



MINUTES

WYTHEVILLE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

MONDAY, MARCH 09, 2026 AT 6:00 PM

MUNICIPAL BUILDING - 150 EAST MONROE STREET
WYTHEVILLE, VA 24382

1. **RE: ATTENDANCE**

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mayor Beth Taylor, Vice-Mayor Candice Johnson, Councilwoman Cathy Pattison, Councilwoman Holly Atkins, Councilman Joseph Hand, Jr.

MEMBERS ABSENT:

None

OTHERS PRESENT:

Interim Town Manager Chris Slempp, Assistant Town Manager Elaine Holeyton, Town Clerk Brandi Jones, Town Attorney Paul Cassell, Director of Museums Grant Gerlich, Police Chief Joel Hash, Deputy Police Chief Bryan Bard, Assistant Computer Operations Manager Jeff Hooper, Police Captain Kenny Akers, Police Corporal Chastity Russell, Police Corporal Brandi Holmes, JIDA of Wythe County Executive Director David Manley, Kristen Mahoney, Kerry Eans, Jenna Cummins, Ryan Cummins, Samantha Sharp, Bryan Daniel, Crew King, Chip King, Sarah Crockett, Gary Gardner, Kyng Smith, Hailey Smith, Trey Smith, Jamie Ritter, Genevieve Ritter, Cade Ritter, Savannah Fowler, Ben Jollay, John Oglesby, Laura Oglesby, Brittney Williams, Patrick Willilams, Randal Hamm, Heidi Slempp, Autumn Adams, Ashlynn Vaught, Lyndon Adams, Frances Emerson, Sherry Corvin, Wesley Corvin, Mike Forrest, Susan Griffin, Caitlin King, Nancy Martin, Kirk Chamberlain, Travis Jackson, Caroline Jackson, Angela Porter, Teresa Martin, Becky Grubb, Robin Fasano, Meredith Summers, Palmer Summers, Silas Edmonds, Kathy Caldwell, Jacob Gutman, Brayden Smith, Keith St. John, Chase King, Samantha Dale, Michael Jones, Glenda Crockett-Eans, Others

2. **RE: CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Taylor called the meeting to order.

3. **RE: ESTABLISHMENT OF QUORUM**

Mayor Taylor established that a quorum of Council members was present.

4. **RE: PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Councilwoman Atkins.

5. **RE: APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Mayor Taylor advised that the next agenda item is the Approval of Agenda. She inquired if there was a motion to approve the agenda as presented.

Motion made by Vice-Mayor Johnson, Seconded by Councilman Hand, Jr. Mayor Taylor inquired if there was any discussion on the motion. There being none, the motion was approved with the following voting results, by roll call vote: Voting Yea: Vice-Mayor Johnson, Councilwoman Atkins, Mayor Taylor, Councilwoman Pattison, Councilman Hand, Jr.

6. **RE: 7:00 P.M. RECESS**

Mayor Taylor advised that for informational purposes only, the agenda includes a 7:00 p.m. scheduled recess.

7. **RE: CONSENT AGENDA**

A. RE: MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL WORK SESSIONS AND MINUTES OF THE REGULAR WYTHEVILLE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING OF FEBRUARY 23, 2026

Mayor Taylor presented the consent agenda consisting of the minutes of the Council Work Sessions and the minutes of the regular Wytheville Town Council meeting held on February 23, 2026. She inquired if there was a motion to approve the consent agenda as presented.

Motion made by Vice-Mayor Johnson, Seconded by Councilwoman Pattison. Mayor Taylor inquired if there was any discussion on the motion. There being none, the motion was approved with the following voting in favor, and there being no opposition: Voting Yea: Mayor Taylor, Vice-Mayor Johnson, Councilwoman Pattison, Councilwoman Atkins, Councilman Hand, Jr.

8. RE: PRESENTATIONS BY TOWN COUNCIL

A. RE: PROCLAMATION - SHERRY G. CORVIN

Mayor Taylor advised that the next agenda item is a presentation of a proclamation and a rocking chair to former Interim Town Manager/Town Clerk Sherry Corvin for her retirement from the Town of Wytheville. Mayor Taylor read the proclamation and presented it to Ms. Corvin. The Town Council thanked former Interim Town Manager/Town Clerk Corvin for her years of service to the Town. A copy of the proclamation is attached and made part of the minutes.

9. RE: PRESENTATIONS TO TOWN COUNCIL

A. RE: PRESENTATION - JOINT INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY OF WYTHE COUNTY

Mayor Taylor advised that the next agenda item is a presentation of updates regarding the Joint Industrial Development Authority (JIDA) of Wythe County by Executive Director David Manley. Executive Director Manley was recognized and stated that he would like to thank the Council and Staff for allowing him to attend the meeting. He then presented a PowerPoint to the Council regarding an economic development update for the JIDA of Wythe County, which included information regarding the JIDA organizational chart; JIDA staff listing, business attraction - sector strategy; Duchess Dairy expansion; new manufacturer announcement; Solisarx AI Factory in Progress Park; site development in Progress Park Lot 10; 140 South 1st Street Project; local economic indicators; and, confidentiality in economic development. Executive Director Manley thanked the Council for their time and interest in this meeting, and he stated that he is happy to answer any questions the Council may have at this time. Interim Town Manager Slemph stated that he enjoyed working with the JIDA, and he noted that he appreciates everything they are doing. He explained that economic development is very important for the present time and that it was especially important for the future. The Council thanked Executive Director Manley for his presentation.

10. RE: CITIZENS' PERIOD

Mayor Taylor advised that the next agenda item is Citizens' Period. She stated that there are several citizens listed on the sign-in sheet who would like to address the Council during Citizens' Period. She requested that citizens come to the podium and state his/her name for the recording of the minutes. Mayor Taylor inquired if Mr. Travis Jackson could please come to the podium to address the Council.

Mr. Travis Jackson was recognized and thanked the Council for allowing him to speak. He stated that as the CEO and Executive Director of the Wythe-Bland Foundation, the Foundation has made an investment in a potential splashpad in the area. Mr. Jackson explained that he understands the potential splashpad needs Council approval, and he noted that the Wythe-Bland Foundation will not be moving forward with any other funding until the Council has made a commitment to the splashpad. He then continued to address the Council regarding the potential splashpad and his previous experience with Federal Government, working with communities and grant opportunities.

Ms. Caroline Jackson was recognized and addressed the Council regarding her past experience as a Public Health Nurse, the need for activity for children and her support of a potential splashpad in town.

Ms. Teresa Martin was recognized and thanked the Council for their time and consideration. She then addressed the Council regarding her December water bill, her concerns about a discrepancy in her bill due to a water leak and a complaint about Town Staff regarding the issue.

Ms. Palmer Summers was recognized and stated that she is nine (9) years old. She thanked the Council for allowing her speak. Ms. Summers addressed the Council regarding her support for a potential splashpad in Wytheville.

Mr. Randal Hamm was recognized and stated that he would like to discuss the potential splashpad. He then addressed the Council regarding the potential splashpad, his support of the concept and his request for the Council to practice fiscal responsibility if they choose to move forward with the splashpad.

Mr. Grant Gerlich, Director of Museums, was recognized and addressed the Council regarding his request to appropriate the funds of the Museum Department's Rock House Memorial Fund/Haller Medical Legacy budget line item to the medical exhibit budget line item.

Mr. Mike Forrest was recognized and addressed the Council regarding his opposition of the potential splashpad and his concerns regarding the feasibility study and the potential cost of the splashpad.

Dr. Susan Griffin was recognized and thanked the Council for allowing her to speak. She addressed the Council regarding her support for the potential splashpad, as a grandmother and as a medical physician, as well as the benefits a splashpad can provide to individuals.

Mr. Bryan Daniel was recognized and addressed the Council regarding his support for the potential splashpad, as a father of toddlers who were afraid of pools and enjoyed splashpads, and his opinions regarding its positive economic impact on the Town.

Ms. Robin Fasano was recognized and addressed the Council and Staff regarding the \$100,000 that was included in the current budget for a Council Special Project Fund; how various projects could be funded if it was not included in the budget; her concerns regarding the Council holding Closed Meetings with no transparency; and, the Council members voting to raise their salaries in 2025. She inquired of the Town Council about whether they receive compensation, besides their regular salaries, for additional meetings that they attend or chair, and, if so, how much do they receive and for what types of meetings. Mayor Taylor stated that the Council members are reimbursed for transportation and meeting costs. Councilman Hand noted that the Planning Commissioners receive \$200 per meeting, and they do not receive payment if they do not meet or attend the meeting. Ms. Fasano continued to address her concerns regarding the raised Council salaries and the Council Special Project Fund. Mayor Taylor stated that she would like to clarify that all of her mayoral salary is given back to the community. She explained that she has a list of where those funds have gone and that she pays for her family's health insurance every month.

Mr. Cade Ritter was recognized and addressed the Council regarding his support for the potential splashpad in Wytheville.

11. RE: PRESENTATIONS TO TOWN COUNCIL - CONTINUED

A. RE: PRESENTATION - PROPOSED SPLASHPAD LOCATIONS

Mayor Taylor advised that the next agenda item is a presentation and discussion of the proposed splashpad by Interim Town Manager Chris Slemph. Interim Town Manager Slemph stated that this effort has been led by Salt and Light to bring a splashpad to the Town of Wytheville on 4th and Monroe Streets where the former bleachers were located in Withers Park. He noted that this water feature would help compliment other current offerings at the park and align with the Town's broader goals. Interim Town Manager Slemph commented that Staff has engaged in numerous meetings and discussions with Salt and Light regarding the potential development of a splashpad. He explained that with Salt and Light's help, Town Staff had been pursuing a grant from the Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) for funding for this project up to a maximum of \$1.4 Million. He stated that, however, an Environmental Impact Study will need to be completed for any site being considered and will need to be filed with DCR by March 31, 2026, to move forward. Interim Town

Manager Slemph advised that a Feasibility Study has been conducted at the "old bleachers" site, which is in a flood plain, and he suggested a possible cost for this site to be \$3.4 Million. He then continued to discuss the "old bleachers" location being in a flood plain and the results of the Feasibility Study with the Council. Interim Town Manager Slemph advised that splashpads are managed onsite, rely on routine inspections, use minimal water, are, typically, more affordable and sustainable than swimming pools, etc. He commented that the "old bleachers" location is preferred by Salt and Light, and the estimated cost for the splashpad is \$1.5 Million. Interim Town Manager Slemph stated that another location has been considered adjacent to the McWane Pool. He explained that this would be a smaller footprint for the splashpad at less cost, estimated to be under \$1.5 Million. Interim Town Manager Slemph commented that the pavilion and the "kiddy" pool would have to be removed before the construction of a splashpad at this location. He stated that Carroll County operates a splashpad that is approximately 3,200 square feet with 1,582 square feet being the wet area, and that their operational cost of the splashpad is around \$20,000, not including staff time. Interim Town Manager Slemph advised that water/chemical balances and quality must be tested three (3) times a day to meet the Virginia Department of Health (VDH) standards, and that daily water quality results must be posted in a visible area. He then discussed what steps and/or action can be taken by the Council moving forward with the potential splashpad.

A motion was made by Vice-Mayor Johnson and seconded by Councilwoman Atkins to authorize Town staff to accept the DCR Grant, if awarded, with a total project cost not to exceed \$3 Million, and to proceed with the construction of a splashpad on the site of the old bleachers at Withers Park, which is to be no larger than 7,000 square feet. Mayor Taylor inquired if there was any discussion on the motion. Councilman Hand expressed his concerns regarding the "old bleachers" site costing twice as much as the McWane Pool location to construct. He stated that he is wondering why a compromise cannot be made on the location of the splashpad, considering the Town does not have the funds for a splashpad. Councilman Hand explained that a budget Work Session was held before the Council meeting, and that the Town is significantly over budget. He continued to express his concerns regarding the cost of the splashpad and not knowing how the Town is going to pay for it. Vice-Mayor Johnson advised that there are grant opportunities that the Town can apply for, and that she is willing to approve for the Town to apply for the grants. She commented that children are the biggest unrepresented minority, and that she will represent the children. Councilman Hand stated that he thinks a splashpad is a great idea, however, he feels like the splashpad should be constructed at the McWane Pool location due to the lower cost. Vice-Mayor Johnson inquired if Mr. Jackson would please come back to the podium to answer questions from the Council. She inquired of Mr. Jackson about how many grants are available that the Town could apply for to receive funding for the splashpad, to bring down the cost. Vice-Mayor Johnson explained that she, also, believes that money has been raised in the community to fund the splashpad. Councilman Hand stated that he does not feel it is responsible, for him, as a Council member, to approve the construction of a splashpad without knowing how the Town is going to pay for it. Discussion was held between Town Council members and citizens regarding their displeasure with the dialogue that is being held about funding for the splashpad.

Mr. Trey Smith was recognized and addressed the Council regarding the Town's Park and Recreation Department, the Town's budget, overall spending and the potential splashpad.

Vice-Mayor Johnson stated that she would like for Mr. Jackson to answer her question regarding grants, at this time, and inquired if it would be possible to acquire more grant funding than just the \$1.4 Million from DCR. Mr. Jackson noted that the Virginia Tobacco Commission has two rounds of funding, each year, and that they have around \$400 Million worth of funds in the State of Virginia. He stated that the Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) provides some grant funding for up to \$1.5 Million. Mr. Jackson continued to discuss grant and funding opportunities for the Town and Salt and Light with the Council.

Councilwoman Pattison inquired of Assistant Town Manager Holeton regarding the required criteria for the DCR grant, and, if additional grant possibilities were researched. Assistant Town Manager Holeton stated that she did not work on the

DCR grant, but that Landscape Architect/Grants Administrator John Woods worked with Ms. Caitlin King on the grant. She explained that Staff was tasked to work with Salt and Light to bring the Town Council the Feasibility Study, and since then Staff has not had any further discussion regarding grants.

Mr. Jackson addressed the Council and stated that the Wythe-Bland Foundation would fund the Environmental Impact Study, once the Council approved the splashpad project. Discussion continued between the Council and citizens regarding the Environmental Impact Study, grant funding and the possible construction of the splashpad.

Mayor Taylor stated that according to Salt and Light, the splashpad will be largely funded by grants. She explained that Salt and Light had secured money for the ADA accessibility, they are continuing to work with businesses and corporations to support the splashpad project and they are waiting for the Town Council's input.

Councilwoman Pattison stated that she believes the Town needs time to pursue the DCR grant and to acquire the Environmental Impact Studies. Vice-Mayor Johnson commented that the Council has had plenty of time and needs to move forward or the Town will lose the money. She explained that people are waiting on the Council to make a decision before they make donations towards the splashpad. Councilman Hand stated that the Town can apply for grant funding, every year. Discussion continued between Council and citizens regarding the DCR Grant and other grant possibilities. There being no further discussion, the motion was approved with the following voting results, by roll call vote: Voting Yea: Vice-Mayor Johnson, Councilwoman Atkins, Mayor Taylor. Voting Against: Councilwoman Pattison, Councilman Hand, Jr.

RE: RECESS

It was the consensus of the Council to take a brief recess. (7:55 p.m.)

RE: RECONVENE

It was the consensus of the Council to reconvene the meeting. (8:05 p.m.)

12. RE: PUBLIC HEARINGS, REQUESTS, RESOLUTIONS, COUNCIL DECISIONS

A. RE: ROCK HOUSE MEMORIAL FUND/HALLER MEDICAL LEGACY

Mayor Taylor advised that the next agenda item is to consider the request of the Director of Museums Grant Gerlich to appropriate the funds of the Museum Department's Rock House Memorial Fund/Haller Medical Legacy budget line item. Director of Museums Gerlich stated that in 2017, Colonel Adam Oler, on behalf of his mother, donated \$10,000 to the Haller Legacy Medical Exhibit. He explained that he is requesting that these funds be moved to an active line item for the medical exhibit.

A motion was made by Councilman Hand, Jr. and seconded by Vice-Mayor Johnson to approve the request of the Museum Department and to authorize the appropriation of funds from the Museum Department's Rock House Memorial Fund budget line item into a new Museum Department budget line item for the Haller Medical Legacy Exhibit Fund in the Fiscal Year 2026-27 budget. Mayor Taylor inquired if there was any discussion on the motion. There being none, the motion was approved with the following voting results, by roll call vote: Voting Yea: Councilman Hand, Jr., Councilwoman Pattison, Mayor Taylor, Councilwoman Atkins, Vice-Mayor Johnson.

B. RE: WYTHEVILLE AAUW RAFFLE PERMIT REQUEST

Mayor Taylor advised that the next agenda item is to consider the request of the Wytheville AAUW for a raffle permit for the 2026 calendar year. She inquired if there was a motion to approve the request of the Wytheville AAUW for a raffle permit for the 2026 calendar year.

Motion made by Vice-Mayor Johnson, Seconded by Councilwoman Atkins. Mayor Taylor inquired if there was any discussion on the motion. There being none, the motion was approved with the following voting in favor and there being no opposition:

Voting Yea: Mayor Taylor, Vice-Mayor Johnson, Councilwoman Pattison, Councilwoman Atkins, Councilman Hand, Jr.

C. RE: DOWNTOWN WYTHEVILLE 4TH OF JULY CELEBRATION & STREET FESTIVAL - DOWNTOWN WYTHEVILLE , INCORPORATED REQUEST

Mayor Taylor advised that the next agenda item is to consider the request of Downtown Wytheville, Incorporated for street closure on Saturday, July 4, 2026, from 6:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m., to conduct the Downtown Wytheville 4th of July Celebration & Street Festival. She inquired if there was a motion to approve the request of Downtown Wytheville, Incorporated for street closure on Saturday, July 4, 2026, from 6:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m., to conduct the Downtown Wytheville 4th of July Celebration & Street Festival.

Motion made by Vice-Mayor Johnson, Seconded by Councilman Hand, Jr. Mayor Taylor inquired if there was any discussion on the motion. There being none, the motion was approved with the following voting in favor, and there being no opposition: Voting Yea: Mayor Taylor, Vice-Mayor Johnson, Councilwoman Pattison, Councilwoman Atkins, Councilman Hand, Jr.

D. RE: DOWNTOWN WYTHEVILLE CHRISTMAS PARADE - DOWNTOWN WYTHEVILLE, INCORPORATED REQUEST

Mayor Taylor advised that the next agenda item is to consider the request of Downtown Wytheville, Incorporated for street closure on Saturday, December 5, 2026, from 3:30 p.m. to approximately 7:00 p.m., to conduct the Downtown Wytheville Christmas Parade. She inquired if there was a motion to approve the request of Downtown Wytheville, Incorporated for street closure on Saturday, December 5, 2026, from 3:30 p.m. to approximately 7:00 p.m., to conduct the Downtown Wytheville Christmas Parade.

Motion made by Vice-Mayor Johnson, Seconded by Councilwoman Atkins. Mayor Taylor inquired if there was any discussion on the motion. There being none, the motion was approved with the following in favor, and there being no opposition: Voting Yea: Mayor Taylor, Vice-Mayor Johnson, Councilwoman Pattison, Councilwoman Atkins, Councilman Hand, Jr.

E. RE: CHURCH STREET TRUNK OR TREAT - WYTHEVILLE POLICE, FIRE AND RESCUE DEPARTMENTS REQUEST

Mayor Taylor advised that the next agenda item is to consider the request of the Wytheville Police, Fire and Rescue Departments for street closure on Saturday, October 31, 2026, from 5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m., to conduct the Church Street Trunk or Treat event. She inquired if there was a motion to approve the request of the Wytheville Police, Fire and Rescue Departments for street closure on Saturday, October 31, 2026, from 5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m., to conduct the Church Street Trunk or Treat event.

Motion made by Councilman Hand, Jr., Seconded by Vice-Mayor Johnson. Mayor Taylor inquired if there was any discussion on the motion. There being none, the motion was approved with the following voting in favor, and there being no opposition: Voting Yea: Mayor Taylor, Vice-Mayor Johnson, Councilwoman Pattison, Councilwoman Atkins, Councilman Hand, Jr.

F. RE: MAYHEM ON MAIN STREET - DOWNTOWN WYTHEVILLE, INCORPORATED REQUEST

Mayor Taylor advised that the next agenda item is to consider the request of Downtown Wytheville, Incorporated for street closure on Saturday, October 31, 2026, from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., to conduct the Mayhem on Main Street event. She inquired if there was a motion to approve the request of Downtown Wytheville, Incorporated for street closure on Saturday, October 31, 2026, from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., to conduct the Mayhem on Main Street event.

Motion made by Vice-Mayor Johnson, Seconded by Councilman Hand, Jr. Mayor Taylor inquired if there was any discussion on the motion. There being none, the motion was approved with the following voting in favor, and there being no

opposition: Voting Yea: Mayor Taylor, Vice-Mayor Johnson, Councilwoman Pattison, Councilwoman Atkins, Councilman Hand, Jr.

G. RE: WYTHEVILLE-WYTHE-BLAND CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND TRULIANT FEDERAL CREDIT UNION REQUEST

Mayor Taylor advised that the next agenda item is to consider the request of the Wytheville-Wythe-Bland Chamber of Commerce and Truliant Federal Credit Union to jointly host a shredding event on Saturday, May 9, 2026, from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., in the Municipal Building Parking Lot, and to have the Town of Wytheville recognized as a co-sponsor of the event. She inquired if there was a motion to approve the request of the Wytheville-Wythe-Bland Chamber of Commerce and Truliant Federal Credit Union to jointly host a shredding event on Saturday, May 9, 2026, from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., in the Municipal Building Parking Lot, and to have the Town of Wytheville recognized as a co-sponsor of the event.

Motion made by Councilman Hand, Jr., Seconded by Vice-Mayor Johnson. Mayor Taylor inquired if there was any discussion on the motion. There being none, the motion was approved with the following voting in favor, and there being no opposition: Voting Yea: Mayor Taylor, Vice-Mayor Johnson, Councilwoman Pattison, Councilwoman Atkins, Councilman Hand, Jr.

H. RE: RESCHEDULING WORK SESSION AND REGULAR MEETINGS OF APRIL 13, 2026

Mayor Taylor advised that the next agenda item is to consider rescheduling the Council Work Session of April 13, 2026, at 4:30 p.m., and the regular Town Council meeting of April 13, 2026, at 6:00 p.m., in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Building, to the following Monday, April 20, 2026, due to the anticipated lack of a quorum as several Council members will be out of town for work-related travel. Vice-Mayor Johnson inquired of Town Attorney Cassell if he would be available to attend the rescheduled meetings on April 20. Town Attorney Cassell advised that he would not be available to attend on April 20, however, Mr. Trent Crewe would be available to attend those meetings. A brief discussion was held regarding cancelling the meeting on April 13, 2026, not rescheduling it and to continue with the Work Session and regular Town Council meeting on April 27, 2026.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Atkins and seconded by Vice-Mayor Johnson to cancel the Council Work Session of April 13, 2026, at 4:30 p.m., and the regular Town Council meeting of April 13, 2026, at 6:00 p.m., in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Building, due to the anticipated lack of a quorum as several Council members will be out of town for work-related travel. Mayor Taylor inquired if there was any discussion on the motion. There being none, the motion was approved with the following voting in favor, and there being no opposition: Voting Yea: Mayor Taylor, Vice-Mayor Johnson, Councilwoman Pattison, Councilwoman Atkins, Councilman Hand, Jr.

13. RE: APPOINTMENTS

A. RE: APPOINTMENT - WYTHEVILLE PLANNING COMMISSION

Mayor Taylor advised that the next agenda item is to consider the appointment of a new member to the Wytheville Planning Commission to fill the expired term of John Jones, Jr. (term expired March 2, 2026).

A motion was made by Vice-Mayor Johnson and seconded by Councilman Hand, Jr. to appoint Mr. Randal Hamm, Jr. to fill the expired term of John Jones, Jr. for a four-year term to the Wytheville Planning Commission (term expires March 2, 2030). Mayor Taylor inquired if there was any discussion on the motion. There being none, the motion was approved with the following voting in favor, and there being no opposition: Voting Yea: Mayor Taylor, Vice-Mayor Johnson, Councilwoman Pattison, Councilwoman Atkins, Councilman Hand, Jr.

14. RE: REPORTS

A. RE: STAFF TIME - INTERIM TOWN MANAGER CHRISTOPHER SLEMP

Mayor Taylor advised that the next agenda item is Interim Town Manager - Staff Time. Interim Town Manager Slemphong congratulated the Town's Water Department for earning the Excellence in Water Works Operations Performance Award. He stated that the Water Department has received this award multiple years in a row. Interim Town Manager Slemphong noted that he would like to remind the Council that if they have any questions regarding the budget, to please email them to him. He briefly reviewed the current status of the budget process with the Council.

B. RE: STAFF TIME - TOWN CLERK BRANDI JONES

Mayor Taylor advised that the next agenda item is Town Clerk - Staff Time. Town Clerk Jones stated that the Building Code Appeals Board will be holding a mock appeal meeting on Tuesday, March 10, 2026, at 3:00 p.m., in the Council Chambers. She noted that the Wytheville Planning Commission meeting scheduled for Thursday, March 12, 2026, has been cancelled.

C. RE: STAFF TIME - ASSISTANT TOWN MANAGER ELAINE HOLETON

Mayor Taylor advised that the next agenda item is Assistant Town Manager - Staff Time. Assistant Town Manager Holeton stated that she did not have anything to discuss at this time.

D. RE: COUNCIL MEMBER TIME

Mayor Taylor advised that the next agenda item is Council Member Time. She inquired if Councilman Hand had anything he would like to discuss during Council Member Time. Councilman Hand stated that he would like to thank Salt and Light for everything they have done for the splashpad, and that they have done an outstanding job. He noted that he wanted to make sure he told them that he appreciated their work.

Mayor Taylor inquired if Councilwoman Pattison had anything she would like to discuss during Council Member Time. Councilwoman Pattison stated that Salt and Light has done an excellent job and has been very persistent, and she noted that she is very proud of them. She commented that she does support a splashpad, just not at the location that was chosen.

Mayor Taylor stated that she did not have anything to discuss during Council Member Time.

Mayor Taylor inquired if Councilwoman Atkins had anything that she would like to discuss during Council Member Time. Councilwoman Atkins stated that she would like to thank the Public Works Department for their hard work in cleaning up near the on ramp on North 4th Street and the removal of the trees. She noted that it has made it easier for individuals to walk in that area.

Mayor Taylor inquired if Vice-Mayor Johnson had anything that she would like to discuss during Council Member Time. Vice-Mayor Johnson stated that she would like to take the time to honor Corporal Marvin Sylvester Patton, who was welcomed home from the Korean War. She noted that he was a Korean War hero who was missing in action for 75 years, and that he was laid to rest earlier in the day. Vice-Mayor Johnson then read some information regarding Corporal Marvin Sylvester Patton's service time during the Korean War to the Council. She thanked Corporal Patton for his service, and she stated that she is honoring him and his family.

Councilwoman Atkins commended Town staff for their work during a recent situation that took place.

15. RE: ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to be discussed, Mayor Taylor adjourned the meeting. (8:22 p.m.)

Beth A. Taylor, Mayor

Brandi N. Jones, Town Clerk