

**MINUTES OF A TOWN COUNCIL WORK SESSION
TOWN OF LURAY, PAGE COUNTY, VIRGINIA
Wednesday, January 3, 2007**

The Luray Town Council met in a work session on Wednesday, January 3, 2007 at 6:00 p.m. in the Luray Town Council Chambers located at 45 East Main Street, Luray, Virginia at which time there were present the following:

Presiding: Mayor Ralph H. Dean

**Council: Nancy Shifflett
Lonnie Arrington
Bill Menefee
Leroy Lancaster
Barry Presgraves
Earl "Rock" Racer**

**Also Present: Rick Black, Town Manager
Jason Spitler, Town Attorney
Danielle Babb, Deputy Clerk-Treasurer
Bryan Chrisman, Assistant Town Manager (effective 01-08-07)
Ligon Webb, Town Planner
Charlie Hoke, Director of Utilities**

Council met to discuss issues concerning the sewage treatment plant, water filtration plant, water and sewer taps outside town limits, and sign ordinance amendments. The meeting was called to order by Mayor Dean and everyone recited the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

Mayor Dean turned the meeting over to Town Manager Rick Black. Mr. Black began the meeting by introducing council and attendees to Bryan Chrisman who will begin as Assistant Town Manager on Monday, January 8th, 2007.

Charlie Hoke, Director of Utilities, began the meeting with a presentation reviewing the requirements to update the sewage treatment plant. The Commonwealth of Virginia has developed new water quality standards for nutrient discharges into the Chesapeake Bay. The Town of Luray is located near the Shenandoah River which discharges into the bay. The Town of Luray's existing wastewater treatment plant is not designed to meet the new compliance limits. In order for the plant to continue to comply there must be improvements made to the facilities. In 2006, the State of Virginia allocated 100 million dollars to the Water Quality Improvement Fund. In December of 2006, newly elected Governor Tim Kaine raised the allocation to 250 million. In order to take part in this grant program and receive a portion of these allocated funds Mr. Hoke will secure a 75% grant from the DEQ, the town will have to finance the additional 25%. Council agreed that the town should act quickly to take advantage of such funds available in this grant program.

Regarding the Water Filtration Plant, Mr. Black updated council on information from Patton, Harris, and Rust Associates noting that the plans are still on track.

Mr. Black also updated council on out of town water and sewer tap developments. The first issue was a request from Tom Barbour who wants to pay according to the expired out of town rates. Mr. Black does not believe that allowing price breaks to out of town customers would be in the best interest of the town. These customers will be required to pay the current set rates. Next, was a written request from Bonnie Kauffman, who has been advised to attend the next Planning Commission meeting to address any inquiries she may have. Lastly, Mr. Jeff Sullivan has requested to use a "reserve area" in order to obtain approval from the Page County Health Department. This would allow future owners to connect to the

town sewer system should his private system fail. As property owner he would be responsible for all associated costs of a future connection.

Ligon Webb, Town Planner, addressed council regarding three amendments to the sign ordinance. Council discussed the amendments and Mr. Webb noted that these amendments will be up for public hearing at the Town Council Meeting on January 8th, 2007.

Mr. Black briefed council on the CDBG sign that the town is obligated to post under the grant administration guidelines. Council has a copy of the sign to review and should take action on this as soon as possible so that the sign may be displayed.

Mr. Black noted that the FEMA Program has a grant that provides 100% funding for the acquisition of Repetitive Flood Claim properties. Council suggested that staff not pursue this grant.

Mr. Lowell Baughan has given many years of service to the Northern Shenandoah Valley Regional Commission, Council wishes to express appreciation for this service. Consensus was to present Mr. Baughan with a resolution from the town and to publish this resolution in the Page News & Courier. Mr. Black will prepare a draft copy for council to review at the January 8th, 2007 meeting.

With the opening of a seat on the NSVRC, Mr. Earl Racer has volunteered to serve a 1-year term to fill that position.

Jason Spittler, Town Attorney, updated council on his review of the CDBG Contract and Airport Agreements as requested by Mr. Black and noted that his review proved no concerns.

Mayor Dean adjourned the meeting at approximately 7:30 pm.

Mayor Ralph H. Dean

Danielle P. Babb
Deputy Clerk-Treasurer