

The Richlands Town Council/Staff held a Budget Work Session Meeting in the Richlands Council Chambers on April 19, 2018 at 7:00pm with the following present:

Mayor:	Jannis White
Town Manager:	Tim Taylor
Town Clerk:	Connie Allen
Council Members:	Rick Wood, Doug Ratliff, Larry Johnson Mary Ann Strong, Rod Cury
Council Member Absent:	Vickie England
Staff Present:	Sue Wade, George West, Gordon Russ, Hobert Lester, Keith Reynolds, Fred Phillips, Kevin Blankenship, Adrienne Cordle, Frank Dorton
Town Attorney:	Brad Ratliff

Mayor White – Called the meeting to order.

Kevin Blankenship gave the invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Town Manager discussed the FY2018-2019 Proposed Budget – (Handed out presentation- attached)

Fire & Rescue- Comments from Keith & Gordon:

- No major change to Budget.
- A total of 19 members.
- Need (2) two part-time people during the day, Monday-Friday.
- We rely on the Rescue Team to help with additional calls, they are cross trained.
- Staff of (4) four people on staff at Fire Department – It takes (3) three people on pumper if we have a fire, creates a problem. We have no resources during the day.
- Need to replace 1998 Pierce Pumper with new truck.
- Sell 1992 Emergency Fire Pumper for approx. \$25,000 after we get new truck.
- New truck will cost approx. \$700,000. We need a plan in place to buy the new truck in the next (2) two years or we will lose our rating. It takes 12 months to mfg. the truck. Payments will start in the 3rd year. We can cover payments for the 3rd year after that the Town will be responsible.
- Total of 10 vehicles - Always needing maintenance to be ready for next call.
- Would like to start a Transport business with the hospital. This would help create revenue to get what we need for the department. Will have a Plan together by July 2018.
- Suggestion to start Bingo and build up funds. Brad will look into the regulations to start Bingo.

Police Department:

- Increase in budget is due to salary increase. We have already discussed the salary increase for employees.

Finance Office & Economic Development:

- Position of Downtown Coordinator in Budget – Salary will not be funded thru taxes but water and sewage.
- Comprehensive Plan – Page 44 - Strategy #4 – Recommend to go forward
- Adrienne Cordle will take the position of Sue Wade. Sue will be retiring next Friday. We have restructured the office in order to utilize everyone’s talents.
- Nothing else in the budget has changed.

Recreation Park:

- Taking a different approach on Concession, we had deficiencies in that area. Hope to bring in \$30,000 of revenue from Concession, \$5000 from Basketball fees and \$50,000 from Tournaments and Events.
- Maryann - Membership - Want to wait until more improvements are complete before they offer membership. Hope to start membership within a year.
- Maryann - Working on Strategic Plan. Will ask county for money when plan is complete.
- Maryann - Events/Tournaments are planned each month to bring in revenue.
- Doug proposed to cut budget to \$300,000, make the difference up in revenue from events/tournaments/concession. Rec Director should control all the money that comes into the Rec Center.
- Rec Department always under budget.
- Revenue suffered during renovations.
- George Brown may have playground equipment for Lake Park.

Mayor White – Brad do you have any information on delinquent taxes?

Brad - We are currently collecting but not sure of the amount.

Adrienne – According to the general ledger the amount is \$99,434. I compared total with Amanda.

Tim - Brad, do you have information on the “Referendum”?

Brad - I have a memorandum for Referendum of possibility of introducing a “liquor by the drink” to give to you tonight. (Passed out memorandum and discussed)

Mayor White - Brad did you find out any information on naming the street/bridge after Mr. Fields?

Brad - I am not sure if the bridge is a State bridge or Town bridge. I will have to approach VDOT to get approval.

Tim - It is a Town bridge but a State road.

Rod - Vickie has a good idea but will let her present when she gets back.

Mary Ann - I would like to go into "Closed Session" to discuss personnel.

Brad - Section 2.2.3711-(a) (1) Personnel

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 come back into "Open Session".

Rick- I make a motion to come back into "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)- Personnel - Mary Ann – Yes, Rod- Yes, Doug-Yes, Rick-Yes, Larry- Yes.

Mayor White - We will have an Emergency Called Meeting on April 24 at 7:00pm.

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

Rod- I make a motion to adjourn, Rick second 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.

Adjourned

Jannis White, Mayor

Connie Allen, Town Clerk