



TOWN OF CLIFTON FORGE

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**COUNCIL MINUTES
TOWN OF CLIFTON FORGE, VIRGINIA
7:00 P.M. TUESDAY, JUNE 14, 2016
CLIFTON FORGE TOWN COUNCIL CHAMBERS
547 MAIN STREET**

INVOCATION BY DAVID DAVIS

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Carl Brinkley called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm.

PRESENT: Mayor Carl Brinkley, Vice Mayor Gayle Hillert, Councilwoman Johnette Roberts, Councilman Jeff Irvine, and Councilman Robert Umstead

ALSO PRESENT BUT NOT ON THE ROLL: Darlene Burcham, Town Manager, Angela Carper, Clerk of Council, and David Davis, Town Attorney

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Mayor Brinkley led the attendees and council in the pledge of allegiance.

PUBLIC HEARING

BOND RESOLUTION FOR PROPOSED DEBT ISSUANCE

Debt needs to be issued to provide funds to finance the following capital items which were approved May 26, 2015 when the Town adopted its FY2016 general fund capital improvements budget: paving in Red Hill Cemetery, financial software and hardware, storm drain inspection program, a pickup truck with snow plow, X-Mark mower and a vehicle for Community Development, including reasonable costs of financing and issuance (the "Project"). The maximum amount of such debt is \$189,000. The Town will pledge its full faith and credit and taxing power to the repayment of the debt. Other funds available to the Town not constituting a debt of the Town may be used to repay any remaining portion of the Project.

RECOMMENDATION: Adopt resolution

LeeAnna Tyler, Finance Director read the required portion of the resolution and Mayor Brinkley opened the public hearing at 7:15PM.

Rick LeBleu of 200 Revere Street stated that he is glad to see Mayor Brinkley return. He stated that at the last meeting he understood the information given to say that the Town lacked \$130,000 in the budget to be balanced, but now this resolution is asking for more money and he doesn't understand it. He stated that he feels that these items are not necessary and asked how the Town is going to pay the debt back. He stated that with the proposed increase in utility rates it isn't right to be asking for the money for these items.

Mayor Brinkley explained that these are all items that were voted on and included in the current year's budget and that the items have already been completed. Mr. Brinkley stated that the bond would cover everything mentioned, up to \$189,000 and then asked LeeAnna Tyler to explain.

Mrs. Tyler stated that the budget as presented at the last meeting is balanced. The items mentioned in the Bond are capital items that were contained in the budget for the current fiscal year that were approved by resolution by Council. She stated that what was mentioned at the last meeting was that without the increase in rates to cover the expenses required there could be a deficit in the water and sewer funds. She stated that the General Fund does not have to have a fund balance and that the funds that are included in this bond are to cover the expenses for these items that have already been paid for by the town, and the debt payment is included in the budget.

Mayor Brinkley closed the public hearing at 7:21 PM.

Motion to adopt resolution

Motion made by: Councilwoman Roberts

Seconded by: Vice Mayor Hillert

ROLL CALL VOTE

Councilman Irvine Aye
Councilman Umstead Aye
Councilwoman Roberts Aye
Councilwoman Hillert Aye
Councilman Brinkley Aye

Motion passed: 5-0

CONSENT AGENDA

- 1. MINUTES** **May 17, 2016** **Work Session**
 May 24, 2016 **Council Meeting**

RECOMMENDATION: Approve minutes from May 17 and 24, 2016

Motion to approve minutes

Motion made by: Councilman Umstead

Seconded by: Councilwoman Roberts

ROLL CALL VOTE

Councilman Irvine Aye
Councilman Umstead Aye
Councilwoman Roberts Aye
Councilwoman Hillert Aye
Councilman Brinkley Aye

Motion passed: 5-0

ACTION ITEMS

Prior to the second reading and adoption of the budget items, Mayor Brinkley called upon those who had signed up to speak in regards to them.

Dave Oeltjen of Jefferson Avenue stated that as a concerned citizen, he is aware of all of the budgetary requirements that exist and through his years of experience in the business industry he stated that he knows it is impossible to hold a line on expenses. Mr. Oeltjen stated that with that being said, the fact that the Town has maintained their budget over the years without having to have an increase in taxes is really something to be proud of. He thanked all who work hard to accomplish this and to keep the citizens' best interest in mind.

2. AN ORDINANCE IMPOSING AND LEVYING TAXES WITHIN THE TOWN OF CLIFTON FORGE, VIRGINIA UPON REAL PROPERTY FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JULY 1, 2016 AND ENDING JUNE 30, 2017, AND UPON PERSONAL PROPERTY AND MACHINERY AND TOOLS FOR THE CALENDAR YEAR BEGINNING JANUARY 1, 2016, AND ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2016.

RECOMMENDATION: Adopt ordinance

Motion to waive second reading

Motion made by: Councilwoman Roberts

Seconded by: Vice Mayor Hillert

ROLL CALL VOTE

Councilman Irvine	Aye
Councilman Umstead	Aye
Councilwoman Roberts	Aye
Councilwoman Hillert	Aye
Councilman Brinkley	Aye

Motion passed: 5-0

Motion to adopt ordinance

Motion made by: Councilwoman Roberts

Seconded by: Vice Mayor Hillert

ROLL CALL VOTE

Councilman Irvine	Aye
Councilman Umstead	Aye
Councilwoman Roberts	Aye
Councilwoman Hillert	Aye
Councilman Brinkley	Aye

Motion passed: 5-0

3. AN ORDINANCE TO REPEAL SECTION 86--564 SEWER LATERAL CHARGE EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2016

RECOMMENDATION: Adopt ordinance

Councilman Umstead asked how many inspections and lateral cleanouts have been installed during the last 2 years. Mrs. Burcham explained that she doesn't have the exact figure in front of her but it is less than 100 out of 1500 accounts. Mr. Umstead then asked if this fee is stopped now, how many people can be helped with the money that will remain in the fund. Mrs. Burcham explained that it would depend upon the individual situation that exists as the cost to make repairs varies greatly from location to location.

Councilwoman Roberts asked Mrs. Burcham if a citizen wished to still have an inspection or a clean out installed, even after July 1 could they pay the \$60 fee and be added to the list for Public Works to process. Mrs. Burcham stated that is correct, nothing about the program itself is changing; only the fee is being eliminated. Councilwoman Roberts then asked if a citizen had signed up and was on the list but the work wasn't completed at the time, and they had an issue with their lateral line, who would be responsible? Mrs. Burcham advised that it would be the citizen's responsibility for their lateral to the main line, the same as it has been, until the

cleanout is installed. She stated that during the last meeting Mr. Cullis mentioned the ordinance that specifies responsibilities and details about the program and thought that it did not exist and that the repeal of the \$3 fee would also remove the responsibility aspect of the program. Mrs. Burcham explained that she had provided Council with a copy of the ordinance to show that it does indeed exist and that the responsibilities and all aspects of the program that were established in April, 2014 and took effect in July of that same year still apply. Municode, the company that created the electronic version of the Town's code be found online, failed to enter that ordinance into the online version. This is being corrected and all aspects of the ordinance still apply.

Motion to waive second reading

Motion made by: Councilman Umstead

Seconded by: Councilwoman Roberts

ROLL CALL VOTE

Councilman Irvine	Aye
Councilman Umstead	Aye
Councilwoman Roberts	Aye
Councilwoman Hillert	Aye
Councilman Brinkley	Aye

Motion passed: 5-0

Motion to adopt ordinance

Motion made by: Vice Mayor Hillert

Seconded by: Councilman Umstead

Prior to the roll call vote, Councilman Irvine asked to make a statement. He stated that the program for the lateral inspections and cleanouts went into effect in July, 2014. Before this option was chosen, several options were presented to the citizens. Options 2 and 3 both included an increase in rates, option 1 made the home owner completely responsible, so Council came up with option 4, which was this program to help the citizens a little. The program was supposed to be looked at in 3 years

and in his opinion does not need to be repealed or made part of the rate increase and it should be kept in place and reviewed in July, 2017 as previously stated.

Councilwoman Roberts clarified through Mrs. Burcham that the \$3 fee does not affect the rate increase. Mrs. Burcham advised that is correct.

Mayor Brinkley stated that the sewer rate is the larger of the two rates within the utility charge. He stated that it costs 2.5 times more to treat the sewage than it does to produce the water. He stated that in his opinion, the County should work towards expanding the sewer coverage which would in turn increase the customer base and spread the cost among a larger group of people which would lessen the charges.

ROLL CALL VOTE

Councilman Irvine	No
Councilman Umstead	Aye
Councilwoman Roberts	Aye
Councilwoman Hillert	Aye
Councilman Brinkley	Aye

Motion passed: 4-1

4. AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND SECTION 86-556, WASTEWATER SERVICES CHARGES AND FEES BEGINNING JULY 1, 2016.

RECOMMENDATION: Adopt ordinance

Motion to waive second reading

Motion made by: Councilwoman Roberts

Seconded by: Vice Mayor Hillert

ROLL CALL VOTE

Councilman Irvine Aye
Councilman Umstead Aye
Councilwoman Roberts Aye
Councilwoman Hillert Aye
Councilman Brinkley Aye

Motion passed: 5-0

Motion to adopt ordinance

Motion made by: Councilwoman Roberts

Seconded by: Councilman Umstead

ROLL CALL VOTE

Councilman Irvine No
Councilman Umstead Aye
Councilwoman Roberts Aye
Councilwoman Hillert Aye
Councilman Brinkley Aye

Motion passed: 4-1

5. AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND SECTION 86-95, WATER SERVICES CHARGES AND FEES BEGINNING JULY 1, 2016.

RECOMMENDATION: Adopt ordinance

Motion to waive second reading

Motion made by: Councilman Umstead

Seconded by: Councilwoman Roberts

ROLL CALL VOTE

Councilman Irvine	Aye
Councilman Umstead	Aye
Councilwoman Roberts	Aye
Councilwoman Hillert	Aye
Councilman Brinkley	Aye

Motion passed: 5-0

Councilman Irvine stated that as he understands it, the Town has \$1.3 million in reserve and he feels that we should take the money needed out of that to help the citizens.

Councilman Umstead stated that if the Town has the money that is needed in reserve that he agrees with Councilman Irvine on that part and that it should be used to help if possible.

Vice Mayor Hillert asked LeeAnna Tyler, Finance Director what would occur if the funds were removed from reserve. LeeAnna explained that the money in reserve is required in part to secure the VRA (Virginia Resource Authority) loans and bonds. In order for the Town to be granted these loans and bonds, it had to be shown that the ability to repay the debt is there and a certain amount has to remain in the reserve in order to continue to comply with that requirement. She stated that it is a very bad idea to take money out of the reserve and that the Town does not ever want to have a \$0 fund balance because that leaves nothing to fall back on in the event of an emergency or unexpected situation. She stated that we have the Roxbury line replacements and work on both McCormick and Church and the money must remain in the reserve to make sure all debts are covered. She stated that the Town is actually taking a portion out of the reserve to help with the rates and that is why the increase isn't greater. Vice Mayor Hillert asked what the rate would have to have been if no money was taken from reserve. LeeAnna stated that the rate would have been around the \$115-\$120 range. She also stated that if the Town would have taken the entire amount out of reserve and you look ahead to next year, there would be nothing there at that point so the citizens would be faced with the total amount. Mrs. Burcham stated that as previously mentioned, if the Town had enacted incremental increases all along over the years there would not be an issue today.

Councilman Irvine asked if the Town had taken an additional \$48,000 out of reserve if that would have made up the difference. Mrs. Tyler advised that it would, but that that amount of funding cannot be used out of the reserve due to the requirements for the loans and bonds. She also mentioned to keep in mind that even though the County is now assuming the loan, the Town has had to continue to pay up until this point and the County is now only assuming the loan balance or remaining debt, no reimbursement for the previously paid portion by the Town. Mrs. Burcham also explained that the revenue bonds require the Town to have more than the amount of the loan, instead of 100%, the Town is required to have 115% in reserve to secure the loan.

Vice Mayor Hillert stated that this matter was discussed with Council and it has been stated that if someone did not agree with the increase to find a solution and there has been no other solution found. She stated that it is hard to vote no, and even harder to vote yes, but without another solution it is necessary.

Motion to adopt ordinance

Motion made by: Councilwoman Roberts

Seconded by: Councilman Umstead

ROLL CALL VOTE

Councilman Irvine	No
Councilman Umstead	Aye
Councilwoman Roberts	Aye
Councilwoman Hillert	Aye
Councilman Brinkley	Aye

Motion passed: 4-1

6. RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE FISCAL YEAR 2016-2017 OPERATING AND CAPITAL BUDGETS FOR THE TOWN OF CLIFTON FORGE, VIRGINIA AND APPROPRIATING THE REQUISITE FUNDS FOR SAID BUDGETS

RECOMMENDATION: Adopt resolution

Motion to waive second reading

Motion made by: Councilman Umstead

Seconded by: Councilwoman Roberts

ROLL CALL VOTE

Councilman Irvine	Aye
Councilman Umstead	Aye
Councilwoman Roberts	Aye
Councilwoman Hillert	Aye
Councilman Brinkley	Aye

Motion passed: 5-0

Councilman Irvine stated that this was a very disappointing budget and that there were good and bad points. He stated that he would like to have found a way to do away with the Town decals, he is disappointed in the low contingency, the Capital Improvements for the dam, and that no employee raises or Christmas bonuses are included.

Councilwoman Roberts stated that she agrees with Councilman Irvine in part, especially in regards to not being able to provide a salary increase for employees this year. She stated that the employees are what keeps the Town going and without them the things needed could not be done. She stated that she hopes the situation with salary increases can be made up next year. She also clarified through Mrs. Burcham that the dam is not a part of the general fund.

Motion to adopt resolution

Motion made by: Councilman Umstead

Seconded by: Vice Mayor Hillert

ROLL CALL VOTE

Councilman Irvine	Aye
Councilman Umstead	Aye
Councilwoman Roberts	Aye
Councilwoman Hillert	Aye
Councilman Brinkley	Aye

Motion passed: 5-0

7. APPROPRIATION RESOLUTION

The Town has received two grants for a Broadband Study. The Department of Housing and Community Development has awarded the Town \$50,000 and The Alleghany Foundation has awarded \$7,500.

These two grant amounts must be appropriated into the Fiscal Year 2015-2016 operating budget.

RECOMMENDATION: Proceed to second reading

LeeAnna Tyler, Finance Director, read the resolution and with no further comments it will appear at the June 28, 2016 Council meeting for second reading and adoption.

8. ADOPTION OF COUNTY WATER RATE

The calculation of the water rate to charge the County has been completed with the preparation of the FY2016-2017 operating and capital budget for water. Based upon their proportionate use of the system, the County's rate will be \$4.03 per 1,000 gallons effective July 1, 2016.

RECOMMENDATION: Adopt proposed rate

Councilman Irvine asked what the County rate was previously. Mrs. Tyler advised \$2.60.

Rick LeBleu of 200 Revere St. asked what the rate is in the Town. Mrs. Burcham advised that the water rate in the town with the increase will be \$30.80.

Eddie Reynolds of Commercial Ave. asked if it doesn't cost the same amount to treat the water provided to the County. Councilwoman Roberts stated that it does, but the difference is the County is only paying for transmission and no actual water services. She stated that in town the water is treated and then pumped through all of the town lines to each residence and that the town is responsible for all of those lines as well as the cost of maintenance and repairs is a part of the water services fee. Mr. Reynolds asked why the County doesn't help to pay those fees since they are also using the water. Mrs. Burcham explained that in essence they do pay a portion, but that it is included in their rate. She explained that their rate includes distribution and treatment to two locations as the Town is only responsible for getting their water to the master meter and the County then takes over from there. The county then adds their maintenance and service fees, just like the town has, to their billing. Mr. Reynolds stated that it seems like smoke and mirrors to him and that he doesn't understand why they wouldn't pay the same rate as the citizens in the Town.

Councilman Irvine asked where the master meters are located within the town. Mrs. Burcham advised that there is one on the east and another on the west end of town.

Robert Thomas of 208 Revere Street stated that it seems unfair that the Town is charging the citizens more than they are charging the County. Mrs. Burcham again tried to explain that the County is a transmission only service and expense and that the service provided to customers within the Town includes all water services such as filtration, transmission and distribution, maintenance and the capital improvements for the plant and the lines to every residence within the town and any charges related, plus the debt service the Town is responsible for paying.

Eddie Reynolds stated that the County is a customer too and should be charged the same as anyone else.

Motion to adopt County Water Rate

Motion made by: Councilwoman Roberts

Seconded by: Councilman Irvine

ROLL CALL VOTE

Councilman Irvine Aye
Councilman Umstead Aye
Councilwoman Roberts Aye
Councilwoman Hillert Aye
Councilman Brinkley Aye

Motion passed: 5-0

9. RESOLUTION FOR TRANSFER OF ASSETS

As part of the settlement agreement with the County, it is necessary to transfer the property and assets related to the Wastewater Treatment Plant along with the assumption of the remaining debt from the Town to the County. The required public hearing for disposition of public property was held on July 13, 2010.

RECOMMENDATION: Adopt resolution

LeeAnna Tyler, Finance Director, read the required portion of the resolution.

Mayor Brinkley stated that he is glad to finally see this issue being resolved after so many years.

Motion to adopt resolution

Motion made by: Councilman Irvine

Seconded by: Councilman Umstead

ROLL CALL VOTE

Councilman Irvine Aye
Councilman Umstead Aye
Councilwoman Roberts Aye
Councilwoman Hillert Aye
Councilman Brinkley Aye

Motion passed: 5-0

10. ADOPTION OF WASTEWATER SERVICE AGREEMENT

Successful mediation of the sewer rate charges under the 2007 agreement in March of this year has resulted in a new agreement which allocates costs for debt and operation based on the jurisdiction's actual use of facilities.

RECOMMENDATION: Adopt agreement as written

LeeAnna Tyler, Finance Director, read the resolution.

Diana Kling Smith of 224 Highland Ave. stated that she may be misunderstanding the new agreement, but it states that the Town will pay partial maintenance on the wastewater treatment plant and asked if that is correct. Mrs. Burcham explained that the Town does pay routine maintenance and for the maintenance for the pump station in Clifton Forge that is used exclusively by the Town. Previously, in the old agreement the Town was responsible for a portion of all of the systems in all of the localities covered within the agreement, but with the new agreement, the Town will only be responsible for the portions of the system that it uses.

Eddie Reynolds asked why the County isn't paying for part of the maintenance for the Water Treatment Plant. Mrs. Burcham explained that they are and that it is included within their rate of \$4.03.

Motion to adopt resolution

Motion made by: Councilwoman Roberts

Seconded by: Councilman Irvine

ROLL CALL VOTE

Councilman Irvine	Aye
Councilman Umstead	Aye
Councilwoman Roberts	Aye
Councilwoman Hillert	Aye
Councilman Brinkley	Aye

Motion passed: 5-0

INFORMATION

Summer Meals Program for Kids began on June 6, 2016 and will continue through July 28, 2016 at the Clifton Forge Fire Station from 11:30 AM – 12:30 PM. Meals will be provided to all children 18 years or younger—FREE!

A representative from Congressman Griffith's office will be available in the Armstrong Room at the Library from 10 AM – 12 Noon on Thursday, June 16, 2016 and July 21, 2016.

MANAGER'S COMMENTS

Mrs. Burcham began by mentioning the Pledge of Allegiance that is said at the beginning of every Council meeting. She stated that she had attended the Flag Day Ceremony at the Masonic Amphitheatre prior to the meeting and had the flag that the Girl Scouts were giving out. She stated that it was a very moving ceremony and that a part of the ceremony involved a taped conversation by Red Skelton explaining the importance of the Pledge to children and how nice it is to live in a community where we celebrate Flag Day.

Mrs. Burcham mentioned that the Corridor Curb Appeal Committee held a paint day on June 11 and had 21 volunteers participate. She stated that there were members of the Boy Scouts Troop 2 along with adults and advisors who joined in and helped to paint 3 homes as well as other volunteers. The Troop has already advised that they would like to sign up for the next paint day to be held in October.

Mrs. Burcham stated that she is proud to report that access road to the business park is now included in the VDOT 6 year plan which will provide funding for the project. She stated that she has been advised that all funds are available and the project will be fully funded as long as it is completed in July 2017. She stated that she expects to open up the bidding process in December with work to begin as soon as weather permits in the spring. Once the road is complete, the Town will be able to market the 13 acres of land that it owns to help to boost economic development in the area. This has taken many years to achieve and the project is supported with ARC funds and other state funds.

UPCOMING EVENTS

CLIFON FORGE PUBLIC LIBRARY

ZIKA VIRUS PROGRAM—WEDNESDAY, JUNE 29, 2016, 6 PM

SUMMER READING PROGRAMS—JULY 6, JULY 12, JULY 20, AND JULY 27, 2016, 11 AM – 12 PM

CLIFTON FORGE MAIN STREET

DOWNTOWN MARKET—EACH FRIDAY, THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30, 2016, 8 AM – NOON

STARS AND STRIPES CELEBRATION—MONDAY, JULY 4, 2016

CLIFTON FORGE SCHOOL OF THE ARTS

JAMMIN AT THE MILL—FRIDAY, JUNE 17, 2016, 7 PM

MASONIC AMPHITHEATRE

“STARS”, SPONSORED BY APPALFOLKS—SATURDAY, JUNE 19, 2016, 2-4 PM

GRAN FONDO FINISH LINE PARTY—SATURDAY, JULY 9, 2016, 10 AM –6 PM

PIXAR’S “INSIDE OUT” MOVIE UNDER THE STARS—FRIDAY, JULY 22, 2016, DUSK

“LEGENDS OF THE HIGHLANDS” INCLUDING SILVERBACKS, RALLY CRY, CHAD NICKELL & LOOSE CHANGE—SATURDAY, JULY 23, 2016, 6 PM

OPEN MIC NIGHT—FRIDAY, JULY 29, 2016, 7 PM

MASONIC THEATRE

GRAND REOPENING—JULY 1-3, 2016 (FOR SCHEDULED TO GO HISTORICMASONICTHEATRE.COM)

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Rick LeBleu of 200 Revere Street stated that Council needs to stop spending and tighten up. He stated that this had been a very interesting meeting for him and that in the past it was said that funds could not be moved from one account to another, but he is now under the impression that they can be. He asked why the Town needs the items and projects listed in the Bond Resolution and suggested that the town raise real estate taxes \$.02 to solve the problem with the need to increase utility rates. He asked that they take a hard look and stated that they cannot put it all on the backs of the residents. Mr. LeBleu stated that everyone is willing to pay more on taxes and that the County should be paying the same as the residents on the water rate.

Mrs. Burcham asked Mrs. Tyler to explain how much a \$.02 increase in real estate taxes would bring in as revenue for the Town. Mrs. Tyler advised that a \$.02 increase in real estate taxes would only bring in \$22,000 to the town and reiterated again that the funds are completely separate between real estate which is included in the general fund and the water and sewer funds, and that raising taxes would not increase the balances in either the water or sewer funds.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilman Irvine stated his thanks and blessings to everyone who attended the meeting.

Councilwoman Roberts thanked everyone for coming. She stated that she too had attended the Flag Day Ceremony and that it was very moving and patriotic. She thanked Clifton Forge Main Street and advised that the Stars and Stripes Committee that works on the annual Independence Day Celebration also made this ceremony possible. Mrs. Roberts stated as a person not from this area, it is very heart-warming and means a lot to be able to celebrate the American flag in this community and that she is very proud to live here! She stated that a resident who is a landlord within the Town and had been concerned about the rental inspection program, told her that she has now had one of her properties inspected and is very pleased with the process. She

said items noted on the inspection were very minor and necessary and that she feels this will be a good program.

Councilman Umstead thanked everyone for coming and stated that he appreciates all of the questions being asked. He stated that decisions being made will affect his children, who all wish to move back to the area, and that changes are necessary in order to have a better place for them to return to. He stated that he understands some are angry and appreciates everyone's opinions. Mr. Umstead reiterated Mrs. Tylers comments and advised that raising real estate taxes would not solve the problem.

Vice Mayor Hillert mentioned the Heritage Day event held the past weekend and stated that it was a very diverse event that included things such as tobacco twisting, quilting, and even a docudrama, "A Gift From a Yankee". She stated that attendance was very good and overall there were 1700 who attended with 300 at the Theatre for the docudrama and reception. She stated that there were a lot of families and children and that there were many stories told about the history of the region which were very meaningful. Mrs. Hillert thanked Pam Marshall for the article in the newspaper about the recent Fire Fighter program and training. She said until reading the article, one may not understand just how many hours and days are required, and what a huge commitment each of the volunteers puts in. Mrs. Hillert thanked everyone for coming and stated she appreciates everyone's input.

Mayor Brinkley stated that he is pleased to return and he thanked everyone who has sent cards, well-wishes, and checked on him during his recovery from surgery. He stated that it will be a long recovery. Mr. Brinkley mentioned the Heritage Day event and stated that he was able to come out and spend some time and that it was great. He thanked everyone for coming to the meeting and stated that he appreciated everyone's opinions. Mr. Brinkley stated that Council and the Town's staff work hard to keep the cost of operation as low as possible, but sometimes we have no control over other areas of increase. He stated that as the County raises their taxes, that also affects the Town and that he believes that the County needs to expand their water and sewer service area to incorporate more people to help spread the cost over a larger area.

**CLOSED SESSION – PURSUANT TO SECTION CHAPTER 2.2-3711 A-3
REAL ESTATE**

Motion made by: Councilwoman Roberts

TIME: 8:25 PM

Seconded by: Councilman Irvine

ROLL CALL VOTE

Councilman Irvine Aye
Councilman Umstead Aye
Councilwoman Roberts Aye
Councilwoman Hillert Aye
Councilman Brinkley Aye

Motion passed: 5-0

Motion to return to open session

TIME: 9:10 PM

Motion made by: Councilwoman Roberts

Seconded by: Vice Mayor Hillert

ROLL CALL VOTE

Councilman Irvine Aye
Councilman Umstead Aye
Councilwoman Roberts Aye
Councilwoman Hillert Aye
Councilman Brinkley Aye

Motion passed: 5-0

Motion to certify only indicated items were discussed

Motion made by: Councilman Irvine

Seconded by: Councilman Umstead

