Chairman, Charles Stacy called the regular meeting to order and presided, with all members in attendance.

The Chairman welcomed those in attendance and citizens who were participating by conference call. Citizens were able to call in and participate in the meeting by calling (425) 436-6388 and entering the access code 836650.

Supervisor Asbury gave the invocation followed by The Pledge of Allegiance to the United States led by Supervisor Hymes.

Chairman Stacy commented about the fatigue and stress that our country was going through in recent weeks. He remarked that the stress was manifesting itself in a lot of different ways and he found himself wondering if the governing body of Tazewell County was ever going to be able to dig out of the situation financially and for the wellbeing of its citizens. The Chairman spoke about the Spanish Flu Pandemic of 1918 and the stress that Tazewell County government officials and citizens must have endured. He briefly read a few excerpts from the Clinch Valley News dated October 1918. He reiterated that county officials have went through similar times 102 years ago which were followed by even worse economic situations but still figured out a way for Tazewell County to grow and prosper. The Chairman discussed the challenges but has faith that the current Board will be able to manage and continue moving forward.

AGENDA APPROVED AS AMENDED

Upon motion of Supervisor Lester, seconded by Supervisor Asbury and adopted by a vote of 5 to 0, with all members present and voting in favor thereof and no one against the same, the Tazewell County Board of Supervisors hereby approves the June 2, 2020 agenda as amended.
MINUTES APPROVED AS WRITTEN

Upon motion of Supervisor Hymes, seconded by Supervisor Lester and adopted by a vote of 5 to 0, with all members present and voting in favor thereof and no one against the same, the Tazewell County Board of Supervisors hereby approves the May 5, 2020 Tazewell County Board of Supervisors meeting minutes as written.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Upon motion of Supervisor Hymes, seconded by Supervisor Hackworth and adopted by a vote of 5 to 0, with all members present and voting in favor thereof and no one against the same, the Tazewell County Board of Supervisors hereby approves the following items presented as “Consent Calendar”. The matters requiring the issuance of warrants shall be issued by the County Administrator in accordance with this action and converted to negotiable checks by the Treasurer of Tazewell County, Virginia:

WARRANTS
May 2020

Payroll

Ordered that Warrant Nos. 144800 through 144821, and direct deposits totaling $239,437.82 from the General, covering payroll for the various County agencies, for the period ending April 30, 2020, be approved.

Ordered that Warrant Nos. 144823 through 144844, and direct deposits totaling $242,957.26 from the General Fund, covering payroll for the various County agencies, for the period ending May 15, 2020, be approved.

Accounts Payable/Payroll Deductions

Ordered that Warrant Nos. 489805 through 489907, and electronic transfers (ACH) totaling $377,858.29 from the General, Landfill Enterprise, Capital Outlay, and Law Library, covering operating expenses for the various County agencies issued April 28, 2020, be approved.

Ordered that Warrant Nos. 489832 through 489901, for $125,296.67 from the General, covering payroll deductions for the various County agencies for the period ending April 28, 2020, be approved.

Ordered that Warrant Nos. 489909, for $192,822.43 from the General, covering payroll deductions for the various County agencies for the period ending April 30, 2020, be approved.

Ordered that Warrant Nos. 489911 through 489994, and electronic transfers (ACH) totaling $400,555.21 from the General, Landfill Enterprise, Capital Outlay and Law Library Funds, covering operating expenses for the various County agencies issued May 12, 2020, be approved.

Ordered that Warrant Nos. 489996 through 490008, for $127,922.83 from the General Fund, covering payroll deductions for the various County agencies for the period ending May 15, 2020, be approved.
Handwritten

Ordered that Warrant No. 802089 through 802091 for $43,500.00 from the General, Landfill Enterprise, Capital Outlay, and Law Library, covering operating expenses for the month of April 2020, be approved.

Sheriff’s Department – Transferred the following amounts from the Contingent Expenditures and Grant Account No. 91050-7041 to the Sheriff Department Accounts as follows:

- $1,030.00 to Acct. 31020-5520 ($1,000 received from Patricia D. Moore and $30.00 received from Joseph and Barbara Smeltzer for the golf fundraiser)
- $1,094.57 to Acct. 31020-1150 (received from Cumberland Mountain Community Services)
- $1,006.04 to Acct. 31020-6009 (received from VACORP for 2016 Ford Taurus accident VIN#8357)
- $1,040.00 to Acct. 31020-5520 ($1,000.00 received from Joe Calo, Jr. and $40.00 received in cash)
- Approved selling 2001 Dodge Ram 2500 VIN#3B6KC26251M271396

- Approved FY20 OPEB Evaluation Report

KENNETH DUNFORD – DIRECTOR OF ENGINEERING

The Director of Engineering reported that they have finished the first stage of the Clearfork Flood Study and are continuing to work on it.

Mr. Dunford announced that the Thompson Valley transfer station had started opening on Wednesdays as of May 28, 2020.

He further reported that: he was addressing comments on the Waste Water Management Plan; looking at a source reduction plan that may help the county on its recycling; working with attorney’s office regarding right-of-ways on Clinic Road; Smart Scale project pre-applications have been approved and they are currently working on the full application that is due on August 3, 2020; and working on groundwater monitoring proposals. Mr. Dunford commented that Supervisors Stacy and Hackworth were on the committee to review the proposals.

APPROVED CLOSURE AND VDOT’S DETOUR PLAN OF FINCASTLE FARMS ROAD BRIDGE DURING CONSTRUCTION

Mr. Dunford stated that VDOT was currently working on advertising for the bridge on Fincastle Farms Road. The bridge will be closed with detours made available during construction, which is planned to start in late fall and end in early spring. Mr. Dunford directed the Board to review the detour plan in their agenda packets. VDOT requested the Board’s vote as
an acknowledgement of the anticipated closure, detours, and construction of the bridge located on Fincastle Farms Road.

Upon motion of Supervisor Hackworth, seconded by Supervisor Hymes and adopted by a vote of 5 to 0, with all members present and voting in favor thereof and no one against the same, the Tazewell County Board of Supervisors hereby approve the anticipated bridge closure on Fincastle Farms Road and detours which will be necessary during bridge construction. A copy of VDOT’s Detour plan is on file in the County Administration Building, 197 Main Street, Tazewell, Virginia 24651.

APPROVED CLOSURE OF ADAMS DRIVE BRIDGE DURING CONSTRUCTION

Mr. Dunford discussed another bridge closure for construction on Adams Drive located in the Falls Mills section of Tazewell County. The old single lane bridge is in near proximity of AASC’s Adult Daycare project. At the time of the meeting Mr. Dunford hadn’t received VDOT’s Detour Plan, so he laid out the detour route and placed it on the Tax Maps providing the Board with a clearer picture of the anticipated closure and rerouting. VDOT requested the Board’s vote as an acknowledgement of the anticipated closure, detours, and construction of the bridge located on Adams Drive.

Upon motion of Supervisor Asbury, seconded by Supervisor Hackworth and adopted by a vote of 5 to 0, with all members present and voting in favor thereof and no one against the same, the Tazewell County Board of Supervisors hereby approve the anticipated bridge closure on Adams Drive and detours which will be necessary during bridge construction.

Supervisor Hackworth asked Mr. Dunford to look into what it would take to repair the bridge in Wardell near Sage Hill. Supervisor Lester questioned Mr. Dunford about Town Hollow Road. Mr. Dunford responded that it was on the paving schedule for this year.

AWARDED PAVING CONTRACTS TO AAA PAVING AND DOMINION PAVING

Mr. Dunford announced to the Board that the paving bids were in and directed them to review over the tabulation sheet included in their packets. There were three bidders and the two companies that were found to be the low bidders were AAA Paving and Dominion Paving. Mr. Dunford asked the Board to approve the contracts and commented that he expected paving to be completed by August. The bids from all bidders were listed in the agenda packet.

Upon motion of Supervisor Lester, seconded by Supervisor Hackworth and adopted by a vote of 5 to 0, with all members present and voting in favor thereof and no one against the same, the Tazewell County Board of Supervisors hereby find AAA Paving and Dominion Paving to be the low bidders on the lots indicated in the agenda packet and approve paving contracts with AAA Paving and Dominion Paving for such respective lots. A copy of the bids and the paving
contracts are on file in the County Administration Building, 197 Main Street, Tazewell, Virginia 24651.

Mr. Dunford reported that a stop sign was installed on Goose Creek; bridge inspections are in progress; and that the Planning Commission is currently working on the Comprehensive Plan.

Mr. Dunford asked Supervisor Lester dates he would be available to meet with VDOT regarding Indian Paint Road.

AUTHORIZED SANTEK TO WORK WITH GOLDER GROUP FOR PART B DESIGN OF LANDFILL

The County Administrator stated that the county was in the process of designing the next phase of the landfill. Mr. Young explained that the design has been in two parts; Part A and Part B. Thompson & Litton designed Part A and expected to be completed soon. On Part B the county's contract with Santek already included this work. He explained that Santek sub contracts to various firms and then the County pays those firms plus a markup for Santek for the management of the project. Santek has presented the county quotes from their subcontractors to finish Part B of the design and recommended that the county authorize them to accept the bid proposal from Golder Group. Golder Group quoted an estimated $114,000.00 to do the work, which is the lowest of the three bids. Mr. Young requested the Board’s approval for Santek to work with Golder Group. A copy of the three bids is on file in the County Administrator's Office.

Upon motion of Supervisor Lester, seconded by Supervisor Asbury and adopted by a vote of 5 to 0, with all members present and voting in favor thereof and no one against the same, the Tazewell County Board of Supervisors hereby authorizes Santek to work with Golder Group for the design of Part B at the landfill.

ROBERTS RULES OF ORDER SUSPENDED

Upon motion of Supervisor Hackworth, seconded by Supervisor Hymes and adopted by a vote of 5 to 0, with all members present and voting in favor thereof and no one against the same, the Tazewell County Board of Supervisors hereby suspend Roberts Rules of Order for the purpose of rearranging the June 2, 2020 agenda format as needed.

RICHLANDS RECREATION COMMITTEE FUNDING REQUEST

Supervisor Hackworth welcomed Jeff Hurst and Fred Phillips of the Richlands Recreation Committee. Mr. Hurst stated that Mr. Young and Mary Ann Strong met and discussed the committees concerns for Richlands recreation and its parks regarding the economic
struggle they have in providing services to the residents of Richlands. He briefed over the letter that the committee had sent the Board the week before. In summary, the committee asked for monetary help and the possibility of becoming a line item in the County’s budget.

Supervisor Hackworth responded that the budget committee reviewed their request. His concern was that he gave $10,000.00 out of his district funds last year to the Town of Richlands to fund some of those and other recreational parks and facilities in the County are struggling as well. Supervisor Hackworth explained that as things currently stand, the Board wouldn’t be able to grant their request. He stated if they found loose funds then they would reconsider helping their districts with rec parks.

EXECUTIVE/CLOSED MEETING – 4:43 P.M.

Upon motion of Supervisor Hymes, seconded by Supervisor Lester and adopted by a vote of 5 to 0, with all members present and voting in favor thereof and no one against the same, the Tazewell County Board of Supervisors hereby enters into an Executive/Closed meeting, pursuant to Virginia Code Section 2.2-3711:

- A(5) Discussion of Potential Business Regarding Project Jonah
- A(7) Legal Consultation/Briefing – Tazewell County Opioid Litigation
- A(29) Contract Negotiations Regarding Justice Easement
- A(29) Contract Negotiations Regarding Courthouse HVAC
- A(29) Richlands EMS Contract Negotiations
- A(29) Tazewell EMS Contract Negotiations
- A(29) Bluefield Fire Contract Negotiations

RETURN/CERTIFICATION/REPORT OF ACTION – 5:51 P.M.

CERTIFICATION OF
EXECUTIVE/CLOSED MEETING
TAZEWELL COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

WHEREAS, the Tazewell County Board of Supervisors has convened an executive/closed meeting on this date pursuant to an affirmative vote and in accordance with The Virginia Freedom of Information Act; and

WHEREAS, 2.2-3711 of the Code of Virginia requires a certification by the Board of Supervisors that such executive/closed meeting was conducted in conformity with Virginia law;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Tazewell County Board of Supervisors hereby certifies that, to the best of each member’s knowledge, (i) that only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements by Virginia law were
discussed in the executive/closed meeting to which this certification resolution applies, and (ii) only such public business matters as were identified in the motion convening the closed meeting were heard, discussed or considered by the Tazewell County Board of Supervisors. The Chairman called for a roll call vote with the following vote hereby recorded.

The Chair called for a roll call Vote on the Certification:

Ayes: All Five (5)
Nays: None (0)
Absent: None (0)
Absent during vote: None (0)
Report of Action: Two (2)

APPROVED TOWN OF TAZEWELL EMS AGREEMENT

Upon motion of Supervisor Hymes, seconded by Supervisor Asbury and adopted by a vote of 5 to 0, with all members present and voting in favor thereof and no one against the same, the Tazewell County Board of Supervisors hereby approve the Agreement for Emergency Medical Services with the Town of Tazewell in substantially the form presented to the Board, subject to legal review. A copy of the Agreement is on file in the County Administration Building, 197 Main Street, Tazewell, Virginia 24651.

APPROVED TOWN OF RICHLANDS EMS AGREEMENT

Upon motion of Supervisor Hackworth, seconded by Supervisor Lester and adopted by a vote of 5 to 0, with all members present and voting in favor thereof and no one against the same, the Tazewell County Board of Supervisors hereby approve the Agreement for Emergency Medical Services with the Town of Richlands in substantially the form presented to the Board, subject to legal review. A copy of the Agreement is on file in the County Administration Building, 197 Main Street, Tazewell, Virginia 24651.

CITIZEN COMMENTS SCHEDULED

1. Michelle Waller, Attorney from Christian Law Firm – called in to thank the Board for sending Mr. Lawrence Bender’s vacation request to the Planning Commission. She questioned if the interior lot had been consolidated and vacated completely as one full lot and tax map number. Mr. Collins responded that yes, the Planning Commission unanimously approved a motion in two respects: one, the vacation of the right-of-way of Point Drive for the portion noted on Jim Ribble’s plat and two, approved the alternative to vacate the plat because to Mr. Collins understanding there may be issues regarding USDA funding and requirements. Ms. Waller responded that she believed it was in the best interest to vacate the plat entirely and go forward with his land vacation.
Upon motion of Supervisor Lester, seconded by Supervisor Hackworth and adopted by a vote of 5 to 0, with all members present and voting in favor thereof and no one against the same, the Tazewell County Board of Supervisors hereby authorizes that the Lawrence Bender plat be vacated as to the property that Mr. Bender owns along Point Drive and the alternative that Point Drive be vacated for the distance as shown on the plat presented to the Board of Supervisors.

APPPOINTMENTS

ENTERPRISE ZONE COMMITTEE

Upon motion of Supervisor Hymes, seconded by Supervisor Hackworth and adopted by a vote of 5 to 0, with all members present voting in favor thereof and no one against the same, the Tazewell County Board of Supervisors hereby reappoints Maggie Asbury, PO Box 244, Boissevain, VA 24606; Tom Lester, 194 E. Hillcrest, Cedar Bluff, VA 24609; Glenn Catron, 132 Crockett Drive, Tazewell, VA 24651; Curtis Breeding, PO Box 494, Richlands, VA 24641; Ann Robinson, PO Box 11, Falls Mills, VA 24613; and Mike Watson, 112 Huffard Drive, Bluefield, VA 24605 as members of the Enterprise Zone Committee, with a term continuing and expiring June 30, 2021 (one (1) year term).

FIRE-RESCUE, INC BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Upon motion of Supervisor Hymes, seconded by Supervisor Hackworth and adopted by a vote of 5 to 0, with all members present voting in favor thereof and no one against the same, the Tazewell County Board of Supervisors hereby reappoints Fred Harman, PO Box 523, Tazewell, VA 24651 as a member of the Fire-Rescue, Inc Board of Directors, with a term continuing and expiring on June 30, 2022 (two (2) year term).

INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (IDA)

Upon motion of Supervisor Lester, seconded by Supervisor Hymes and adopted by a vote of 5 to 0, with all members present voting in favor thereof and no one against the same, the Tazewell County Board of Supervisors hereby reappoints Curtis Breeding, PO Box 494, Richlands, VA 24641 and Ann Robinson, PO Box 11, Falls Mills, VA 24613 as members of the IDA, with a term continuing and expiring on June 30, 2024 (four (4) year term).

PLANNING COMMISSION

Upon motion of Chairman Stacy, seconded by Supervisor Hymes and adopted by a vote of 5 to 0, with all members present voting in favor thereof and no one against the same, the Tazewell County Board of Supervisors hereby reappoints Eddie Pauley, 37615 Governor G.C. Peery Highway, Bluefield, VA 24605 as a member of the Planning Commission, with a term continuing and expiring on June 30, 2024 (four (4) year term).
RECREATION AND PARKS FACILITY AUTHORITY (RDA)

Upon motion of Supervisor Lester, seconded by Supervisor Hackworth and adopted by a vote of 5 to 0, with all members present voting in favor thereof and no one against the same, the Tazewell County Board of Supervisors hereby reappoints Curt Breeding, PO Box 494, Richlands, VA 24641 as a member of the RDA, with a term continuing and expiring on June 30, 2023 (three (3) year term).

SOUTHWEST REGIONAL RECREATION AUTHORITY (SRRA)

Upon motion of Supervisor Asbury, seconded by Supervisor Hackworth and adopted by a vote of 5 to 0, with all members present voting in favor thereof and no one against the same, the Tazewell County Board of Supervisors hereby reappoints Rick Wood, 945 Birmingham Road, Cedar Bluff, VA 24609 as a member of SRRA, with a term continuing and expiring June 30, 2023 (three (3) year term).

TALL STRUCTURES APPEALS BOARD

Upon motion of Chairman Stacy, seconded by Supervisor Hymes and adopted by a vote of 5 to 0, with all members present voting in favor thereof and no one against the same, the Tazewell County Board of Supervisors hereby reappoints Joyce Johnston, 619 Fairway Drive, Bluefield, VA 24605 as a member of the Tall Structures Appeals Board, with a term continuing and expiring June 30, 2025 (five (5) year term).

ROAD VIEWERS

Upon motion of Supervisor Hymes, seconded by Supervisor Lester and adopted by a vote of 5 to 0, with all members present voting in favor thereof and no one against the same, the Tazewell County Board of Supervisors hereby reappoints Russell Stowers, 6949 Clearfork Road, Bastian, VA 24314; Scott Rasnick, 1498 Mundy Town Road, North Tazewell, VA 24630; Curtis Gillespie, 2013 Kimball Avenue, Bluefield, VA 24605; Clyde Sparks, 3850 Indian Creek Road, Cedar Bluff, VA 24609; and Allen Whited, 224 Birch Street, Raven, VA as members of the Road Viewers, with a term continuing and expiring June 30, 2021 (one (1) year term).

TOURISM DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Chairman Stacy tabled his appointment to find a replacement for Michael Brown who did not wish to be reappointed.

Upon motion of Supervisor Hymes, seconded by Supervisor Hackworth and adopted by a vote of 5 to 0, with all members present voting in favor thereof and no one against the same, the Tazewell County Board of Supervisors hereby reappoints Dr. Terry Mullins, 131 Henry Street, North Tazewell, VA 24630; Ginger McCoy Cates, 156 Wood Smoke Way, Pocahontas, VA 24635; and Rick Barton, PO Box 665, Pounding Mill, VA 24637 as members of the Tourism Development Committee, with a term continuing and expiring June 30, 2022 (two (2) year term).

Supervisor Hackworth tabled his appointment to find a replacement for Adrienne Cordle who did not wish to be reappointed.
TRANSPORTATION SAFETY COMMISSION

Upon motion of Supervisor Hackworth, seconded by Supervisor Hymes and adopted by a vote of 5 to 0, with all members present voting in favor thereof and no one against the same, the Tazewell County Board of Supervisors hereby reappoints Brian Hieatt, 569 Peery Addition Road, Tazewell, VA 24651 and Allen Whited, 224 Birch Street, Raven, VA 24639 as members of the Transportation Safety Commission, with a term continuing and expiring on June 30, 2023 (three (3) year term).

WIRELESS SERVICE AUTHORITY (WSA)

The Board had a lengthy discussion about the WSA and their frustrations that projects weren’t moving fast enough. They discussed the maintenance contract they have with Mike Clemons of GigaBeam to manage Tannersville’s internet system and customers. Mr. Collins commented that Mr. Clemons has taken a lot of effort to ease some of the concerns the Tannersville community has had in the past. The Board discussed Thompson Valley and concerns as to whether the internet project was ever going to come to fruition. Mr. Young commented that they had been awarded a Tobacco Commission grant to help with this project. Mr. Collins stated they were awarded the grant in July 2019. The Board suggested inviting Mr. Clemons to the next Board meeting.

The Board tabled their reappointments for Mike Watson and Sam Kinder until the next meeting.

APPALACHAIN AGENCY FOR SENIOR CITIZENS (AASC)

Upon motion of Supervisor Lester, seconded by Supervisor Hymes and adopted by a vote of 5 to 0, with all members present voting in favor thereof and no one against the same, the Tazewell County Board of Supervisors hereby reappoints Ginger Branton, PO Box 436, Richlands, VA 24641; Ralph Mullins, 161 Valley Drive, Richlands, VA 24641; Irma Mitchell, 166 Scranton Avenue, North Tazewell, VA 24630; and Janet Gunn, 605 Robin Street, Bluefield, VA 24605 as members of the AASC, with a term continuing and expiring on June 30, 2022 (two (2) year term).

CLINCH VALLEY COMMUNITY ACTION AGENCY (CVCA)

Upon motion of Supervisor Hackworth, seconded by Supervisor Hymes and adopted by a vote of 5 to 0, with all members present voting in favor thereof and no one against the same, the Tazewell County Board of Supervisors hereby reappoints Chris Plaster, 106 Suffolk Avenue, Richlands, VA 24641; Adrianna Culbertson, PO Box 623, Richlands, VA 24641; David Anderson, 2013 Kimball Avenue, Bluefield, VA 24605; David Larimer, 600 Six Farm Road, Tazewell, VA 24651; and Jim Boyd, PO Box 54, Richlands, VA 24641 as members of the CVCA, with a term continuing and expiring on June 30, 2021 (one (1) year term).
LOCAL BOARD OF BUILDING APPEALS

These appointments had been tabled since the May 5, 2020 Board of Supervisors meeting.

Upon motion of Supervisor Lester, seconded by Supervisor Hymes and adopted by a vote of 5 to 0, with all members present voting in favor thereof and no one against the same, the Tazewell County Board of Supervisors hereby reappoints Clifton Forrester, 3208 Gratton Road, Tazewell, VA 24651; Rajeev Chopra, 702 Summitt Street, Bluefield, VA 24605; JR Absher, PO Box 190, Cedar Bluff, VA 24609; Andy Cecil, PO Box 107, Tazewell, VA 24651; Ronnie Gillespie, 574 Laurel-Wood Acres Road, Cedar Bluff, VA 24609; Jonathan Roberts, PO Box 584, Richlands, VA 24641; and appoints Dick Landreth (replaces Supervisor Hackworth), 628 Glenbrook Road, Falls Mills, VA 24613, as members of the Local Board of Building Appeals, with a term continuing and expiring on May 31, 2023 (three (3) year term).

REDISTRICTING COMMITTEE – CENSUS 2020

Upon motion of Supervisor Hackworth, seconded by Supervisor Hymes and adopted by a vote of 5 to 0, with all members present and voting in favor thereof and no one against the same, the Tazewell County Board of Supervisors hereby appoints Seth White, PO Box 520, Richlands, VA 24641; Dick Landreth, 628 Glenbrook Road, Falls Mills, VA 24613; and Steve Davis, 209 Tin Can Alley, Cedar Bluff, VA 24609 as members of the Redistricting Committee, with terms commencing on August 1, 2020 and expiring December 31, 2021.

Chairman Stacy tabled his appointment for the Redistricting Committee.

TABLED CONSIDERATION OF USING 2019 BOND FUNDS TO PATCH ROOF ON COURTHOUSE UP TO $15,000.00

Mr. Young stated they had an estimate for $12,600.00 to patch a roof leak at the courthouse. He explained that the county had budgeted monies in the bond issuance to possibly replace the entire roof. The bid came in too high so the county struck replacing the roof from the budget but the courthouse is having leaks. Mr. Young stated he would like to use a portion of the bond funds to patch the roof and have authorization to spend up to $15,000.00 on the project.

The Board discussed their options. Supervisor Hackworth stated he would like to have Dave White get bids on replacing the whole roof and going ahead and just getting it done instead of patching. Mr. Young commented that he agreed explaining that the HVAC pricing came in higher than expected and that’s why they didn’t do the roof.

The Board tabled this matter until a later date.
TABLED CONSIDERATION OF RENTING FULLER PEERY BUILDING

Mr. Young said that he has had inquiries as to when the county can start renting buildings at the fairground again. He explained that he had canceled renting availability in March per executive orders due to the pandemic. Currently the Fuller Peery building is slated off as a potential emergency relocation site for government offices if a COVID outbreak were to happen in one of the county buildings. Mr. Young recommended extending his decision not to rent the fairground buildings until at least the end of June. The Board tabled this matter until the late June meeting.

DHCD GRANT FOR COVID RECOVERY

The County Administrator mentioned receiving a tremendous amount of grant opportunities through email that the county may or may not be eligible for. He explained that since the Tourism Department had been shut down by COVID he had asked Mrs. Robinson to keep track of grant opportunities. One of them is a DHCD grant for approximately $500,000.00 to $800,000.00 that the county can apply for to help businesses recover. Mr. Young requested that the Board approve filing a letter of intent with DHCD stating that the county would apply for the grant. He explained that the letter of intent requires stating partners who would be participating with the county as well as how the county would administer the grant. He mentioned having conversations with the towns and understands that the Chamber of Commerce is interested in administering those grants for the County or the towns. The details have not been fully worked out yet. Mr. Young mentioned that the partners would maybe include CVCA and Chamber of Commerce.

Upon motion of Supervisor Hymes, seconded by Supervisor Lester and adopted by a vote of 5 to 0, with all members present and voting in favor thereof and no one against the same, the Tazewell County Board of Supervisors hereby authorize a letter of intent be sent to DHCD stating that Tazewell County intends to apply for the COVID recovery grant.

Regina Sayers with AASC stated that she had also received this email and contacted several people to discuss the opportunity. Ms. Sayers mentioned contacting Matt Weaver by email and notifying him of the opportunity, then contacting their grant writer to do a letter of intent from the towns, and Billie Roberts sent out a survey to help with the process. She stated that they felt that having the Chamber and working with small business and helping the county to apply for this would prevent any conflict of interests. Ms. Sayers mentioned speaking with Mrs. Robinson and commented that the Chamber doesn’t have any other financial interest other than the administration of the operational support for it because they are not eligible for anything. She stated she sent the work to Mr. Young for his review and approval.
PUBLIC HEARING – PROPOSED ORDINANCE TO INCREASE COURTHOUSE SECURITY FEES

The Chairman called to order a public hearing that was duly advertised according to law regarding AN ORDINANCE TO INCREASE COURTHOUSE SECURITY FEES AS AUTHORIZED BY SECTION 53.1-120(D) OF THE CODE OF VIRGINIA (1950), AS AMENDED.

Now, the Chairman called for public comments from the floor three times with regard to the public hearing. There being no comments he declared the public hearing closed.

Supervisor Hymes commented that the money goes towards funding courthouse security through the Sheriff’s Office.

Upon motion of Supervisor Hymes, seconded by Supervisor Hackworth and adopted by a vote of 5 to 0, with all members present and voting in favor thereof and no one against the same, the Tazewell County Board of Supervisors hereby adopt AN ORDINANCE TO INCREASE COURTHOUSE SECURITY FEES AS AUTHORIZED BY SECTION 53.1-120(D) OF THE CODE OF VIRGINIA (1950), AS AMENDED. A copy of the Ordinance can be found on file in the County Administration Building, 197 Main Street, Tazewell, Virginia 24651.

PHIPPS VACATION OF NORTH STREET/FIRST STREET

Mr. Collins reported that on May 14th the Planning Commission unanimously approved the Phipps request to vacate North Street and First Street, as had been shown on the plat presented to them and the Supervisors. The streets are located in the Northern District.

Upon motion of Supervisor Asbury, seconded by Supervisor Lester and adopted by a vote of 5 to 0, with all members present and voting in favor thereof and no one against the same, the Tazewell County Board of Supervisors hereby authorizes the Phipps request to vacate North Street and First Street for the distance as shown on the plat presented to the Board of Supervisors.

COVID-19 UPDATE

The County Administrator reported that there had been three (3) confirmed COVID-19 cases in the county since the last Board meeting. All three of the cases are from people at the same address. Two of them that tested positive weren’t showing any symptoms of the virus and had only gotten tested because of the one family member who was symptomatic. Mr. Young commented that it makes the virus more difficult to track and that it can be easily spread without knowing you even have it. VDH has begun testing around the county and are testing high density populations first because that’s where they want to guard against outbreaks the most. They are currently testing Crescent View, Oxford Square, and Tazewell Square apartments. He announced that there would also be drive thru testing sites in the county. Mr. Young commented that there
have been negative results on all of those tests so far which means if there are no positives they will begin to test less.

He mentioned that Buchanan County passed a resolution in May asking the Governor to open SWVA more rapidly than the rest of the State.

Mr. Young reported that the IDA rolled out $100,000.00 in loans within the last month to small businesses. Mr. Collins reported that there were twenty four applicants who were awarded funding. With a majority of them receiving $4,200.00 and two applicants who requested $5,000.00 and were funded fully.

The County Administrator announced that the Commonwealth awarded the County $3.5 million for COVID funds. Mr. Young explained that these funds were given to the states and the State of Virginia received $3.2 billion and they allocated a portion of that money to us based on population. He made clear that these funds could not be used to replace revenue loses and was notified multiple times by the US Attorney’s Office that these funds could not make up for shortfalls within our local government. He explained that the funds could be used for:

1. To prepare as though the County was going to have a COVID outbreak. Mr. Young commented that the virus has been expected to return in the winter.

2. To reimburse ourselves for the County’s direct COVID costs we have had. He explained that this was not only for the county but for the towns as well and that they were allowed to apply it. Mr. Young discussed speaking with Dr. Stacy and he believes there is a separate fund for schools.

3. Creating grant programs for businesses with this money to help them cover expenses related to COVID. For example restaurants have to buy gloves for their wait staff or barber shops have to buy masks. Hand sanitizers, hydrogen peroxide cleaners, and fumigation machines would also fall in this category.

CONSIDERATION OF COVID RELATED COMMITTEES - COVID PREPAREDNESS; COVID RECOVERY; CARES ACT BUDGET; COVID BUSINESS RECOVERY

Mr. Young asked the Board to consider creating a few committees regarding COVID.

COVID PREPAREDNESS COMMITTEE

Mr. Young recommended that four to five people be appointed to serve on the COVID Preparedness Committee. He has already reached out to Dr. Peter Mulkey with Clinch Valley Hospital as well as Ms. Alicia Bales from Tazewell Carilion Hospital, who both agreed to serve on the committee. Mr. Young suggested also putting Dave White, Barry Brooks, and each of the town managers on the committee.
COVID RECOVERY COMMITTEE

For the COVID Recovery Committee, Mr. Young had appointing businessmen or bankers in mind, someone who could advise them on what kind of grants would be best to get businesses to help and recover from incurring costs.

The County Administrator said that the County was about to reimburse itself and was in the process of calculating direct COVID costs. He stated the amount was approximately $100,000.00 the last time but it would be going up from that to an estimated $120,000.00. Mr. Young explained the costs saying they have bought sneeze guards for the Treasurer’s office and Library and had also received their fumigation machines along with the hydro peroxide that goes in them. He commented that the machine is cheap but the spray is not. Mr. Young said they will use the fumigation machines in places that are known to have an outbreak and until then possibly the courtrooms.

Mr. Young mentioned speaking with Steve Clear from the jail. Mr. Clear is expected to come up with a number of what he thinks it will cost and then the County will allocate that according to however we allocate costs each year we get a cost allocation, stating that it would be about seventeen percent (17%) this year. Mr. Young said that they had already received a request from Bluefield College and that they will have a lot of expenses with sanitizing stations etc. He commented that the machine is cheap but the spray is not. Mr. Young said they will use the fumigation machines in places that are known to have an outbreak and until then possibly the courtrooms.

Supervisor Lester asked Ms. Sayers what they were doing in terms of transportation regarding COVID. Ms. Sayers responded that they received additional funding and with it they installed sneeze guards and shields for their drivers’ protection. She commented that they were also incurring additional costs for masks. Ms. Sayers said that they have been working with the Appalachian College of Pharmacy to get hand sanitizer and buy as much locally as they can to put more money back into our community and local counties.

The Board stated they would like to put Ms. Sayers on the COVID Preparedness Committee. Mr. Young said he would also like to include Sheriff Hieatt on the committee, stating that law enforcement has the potentiality to be large consumers of PPE because everyone they come in contact with they would have to put a mask on them before talking with them.

Supervisor Lester commented that Dr. Stacy should probably be on the committee as well. Dr. Stacy responded that he would be willing to serve if needed. He stated that they just purchased 6,000 masks, with plans to give each employee three masks each. Dr. Stacy explained that each mask is good for seventy five rewashing and should last the entire school year.

The Board is expected to make their appointments at the next meeting.

PUBLIC HEARING – PROPOSED ORDINANCE TO ELIMINATE THE DISPLAY OF THE TAG OR STICKER REQUIRED BY THE TAZEWELL COUNTY LOCAL VEHICLE LICENSE

6:53 PM – 6:55 PM
The Chairman called to order a public hearing that was duly advertised according to law regarding AN ORDINANCE TO ELIMINATE THE DISPLAY OF THE TAG OR STICKER REQUIRED BY THE TAZEWELL COUNTY LOCAL VEHICLE LICENSE.

Now, the Chairman called for public comments from the floor three times with regard to the public hearing. There being no comments he declared the public hearing closed.

County Attorney, Chase Collins, informed the Board that according to Section 46.2-752 in the Code of Virginia a physical license decal was not a requirement. He explained that at one time the decal was needed in Tazewell County because it assisted the landfill (when it was county ran) in knowing that county residents were the only ones utilizing the facility. As the landfill has been taken over and privatized by Santek there isn’t a need for the decal any longer.

Mr. Collins mentioned speaking with Treasurer David Larimer, who discussed with him that eliminating the decal could save his department approximately $3,000.00-$6,000.00 per year in printing costs. Mr. Collins commented that this could go a long way towards his office expenses in years where the budget is tight.

Upon motion of Supervisor Hymes, seconded by Supervisor Hackworth and adopted by a vote of 5 to 0, with all members present and voting in favor thereof and no one against the same, the Tazewell County Board of Supervisors hereby adopt AN ORDINANCE TO ELIMINATE THE DISPLAY OF THE TAG OR STICKER REQUIRED BY THE TAZEWELL COUNTY LOCAL VEHICLE LICENSE. A copy of the Ordinance can be found on file in the County Administration Building, 197 Main Street, Tazewell, Virginia 24651.

CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION ALLOWING SCHOOL BOARD TO KEEP THEIR FY20 CARRY-OVER

Upon motion of Supervisor Hackworth, seconded by Supervisor Hymes and adopted by a vote of 5 to 0, with all members present and voting in favor thereof and no one against the same, the Tazewell County Board of Supervisors hereby authorizes the Tazewell County School Board to keep left over funding from the current year’s budget to the FY20-21 budget.

CONTINUES LOCAL STATE OF EMERGENCY DUE TO CORONAVIRUS

The County Administrator briefly discussed his reasons for extending the Local State of Emergency due to COVID-19. One of his reasons was because of the three cases that were diagnosed within the past week. He had concerns about our residents vacationing and bringing the virus back with them and spreading it throughout the county.

Upon motion of Supervisor Hackworth, seconded by Supervisor Hymes and adopted by a vote of 5 to 0, with all members present and voting in favor thereof and no one against the same, the Tazewell County Board of Supervisors hereby extends the previously declared State of Emergency due to COVID-19 until June 25, 2020.
BUDGET PRESENTATION FY 21

7:00 PM – 7:34 PM

The County Administrator, Eric Young, gave a PowerPoint presentation on the Proposed County Budget Ordinance. This fiscal year was a difficult one with Tazewell County being under a State of Emergency for 140 of 340 days due to drought, flood, and plague. So far the virus has cost the county over $100,000.00 in direct costs. The virus shutdown is expected to cost the county between $800,000.00 and $1,000,000.00 in sales tax revenue loss alone. Other contributing factors were: collapsing energy prices causing our coal and gas revenues to fall flat compared to what the county budgeted and cost increases in health insurance, regional jail costs, retirement costs, and EMS costs. In consideration of these shortfalls the County plans to: Spend the Reserve Fund that was created this year, finance design of the Landfill’s next phase, lease and not buy new vehicles for the Sheriff, cut public school funding by 2%, and finish FY20 with more money than expected. He explained that the reason the county is expected to finish with lower than expected expenses was because: the shutdown has delayed most elective medical procedures and routine examinations and tests; the Court System being closed has delayed criminal cases and reduced our jail population in recent weeks, and the Federal Cares Act will reimburse us for our COVID costs.

Mr. Young understood that these decisions may not be good long term decisions but the decisions needed to be made to maintain cash flow. He stated that the strategy of this budget was survival. This budget will only continue operations of essential governmental services. Many needed replacements, repairs, and improvements will have to be deferred. Mr. Young commented that this budget will keep Tazewell the third lowest tax rate in Southwest Virginia. He explained that in July 2021 the Board may enact cigarette taxes with hopes of raising a significant amounts of revenue to help pay for deferred projects. Mr. Young stated if the HVAC project is completed within budget they will have funds remaining from their 2019 bonds to help pay for other capital costs in the FY21 or FY22 budgets. The regional jail bill is expected to decline in FY21 toward its FY19 levels. He stated that the also expect that CARES Act funding will help pay for increased medical costs due to COVID-19. Meaning, health insurance costs may be closer to the 7% increase than the 9% which would leave funds available to lessen plan costs increases next year. He stated that they should begin to see about $30,000.00 per year in energy savings from the new HVAC unit at the courthouse. A copy of the budget presentation as presented is on file at the County Administration Office, 197 Main Street, Tazewell, VA 24651.

Supervisor Hymes suggested revisiting the Merchant Capital Tax and restoring the rates to what it was before 2013.

PUBLIC HEARING – PROPOSED BUDGET & TAX LEVY ORDINANCE FOR FY20-21

7:36 PM – 8:20 PM
The Chairman, Charles Stacy, called to order a public hearing that was duly advertised according to law, entitled, “Tazewell County Proposed Budget & Tax Levy Ordinance for FY2020-21”. The County of Tazewell’s recommended budget synopsis is prepared and published for informative and fiscal planning purposes only. The inclusion in the budget ordinance of any item or items does not constitute an obligation or commitment on the part of the Board of Supervisors of this County to appropriate any funds for that item or purpose. The budget ordinance is presented on the basis of the estimates prepared by the Tazewell County Board of Supervisors/Budget Committee, and requests submitted to the County Administrator by other offices and department heads of the County. The budget ordinance presumes enactment of an increased tax levy ordinance. There is no allocation or designation for that purpose of any funds of the County for any purpose until there has been an appropriation for that purpose by the Board of Supervisors of Tazewell County, Virginia. The budget ordinance is for informative fiscal planning purposes only and will not be approved, adopted or ratified by the Board of Supervisors until at least seven (7) days after the Public Hearing with an anticipated adoption date of June 25, 2020. This Public Hearing is held pursuant to Section 15.2-2500 – 15.2-2508 of the Code of Virginia, 1950, as amended, and is for the purpose of allowing the public to question and comment on the proposed budgets. A copy of the complete budget ordinance is on file in the office of the County Administrator, 197 Main Street, Tazewell, Virginia and posted outside the Circuit Court Clerk’s Office door of the County Courthouse on Main Street in Tazewell, Virginia. It will also be posted on Tazewell County’s website, www.tazewellcountyva.org. All citizens of Tazewell County Virginia have the right to attend and state their views thereon, subject to reasonable time limits as shall be determined by the Tazewell County Board of Supervisors.

Now, the Chairman called for public comments from the floor with regard to the public hearing. The following people commented:

1. Regina Sayers, Executive Director of AASC – thanked the Board for funding they receive. Ms. Sayers stated that AASC’s transit services will be getting six new buses and that it has been delayed because of COVID-19. They had hoped to receive them in May but will probably get them by August. The buses will be equipped with new protection shields and will cost $504,720.00. She stated that AASC only asked the County for $5,447.00 in assistance and the transit match was $74,000.00. She reported that with the funding they received AASC has served an additional 300-400 additional individuals in Tazewell County. Not only did they serve seniors but families in need as well.

2. Dr. Chris Stacy, TCPS Superintendent – thanked the Board for supporting TCPS. Dr. Stacy stated that TCPS was one of the largest employers in the county and last year ranked 11th in the commonwealth in test scores. He commented on how much he appreciated Mr. Young and his cooperation with the school system. Mr. Stacy reiterated some of the same concerns with the schools as the county has, such as insurance costs. They are concerned for employees who have been deferring medical appointments and
treatment due to COVID and the costs that may increase once the threat has diminished. Dr. Stacy mentioned a school committee he started regarding COVID and how Mr. Young agreed to serve on it. Earlier that morning the committee met and discussed if and how the schools should reopen. He said the Governor had mentioned by late August, Virginia should be in Phase III. Dr. Stacy explained there were lots of concerns regarding: social distancing, bus transportation, sanitizing, distance learning, staggering schedules, staggering school days, athletics, internet availability for school work, and childcare for working parents, etc. One of the directives he received was that there was no more than ten kids on a school bus and he explained how impossible this would be considering they sometimes have fifty kids on a bus. They would also be expected to sanitize the buses between each runs. He stated that the school would also have to prepare for distance learning in case they do not get to go back to school in the fall. This would cost the school system approximately $200,000.00 in computer devices for the students to be able to access their school work and some of the students don’t even having access to internet, causing another obstacle. Dr. Stacy mentioned that athletics were another huge concern, stating that he has had parents notify them that they would be pulling their kids from TCPS and sending them to WV or TN to fulfill their athletic aspirations if they did not reopen their programs. He later reported that between March 13th and June 5th TCPS handed out and delivered over 100,000 meals to students.

Supervisor Hymes briefly discussed the lack of internet access in the county and how some of the kids are at an extreme disadvantage because of it. Chairman Stacy and Supervisor Hymes then commented on childcare.

Regina Sayers stated that AASC has childcare available for children six weeks to twelve years old. She explained that there has been a few child daycares shut down recently, only leaving AASC. She stated that it was a problem because there were only nine kids allowed in one classroom per caregiver or teacher. There is just not enough room. Ms. Sayers said they called the Workforce Development office to hire some more staff and possibly use their adult daycare since it is not yet being used to put them there. She commented that maybe they could also use some of the schools if they have the staff to do it. She mentioned that there was one licensed daycare in Bluefield. Another alternative, she said, was encouraging parents to help with daycare. She stated that someone was allowed to have up to four children in their home without being licensed but if you had over a certain amount a license would be required.

3. Steven Knapp – introduced himself as the new Executive Director of Crab Orchard Museum and gave a brief work history which included working in museums in Tennessee and North Carolina. He thanked the Board for all of their past support and commented that he had never seen a county that gives as much support to a museum as Tazewell
County. Mr. Knapp reported how COVID has also affected their funding and events, such as: school tours, 4th of July celebration, Fiddler’s Convention, family reunions, and weddings. He was unsure as to when Crab Orchard would be able to officially open back up. They are still in hopes that they will be able to have the Pioneer Camp the last week of July but expect attendance to be down. Mr. Knapp stated that 13% of the world’s museums will be close due to COVID-19 then will be forced to auction off their collections and unable to ever get them back. He stated that if Crab Orchard Museum were to close they would lose over 500 years of their collection. Mr. Knapp was optimistic and had ideas for new exhibits and programs upon reopening. He said they may have to schedule programs by reservation upon reopening. The Board and Mr. Knapp discussed the corn maze and pumpkin patches hoping they would still be able to have them this year. Mr. Knapp had ideas for Revolutionary War and Native American reenactments.

4. Irene Mullins, member of the School Board – Mrs. Mullins spoke by conference call and thanked the Board for their support of the school system and all that they do for them.

5. Shannon Burnette, 121 Brandon Drive, Bluefield, VA – stated by conference call that his daughter graduated this year and has already been accepted into the nursing program at SVCC. He questioned if the Board would be providing any tuition assistance. Chairman Stacy responded that the budget committee had a phone conference with Dr. Wright earlier that day to discuss the continuation of the program and whether funds that the college or county was receiving would be able to help the program. He stated unfortunately they weren’t able to get an answer that day and that neither the county nor college knew how the application of the funding would play out. Supervisor Hackworth commented that the meeting ended with conversation acknowledging that the current budget would not allow funding for 2020 graduates but that there was an obligation to fulfill tuition assistance to the class of 2019. He stated that they were still waiting on answers from the College Board and the county as to whether some of the emergency funding that was given to both the college and county could be used to bridge the gap. Supervisor Hackworth explained that there was issues because of a recent G3 Resolution that the Governor rolled out that was going to cut the County’s funding tuition by sixty percent but after the pandemic hit he rolled them back. He commented that the Board would revisit the possibility next year but given the current state of the budget the County wouldn’t be able to fund 2020 seniors at this point. He recommended parents and students to talk to the college about Pell grants or financial aid that they may be eligible for.
6. Robin Kennedy, 160 Williams St, Bluefield, VA – stated by conference call her daughter was a 2020 graduate and wondered if the County and SVCC would be funding the graduates this year

Now, the Chairman called for further comments, first call, second call, and final call. And, there being none, he declared the public hearing closed.

BOARD CONCERNS

SUPERVISOR ASBURY

TOWN OF POCAHONTAS – HISTORIC POCAHONTAS CEMETERY MOWING

$1,700.00 NORTHERN

Upon motion of Supervisor Asbury, seconded by Supervisor Lester and adopted by a vote of 5 to 0, with all members present and voting in favor thereof and no one against the same, the Tazewell County Board of Supervisors hereby authorizes the amount of $1,700.00 from the Northern District Fund, payable to the Town of Pocahontas, Centre Street, Pocahontas, Virginia 24635, attn: Ben Gibson. The County Administrator is hereby authorized and directed to issue said warrants in accordance with this action at such time as may be necessary and appropriate and which said warrants will be converted to negotiable checks by the Treasurer of Tazewell County, Virginia.

TOWN OF POCAHONTAS – ANNUAL FIREWORKS & FOURTH OF JULY CELEBRATION

$400.00 NORTHERN

Upon motion of Supervisor Asbury, seconded by Supervisor Hymes and adopted by a vote of 5 to 0, with all members present and voting in favor thereof and no one against the same, the Tazewell County Board of Supervisors hereby authorizes the amount of $400.00 from the Northern District Fund, payable to the Town of Pocahontas, Centre Street, Pocahontas, Virginia 24635, attn: Ben Gibson. The County Administrator is hereby authorized and directed to issue said warrants in accordance with this action at such time as may be necessary and appropriate and which said warrants will be converted to negotiable checks by the Treasurer of Tazewell County, Virginia.
BAPTIST VALLEY TRANSFER STATION COMPLAINTS

Supervisor Asbury received a few complaints from residents living next to the Baptist Valley transfer station. One instance happened on Memorial Day night when someone with West Virginia plates used the transfer station dumping trailer and truck loads of trash there. The nearby resident documented the incident by taking pictures and sending to Supervisor Asbury. Supervisor Asbury then contacted the Sheriff’s Office because she knew the department had cameras up at the transfer station and she wanted to have them prosecuted. The camera had malfunctioned and didn’t capture the illegal activity so they were not able to press charges. Supervisor Asbury briefed on another incident that occurred at the same transfer station. After hours dumping and transfer station misuse is additionally causing rat problems.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

LANDFILL AND TRANSFER STATION WASTE LOAD CONCERNS

The County Administrator stated that the waste load at the landfill during the COVID-19 shutdown has been tremendous. Mr. Young has received numerous complaints from all of the county’s convenience areas regarding waste load. He urged the public to ease up on their garage cleanouts for a few weeks until at least the end of the month so they can catch up. Dumping recliners or couches fill up the transfer station dumpsters much faster and cause trash overflow. He mentioned that Santek has added hours to the Thompson Valley Convenience Center. Mr. Dunford suggested to him that they add another dumpster in Cedar Bluff to add another site for people to dispose their waste. Hopefully this would ease traffic backups in that area. He stated that Santek was pushing them hard to dump these dumpsters out but it was just too hard to keep up with the waste flow. Mr. Absher and Mr. Taylor with the towns of Cedar Bluff and Richlands told Mr. Young that they would start bringing their trash directly to the landfill instead of the transfer station through the month of June to alleviate some of the problem. Mr. Young said he would contact Santek to ask what they would charge for evening runs during the next 30-60 days and if they would leave the transfer stations open until 9:00 pm. The issue with this is that Santek would then have to leave the landfill open to accept their trucks and would have to have someone working at the scale house.

SUPERVISOR HACKWORTH

CITIZEN CONCERN – NEW NEIGHBOR NOISE COMPLAINT

Supervisor Hackworth received a noise complaint from the Minton’s who own property on the backside of Green Acres. There are about 20 residents in and around the area. According to the Minton’s a new neighbor has recently moved in and is deliberately being a nuisance. They reported to Supervisor Hackworth that there have been some altercations between some of the neighbors and that they have asked them if they could be quiet. The rowdy neighbors are putting
karaoke loud speakers on the deck and purposely pointing it towards them starting at 11:00 PM in the evening until 3:00 AM in the morning. These neighbors have also cut off four wheeler mufflers and put back up beepers on their vehicles. Another one of the neighbors had gotten into an altercation where the rowdy neighbors had threatened to kill them. The Minton’s have called the Sheriff’s Office numerous times but Tazewell County doesn’t have a noise ordinance so there wasn’t anything they could do. The neighbors are concerned that someone will end up getting killed.

The Board discussed noise ordinances that the towns of Tazewell and Richlands already have. It was recommended that the Minton’s should hire an attorney and file a civil suit.

JAWBONE TRAIL UPDATE

Supervisor Hackworth asked Mr. Collins a question regarding the status of the Jawbone Trail. Mr. Collins recalled the Board passing an ordinance the previous year to allow off road traffic off of a small portion of Acme Street that connects to the trail. Supervisor Hackworth commented that CNX closed the county’s portion of the trail denying us access to it and causing riders to have to go through Buchanan County to access it. When the Tazewell County portion of the access point was shut down, CNX claimed they closed it because one of their wells had been tampered with. Supervisor Hackworth mentioned that the Town of Richlands had already offered to put cameras up at the well site so they would be able to prosecute anyone who causes any damage. ATV riders are upset about the situation. Shott Foundation money had been used for the Jawbone trail and Mr. Young is concerned that if CNX continues being difficult to work with the county may not have money to spend on other places they want to build trails.

SUPERVISOR LESTER

Supervisor Lester stated that there was a lot to be concerned about with the budget and COVID-19’s aftermath, referencing concerns heard in the budget presentation and comments made by Superintendent Chris Stacy. He commented that he didn’t believe the Governor’s decisions were to segregate Southwestern Virginia however we have fallen victim of what they are trying to do to protect Northern Virginian’s and the real casualty is in Southwestern Virginia.

Supervisor Lester suggested sending Governor Ralph Northam an invitation to come down to Southwest Virginia and do a round table and let him see what has actually occurred in the area.

Upon motion of Supervisor Hymes, seconded by Supervisor Hackworth and adopted by a vote of 5 to 0, with all members present and voting in favor thereof and no one against the same, the Tazewell County Board of Supervisors hereby authorize sending a letter inviting Governor Ralph Northam to Tazewell County, Virginia to discuss economic distress that has occurred directly from COVID-19.
Mr. Young stated that maybe the Governor’s office could have someone attend the COVID Committee meeting that the School Board has on reopening the schools. He will check with Dr. Stacy and request that they get representation from the State to sit in on one of the phone conferences.

RECESS AND APPROVED SUPERVISOR LESTERS NEXT MEETING ATTENDANCE TO BE VIA PHONE

Now, there being no further business to be transacted and upon motion of Chairman Stacy, seconded by Supervisor Asbury and adopted by a vote of 5 to 0, with all members present and voting in favor thereof and no one against the same, the Tazewell County Board of Supervisors hereby recesses this meeting to Thursday, June 25, 2020 at 4:00 p.m. and upon further motion approves Supervisor Lester’s attendance to be via phone on June 25th due to him being out of town.

Charles A. Stacy, Chair
By: WP
Adjourn time: 8:54 p.m.