budget \$360,000 to you every year. You promised you would. It increased in 2016 /2017 \$20,000, every year the budget is more.

Mary Ann - One thing I will have to say, Mr. Phillips personally raised \$225,000 dollars. When you say they have not brought anything in, they have raised money and made improvements. If Mr. Phillips had not had two (2) tournaments a month since he has been a director, he would not have raised \$225,000 to do the improvements.

Doug – The \$225,000 he raised did not help the citizens of Richlands and it didn't help the budget.

Mary Ann - That is something we have to work out. It did help the citizens of Richlands because if the money was not raised, the gym would have probably been closed due to the roof leaking so badly. The use of the Rec Park would have been limited if the improvements had not been made.

Rod - I think this is pertinent to the immediate issue. Brad could you or Vickie read the Manager's request one more time.

Brad - Recommendation for Mr. Taylor - The impact to the budget as displayed in the above chart is \$401,152 above the normal January bill. This will have to be paid from the reserves. We have determined the revenue reserves withdrawal will place the town in a financial situation that lowers our balance to a level of noncompliance with our power suppliers. By Ordinance and Contract Covenants action must be made to recover this money to levels addressed in the ordinance as well as the contracts. I recommended the PCA be adjusted to the level of the recommendations of the Cost of Service Study by GDS in this month's billing. This action must be approved by Friday the 26th to meet the first billing cycle. I can do this with a simple call, email or written notification to the Finance Office to avoid a Call Meeting. If Council must act and delay, this will only cause the PCA rate to be higher if delay to the February Meeting.

Rod - I make the motion to allow Mr. Taylor to adjust the PCA to the level of the recommendations of the Cost of Service Study by GDS in this month's billing. Vickie seconded the motion.

Mayor White - 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. Rod – Yes, Mary Ann-Yes, Doug-No, Rick-No, Vickie-Yes -Motion carries - 3/2.

Mayor White - Travis, would you speak on when the Section House will be complete.

Travis Hackworth– We are at substantial completion of the Section House. I would like to invite each of you to come and look at it. We are waiting on a couple of lights that are on back order. It turned out to be a wonderful project. I would have to say it turned out better than I expected. We thank the Council and the members of the committee that has been so helpful. We are having a meeting there next Tuesday; we will do a walk thru and get approved for completion.

Rod - I just want to say thank you and want to thank all the Council members for support. You are talking about a walk thru with Hunter Green and others.

Travis – Yes, Sue will have to send out the exact time.

Rod - We are having a Restoration Committee meeting that same evening, Travis if you could come, I would like for you to report the findings at that meeting.

Travis - Richlands is the only Town that the Downtown Revitalization has actually been followed thru with the complete plan. It speaks a lot about the Council and the Town. The mural is beautiful and once the landscaping is finished it will make the Town look very attractive. I thank you for working with us and hope we exceeded your expectations.

Mayor White - We need a motion to go into "Closed Session" for 2.2-3711-(A) (1) - Personnel.

Mary Ann - I make the motion to go into "Closed Session", Doug seconded the motion.

Mayor White - 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. Motion carries - 5/0.

Mayor White - I need a motion to return to "Open Session".

Rod - I make a motion to return to "Open Session", Mary Ann seconded the motion.

Mayor White - 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. Motion carries - 5/0.

Mayor White - Does everyone agree the only thing discussed during "Closed Session" was 2.2-3711 (A) (1)? Mary Ann- Yes, Rod- Yes, Doug-Yes, Rick-Yes, Vickie-Yes.

Mayor -The Planning Commission did not make any recommendation for a zoning change. The Council will not be taking any action.

Mayor White - Does anyone else have anything to add? If not, do I hear a motion to adjourn?

Rick - I make a motion to adjourn, Vickie seconded the motion.

Mayor White - 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. Motion carries- 5/0.

Jannis White, Mayor

Connie Allen, Town Clerk