

**ROCKY MOUNT TOWN COUNCIL
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
MARCH 9, 2009**

The March 9, 2009 regular meeting of the Rocky Mount Town Council was held at the Municipal Building at 7:00 p.m. with Mayor Steven C. Angle presiding. The following members of Council were present:

Vice Mayor Posey W. Dillon and Council Members Jerry W. Greer, Sr., John H. Lester, Roger M. Seale, Robert W. Strickler, and Gregory B. Walker.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Angle.

The Deputy Clerk read for the record the following being present: All members of Town Council as noted, Town Manager C. James Ervin, Assistant Town Manager/Community Development Director Matthew C. Hankins, Town Attorney John T. Boitnott, Chief of Police Erik Mollin, Finance Director Linda Woody, Fire Chief Posey W. Dillon, and Deputy Clerk Stacey B. Sink.

The Mayor led the *Pledge of Allegiance*.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Prior to the meeting, Council received the agenda for review and consideration of approval.

Motion was made by Council Member Greer to approve the agenda as presented, seconded by Council Member Strickler and carried unanimously.

SPECIAL ITEMS

Let the record show there were no special items for discussion at this time.

The Mayor noted that for the first time, staff was using a document imager to display the agenda for the meeting for public view.

PUBLIC HEARING

Let the record show that the Mayor recessed the meeting to hold the following public hearing:

A) Review and Consideration of WYTI-AM, Inc. Special Use Permit Request

After being duly advertised, and as required by Article 27-3 of the Town Zoning Ordinance, Council reviewed the request of WYTI-AM, Inc., an AM radio station operating within the Town limits of Rocky Mount, for a special use permit to add wireless telecommunications facilities to its existing AM radio tower located at 275 Glenwood Drive in the Town of Rocky Mount.

The Mayor called upon the Assistant Town Manager to present the special use permit request before Council.

The Assistant Town Manager gave a brief overview of the request including the following:

- WYTI-AM Radio wishes to add wireless telecommunications facilities to its existing tower, and this includes not just telephone, but could also be wireless internet or cable.
- The intent of Article 27 of the Town's Zoning Ordinance is to use existing structures rather than constructing new facilities.
- A brief review of Article 27-3-1, 27-3-4, and 27-3-6.
- For many years, the technology has not been available to allow wireless facilities on AM towers because of the way AM towers are energized; however, now the technology is available and the addition of the technology will reduce the AM interference in the nearby neighborhood.
- WYTI does not currently have a client in place, but is instead looking for some assurances that this will be possible before making the investment.
- Two concerns were brought up during the Planning Commission meeting: (1) there is concern about the time frame for which the permit will be valid; and (2) the code requires that the telecommunications company installing the equipment apply for the special use permit.
- He and the Town Attorney agree that it would be acceptable for the permit to be offered to WYTI-AM to allow the opportunity to market the facility.
- On a unanimous vote, the Planning Commission recommended that due to the benefits to the neighborhood through reduced AM signal interference and potential benefits to the community as a whole through increased access to wireless telecommunications services, the approval of the special use permit with the following conditions: (1) that the permit be issued so long as WYTI-AM continues to operate as a radio station; (2) that any telecommunications provider who attaches to the tower may not extend the height of the existing tower; and (3) the special use permit should be valid for a period of three years.
- In reviewing Article 27, he and the Town Attorney have agreed that any firm wishing to locate on the tower would be required to bring engineering plans to the Community Development Department for review (with the review process allowing for 30 days to completion), and

the request would either be approved or denied. The code also allows for an appeals process if denied.

The Mayor acknowledged that no one from the public had signed up to speak regarding the request and opened the floor to anyone wishing to speak at this time. No one came forward.

There being no further discussion, the Mayor reconvened the meeting back into regular session and asked for Council's pleasure regarding the request.

- Motion was made by Council Member Greer to approve the special use permit, with motion on the floor being seconded by Council Member Strickler. The Mayor asked for any further discussion. The Town Attorney addressed the Council stating that during the Planning Commission meeting some questions had come up regarding time limitations on special use permits. He acknowledged that at that time he had gotten the Town's requirements and the County's requirements confused. He further stated that if the conditions of the Planning Commission's recommendation are approved then the term of the special use permit will be limited to three years; however, if the three year limitation is removed then the special use permit will continue to provide WYTI with this ability for as long as the radio station is there, without a three year limitation. The only other requirement would be that the locator of the wireless facility would have to come to Planning and Zoning for administrative approval prior to locating an antenna on the structure. In closing, he stated that he was not making a recommendation to Council but instead wanted them to be aware of this before taking a vote. Council Member Lester questioned if the special use permit will follow the ownership, and the Town Attorney advised that it would follow the land as long as the land is used as a radio station. Council Member Greer amended the motion on the floor to include the removal of the condition regarding the three year limitation, with the amended motion being seconded by Council Member Strickler. There being no further discussion, let the record show that the motion on the floor passed unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Town Manager advised Council that due to a change in clerk staff for this month's meeting as well as a malfunction of equipment, the draft minutes for the February meetings will be available at the April meeting.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

The approval of the *Consent Agenda* consists of approving any miscellaneous resolutions/proclamations, miscellaneous action, departmental monthly reports, and bill lists that were submitted prior to the meeting for Council's review and consideration.

This month's *Consent Agenda* consisted of:

- Community & Hospitality Center Monthly Report
 - Departmental Monthly Reports
 - Bill List
- Motion was made by Council Member Seale to approve the *Consent Agenda* as presented, with motion on the floor being seconded by Council Member Dillon. There being no discussion, let the record show that the motion on the floor passed unanimously.

Council Member Lester pointed out that he would like to list publicly the new businesses that apply for business licenses in the Town of Rocky Mount each month so that the public can be aware of the new businesses the Town is getting. He read for the record:

The following new business obtained their business licenses during the month (of February 2009): Under retail, (1) RAGE, Inc. (Pizza Hut), 380 Tanyard, restaurant, (2) Picture It Framed LLC, 373 Franklin Street, frame shop; and under Repairs/Personal Services, (3) D & D Detailing, 775 Franklin Street, car detailing.

HEARING OF CITIZENS

The Mayor acknowledged that prior to the meeting no one had contacted the Town to ask to address Council. He then opened the floor to anyone wishing to speak and asked that they come to the podium and state their name and address for the record.

- Darlene Swain with the Warren Street Society came forward stating that she wanted to address Council about the amphitheatre. She stated that she thought the Town was working for one amphitheatre, being the one that the Warren Street Society brought in, but then when she read the newspaper she thought something different. She was told that if she secured the property then the Town would work with her, and she thought the Warren Street Society was partnering with the Town or County to get one nice large amphitheatre, conference center, and museum on that hill. But when she read the paper it was something different and she wants to know what is going on.
- The Mayor addressed her comments stating that he thinks the problem stated simply is that the Town can not expend taxpayer dollars to improve private property. He also confirmed this statement with the Town Manager.
- Ms. Swain advised that she feels as though she has been misled by the Town.
- The Town Manager advised that the Town has been told the (Warren Street Society) project is not moving forward and the Town was offered the opportunity to purchase

the land. At this point the Town moved forward with its plans to develop an amphitheatre and he does not really have an explanation as to why someone would come to him to renew the Town's interest in the land if the project is still moving forward.

- The Mayor questioned if Ms. Swain plans to go forward with her proposal, with Ms. Swain commenting that she wants to work together with the Town. She feels this project in the middle of town will add to the beauty of uptown, which is "dead," and she was thinking that when she came to the Town to inquire about the lot, she and the Town were on the same avenue of working together to do this.
- The Mayor clarified that in his opinion the Town's assistance could have been with zoning issues, waiving fees, etc., and then reiterated that the Town can not use taxpayer dollars to improve private property.
- Ms. Swain stated that she feels she was misled when she came to the Town asking about securing the property, with the Mayor commenting that he cannot say whether she was misled or not because he was not personally involved in any conversations with her about the property.
- The Mayor asked if she plans to keep the property or to market it, because the last indication he had from an individual representing her group was that it is for sale.
- Ms. Swain advised that the property is hers and indicated that her representative was mistaken. She then questioned if it is possible for she and the Town to work together, as she visited the area where the Town plans to put its amphitheatre today and she thinks her lot would be a better lot and would not require the destruction of a playground.
- The Mayor advised that certainly she could discuss this issue with the Assistant Town Manager and the Town Manager, but reiterated again that the Council cannot consider her request if the property remains private.
- Ms. Swain made general comments about her interest in the property and the difficulties she has had in obtaining a business plan. She indicated that she is not sure if a site plan has been developed yet. She questioned again if the Town would be interested in the site.
- Council Member Dillon advised that it would be short-sighted of the Town not to consider every possibility.
- Council Member Lester added that the only economic development program in the Town of Rocky Mount is what the Town does for itself, and that the big problem now is whether or not it would be economically feasible for the Town to buy the property and develop it. Right now, and depending on the price, he doesn't think it probably is because of the economy.

- The Mayor suggested that she set up an appointment with the Assistant Town Manager and the Town Manager, and advised that if she schedules it late enough in the afternoon, he will be there.

Let the record show that no one else from the public came forward to speak.

OLD BUSINESS

A) Review and Consideration of Bernard Road Traffic Study Proposal

The Police Chief addressed the Council, stating that with the concerns brought to Town Council over Bernard Road, he was tasked with determining the needed improvements in the area. He contacted Joe Wallace with Davenport Consulting to take a look at the area to determine what can be done to remedy the problems and an idea of what kinds of studies need to be done. Included in the recommendation is a speed count with 85th percentile, which is something the Police Department is currently able to do with a traffic monitor purchased last year. However, a traffic count is also recommended indicating where the vehicles are coming from and where they are going to. In addition, a license plate study is recommended, which will require the recording of tags as they come into and out of the area, and this will help determine if traffic is cut-through traffic or local traffic. They will also look at types of vehicles: personal use or commercial such as large or supply vehicles. The survey quote was included in the packet and he asked for Council's input, questioning if this is the type of study Council wants or does it need to be tailored?

General discussion ensued:

- Was a similar study done several years ago on Scuffling Hill Road?
- The Police Department can currently do speed, vehicle counts and the 85th percentile.
- This study will show if local traffic is visiting in Franklin Heights or just passing through. If it is determined that traffic is just passing through, then control measures will depend on the type of vehicles, personal versus commercial.
- Realistically the Town is limited as to what it can do to keep people from "just passing through." If the traffic is commercial, then there may be some other options, like possibly making it easier or more appealing to use the 220 corridor instead.
- This survey should be eligible for payment by state funds.
- Education is the first order of attack. By identifying the group (using the corridor) then the Town may be able to use educational resources and signage without being heavy handed in managing the corridor. If the Town can define it then it can look for solutions.
- The Police Department's current machine will do a count but it will not identify the types of vehicles.

- The proposal indicates that the Town of Rocky Mount will provide personnel and this is referring to inmates. The Town has used inmates before for traffic studies. Davenport will also provide some personnel for the more technical studies.
- Bernard Road can't be treated as a private road, and this will depend on volunteerism for the alternative routes.

The Mayor advised that he has no objections to the study as long as it is from state funds, with the Finance Director confirming that it will come from Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) maintenance funds.

The Vice Mayor added that he would also like to add the consideration that if the Town is going to spend this money to count traffic, he wonders what kind of money it would take to synchronize lights to speed up movement of traffic coming up Route 40.

The Town Manager added that he and the Police Chief have just started an initiative to work with VDOT. The Police Chief added that over the past two weeks he has met with VDOT representatives and traffic engineers twice, both at the municipal building and in the field, to discuss the 40 East corridor, and from this they have found some system glitches. Currently, they are working to plan a new timing for people moving through the corridor. The Town Manager concluded that currently he is trying to bring all of the resources to the table to integrate all of the lights through some sort of wireless technology, and he hopes to upgrade the entire corridor so that all of the lights are integrated onto Public Safety signalization and they can all be controlled.

There being no further discussion, the Mayor asked for Council's pleasure.

- Motion was made by Council Member Greer to approve the proposal provided the money comes from VDOT maintenance funds, with motion on the floor being seconded by Council Member Strickler. There being no further discussion, let the record show that the motion on the floor passed unanimously.

B) Review and Consideration of Façade Improvement Advisory Board Guidelines and By-Laws.

The Assistant Town Manager addressed Council stating that this follows up on Council's last two meetings, where staff asked them to consider members for the Façade Improvement Advisory Board. The Board had its first meeting last week and went through the guidelines and by-laws, set their meeting date, and elected officers. The meetings will be held on the first Thursday of each month at 5:00 p.m. and Council Member Walker was elected as Chairman, Brenda Hunt, a banker representative from Suntrust, was elected as Vice Chair, and Carol Tuning, the citizen representative was elected as Secretary. The Assistant Town Manager asked for Council's approval so that this can be sent on to Richmond for final

approval, as this is part of their consideration in granting the request to extend the project out to allow completion of the construction.

The Mayor called upon Council Member Walker for comments, as he is the chairman of the board. Council Member Walker commented that the board met for about an hour and had no concerns regarding the guidelines.

- Motion was made by Council Member Greer to approve the Façade Improvement Advisory Board Guidelines and By-Laws as presented with motion on the floor being seconded by Council Member Strickler. There being no further discussion, let the record show the motion on the floor passed unanimously.

C) Review and Consideration of Rocky Mount Beautification Urban Design (BUD) Commission Appointment

The Assistant Town Manager addressed the Town Council, advising that per Council's direction last month he advertised for the vacancy on the BUD Commission. The only person to respond to the ad was also the person nominated by the BUD Commission, being Dee Shoemaker. Mrs. Shoemaker has served as an auxiliary, non-voting member of the Commission for some time, as allowed in the BUD Commission By-Laws. The Commission has requested that Council consider Mrs. Shoemaker as a voting member of the Commission so that they can move on in their work.

- Motion was made by Council Member Lester to approve the appointment of Dee Shoemaker to the BUD Commission, with motion on the floor being seconded by Council Member Greer. There being no further discussion, let the record show that the motion on the floor passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

A) Review and Consideration of Workforce Investment Area III One-Stop Partner Memorandum of Understanding

The Town Manager addressed the Council stating that this is a similar document to others the Town has been a party to since the construction of the Franklin Center. It is up for renewal. He recommends that the Town join in support of the One-Stop center concept again with the brother and sister agencies throughout the County.

The Mayor commented that the Franklin Center has been a wonderful addition to the community and is used extensively every day and night, and he agrees with the Town Manager's recommendation.

- Motion was made by Council Member Greer to approve the Workforce Investment Area III One-Stop Partner Memorandum of Understanding, with motion on the floor being seconded by Council member Lester. There being no discussion, let the record show the motion on the floor passed unanimously.

B) Review and Consideration of the Potential Abandonment of Town Property Adjacent to High Street Cemetery, Greater Vision Church, and the Hub Restaurant.

The Town Manager addressed the Council stating that there is a small strip of land between the HUB Restaurant and the church that is suspected to be Town property. The Town has been approached by the restaurant and the church, each equally interested in the property. Currently the strip of land is eroding and has exposed roots, and they are eager to improve it. They believe that it is Town property and the Town Manager has indicated to them that the Town would be interested in facilitating their improvements. This will require a title search and a plat, abandoning this piece of property according to State Code. Prior to investing the funds, he asks for direction from Council as to the direction they would like to go in. He further added that he does not believe there is any public interest served by this strip of land but more information will be available once an accurate plat is obtained. This would have to go through the normal public hearing process, but before spending the funds, he would like Town Council's approval.

Council Member questioned if the boundary lines which are in close proximity to the corners of the buildings are in conformity with the Town ordinance. The Town Manager confirmed that these lots and structures date back to before any zoning was prevalent, so the Town would be helping the situation in terms of setbacks and requirements by preparing a plat of the area.

The Mayor questioned the accuracy of the plat that was presented in the Council packet. The Town Manager advised that this is the most accurate information available and dates back to 1980, adding that before Council makes a decision he would like to have the area surveyed to get the most accurate information possible. The Mayor confirmed this would have to be done before land belonging to the Town can be abandoned. The Town Manager clarified that he is not looking for action on the abandonment. He just wants to know if it is the consensus of Council to look at this issue further and hire a surveyor.

Council Member Greer questioned who would be responsible for paying the surveyor, with the Town Manager advising that the Town would be responsible. He also confirmed to Council Member Greer that the Town could ask the interested parties for reimbursement. Council Member Greer stated that he thinks the Town should be reimbursed for all of the costs, because if the Town is giving the land away it shouldn't have to bear the cost. Council Member Walker agreed with Council Member Greer.

The Town Manager advised that he will contact the interested property owners, advising them that the Town has looked at current records and has determined that this will require the expenditure of funds, and asking if they are willing to cover the cost. He also confirmed to Council Member Dillon that the area of land in question is approximately 0.05 acres.

C) Review and Consideration of CH2M Interbasin Transfer Notice

The Town Manager addressed the Council stating that in the packet is correspondence received from CH2M Hill notifying the Town that they intend to seek approval to withdraw water from the Roanoke River basin and discharge it into other basins. Given the nature of water, the consensus in the regional area is that this should be opposed. He has discussed this with the Roanoke Valley Alleghany Regional Commission (RVARC) and they are interested in organizing opposition of all of the governments in the Roanoke Valley to this interbasin transfer, or at least representing the Town, and he is asking for Council's approval to officially ask them to represent the Town as it relates to this request.

The Mayor questioned if such a request had come up before with Council Member Seale confirming that it had.

The Town Manager added that he recommends for the Town to oppose the transfer.

- Motion was made by Council Member Seale that the Town vigorously state its opposition to the transfer and that it ask the RVARC to represent Rocky Mount, with motion on the floor being seconded by Council Member Greer. There being no further discussion, let the record show that the motion on the floor passed unanimously.

D) Review and Consideration of Proposal of Richardson-Wayland Electrical Company regarding South Main Street Corridor Traffic Signal Modifications

The Police Chief addressed Council stating that this once again has to do with traffic lights. Over the past year the police department has received numerous concerns about safety while trying to keep the traffic moving through the corridor. This has been address by the Streets, Sidewalks, and Sanitation Committee and some people were hired to do a study. The results of the study offered several recommendations. Specifically, there are three intersections that need changes: (1) the intersection of Tanyard and Maple; (2) The intersection of Main Street and both East and West Court; and (3) the intersection of Main Street and Floyd Avenue. With this in mind, he issued a Request for Proposals (RFP) and was able to get two responses. Richardson-Wayland is monetarily the best avenue, and they are willing to make changes as the process is completed. The Town currently has a good working relationship with the company.

The Mayor questioned if the cost of this proposal is eligible for VDOT highway funds

and if there would be enough money available to cover it, with the Finance Director confirming that it is eligible and the funds are available.

- Motion was made by Council Member Lester to proceed with the proposal as long as VDOT highway funds are used, with motion on the floor being seconded by Council Member Strickler. Council Member Greer questioned the turn at Maple, with the Police Chief confirming that the turn at Maple will be protected and that there will be a sensor to trigger the light to go straight or turn. The Town Manager added that this was a simpler idea worked out in the Streets, Sidewalks, and Sanitation Committee meeting. There being no further discussion, let the record show that the motion on the floor passed unanimously.

Following the vote, Council Member Walker questioned the purpose of the video cards. The Police Chief advised that the video cards allow the sensor information to be read and put into computer language, and he was advised that these are the most easily serviceable.

E) Review and Consideration of Proposal of Richardson-Wayland Electrical Company regarding Signalization Maintenance Agreement

Again, the Police Chief addressed the Council stating that in the past the Town has used a local contractor to do any of the repairs or changes. He has been unavailable over the past year and the Town has been forced to try to find people to fix any problems. This agreement would put someone on contract for emergency repairs and general repairs that the Town can not do in-house. When the Town has immediate problems, this will provide someone that will respond within the time limits the Town has set. Richardson-Wayland was chosen after the RFP was sent out. They have good references, as they do work for VDOT and a lot of neighboring localities. This will also help the Town when there are concerns about upgrading lights as there will be set prices. Part of the contract is also that they will keep a complete set of equipment with the exception of the pole on hand. The other company was willing to do this as well, but they wanted the Town to pay for the equipment up front, even though they were storing it. He also pointed out that they will be on hand within four to six hours for an emergency situation.

Vice Mayor Dillon commented that several years ago the Town had a similar arrangement and it was very convenient because the Town didn't have to wait two or three weeks for a part to come in when something was needed.

The Town Manager added that he has asked the Police Chief to work out a maintenance agreement because: (1) it meets State Code for the Town to put forth a good faith effort to comply and to get prices and someone under a contract; and (2) the Town has a relationship to where each department can make the call if there are problems. This is a good firm, the Town has procured these prices according to State Code, and he recommends that the Town enter into the relationship.

Council Member Greer questioned if this is a one year contract, with the Police Chief confirming that it is but that it can also be reevaluated as prices go up. They can not go up on hourly rates for one year and any changes to the contract would have to be evaluated.

Council Member Walker questioned if the prices are negotiable, with the Police Chief stating that currently they are not without doing another RFP. The Mayor added that at the end of the year they would probably be negotiable.

The Town Manager commented that the reality is that under procurement guidelines, because of the prices of this equipment, they all trigger competitive bids at state prices, because it is generally around \$15,000 or more. By selecting a vendor and entering into this contract, it's like doing this one time so that the Town can go the next twelve months responding more quickly and more dynamically. The prices quoted are competitive amongst the other prices and they are almost identical to the state contract. It represents a value.

The Mayor asked for Council's pleasure.

- Motion was made by Council Member Greer to try the contract for twelve months to see if it is liked, with the motion on the floor being seconded by Council Member Lester. There being no further discussion, let the record show that the motion on the floor passed unanimously.

F) Review and Consideration of Arlene Jones/Franklin Street Association Request.

The Mayor noted that Ms. Jones was not present for the meeting.

Council Member Lester questioned who is on the special events committee, with the Town Manager confirming that the Chairman of the Public Facilities and Special Events Committee is Council Member Walker, the Vice Chairman is Council Member Lester and the Voting Member is Council Member Greer.

Council Member Lester stated that at one time the Town talked about getting a committee of people from the Town that would be involved with functions of this nature as far as scheduling, etc. He asked if this has "died on the vine." The Town Manager addressed his concern stating that it hasn't "born any fruit" which may be an alternative way of saying it.

The Mayor commented that since Ms. Jones isn't here he would like to refer this to the Special Events Committee and they can make a contact with her and follow up from there. He added that there is time as the event is not proposed until June 27th.

Council Member Lester stated that he would like to take his hat off to her and her associates for the program that was presented last time on one of the worst days possible. His only concern is where is the money going, as they are using Town

facilities. The Mayor commented that the Town gave them \$500 last time but the money was returned, and he doesn't know how much was over and above that amount. Council Member Lester questioned if this is a private enterprise venture, with the Mayor adding this would be a good question to ask at the Committee meeting.

The Town Manager advised he would schedule a Committee meeting and invite Ms. Jones to the meeting.

Vice Mayor Dillon added that members of Council have had some complaints on Saturday events, especially regarding road closures prior to twelve noon, adding that he's not talking about this event, but just in general.

G) Review and Consideration of Linda Stanley/Franklin County Historical Society Request

The Mayor noted that Ms. Stanley was not present for the meeting.

The Town Manager noted that Ms. Stanley has written a letter and it is in the packet. Essentially what she is planning is a second annual Crooked Road gateway kickoff on May 2nd. She is seeking Council's permission to use the Farmers' Market in a way similar to last year. She plans to begin at 10:00 a.m. and to end at noon. This is basically an antique car cruise to the store. Secondly, she is notifying Council that they again intend to do a Veterans' Day program on May 23rd and they are asking to block East Court Street from Main to Maple. Thirdly, they have given an overview of events planned at the Flora Morris house, which is largely submitted for the Police Chief's knowledge so that he can manage the traffic as needed.

The Mayor questioned the Chief if there were any problems last year closing the section of East Court, with the Chief of Police confirming there was not.

Council Member Lester questioned if this would be a good opportunity for the Public Facilities and Special Events Committee to review from the standpoint of familiarizing everyone with the process and the problems that are encountered.

The Town Manager questioned if, on a going forward basis, it is the consensus of Council to get the Committee together to handle these items first, with the Mayor confirming to please so do.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Let the record show there were no committee reports at this time.

OTHER MATTERS & COMMENTS

A) Referrals to Planning Commission from Town Council

Let the record show there were no referrals made at this time.

B) Rise 'N Shine Appearances

The Town Manager and Council Member Seale appeared on the *Rise 'N Shine* show this morning. Next month, it will be the Assistant Town Manager and any volunteer that wishes to go.

The Mayor questioned if there are any Council Members that have not been on *Rise 'N Shine*, and added that if there are no volunteers then he will go.

COUNCIL CONCERNS

Council Member Lester stated that due to the economic condition nationally, and not knowing what is coming from the stimulus package, and taking into consideration the last reassessment by the County of Franklin, he does not have a good feeling about how real estate is being valued with the Town, including the revenue resources. He would like for Town Council to authorize for the Town Manager and the Finance Director to work with the Commissioner of the Revenue (for Franklin County) to make a determination of what changes will be in property and land values in the Town of Rocky Mount so that the Town doesn't get broadsided.

The Mayor added that there will not be another reassessment for another year or two.

Council Member Lester clarified that he wants to know what type of money is coming back to the Town based on current values.

The Town Manager added that these are basically the questions that he and the Finance Director must ask on a daily basis in terms of working to make the first pass if the budget, and these questions will be asked.

CLOSED MEETING

At 8:12 p.m., a motion was made by Vice Mayor Dillon to go into *Closed Meeting*, seconded by Council Member Lester and carried unanimously to go into *Closed Meeting* to discuss the following:

- Section 2.2-3711(A).3 – Discussion or consideration of the acquisition of real property for a public purpose, or of the disposition of publicly held real property, where discussion in an open meeting would adversely affect the bargaining position or negotiating strategy of the public body.

At 9:15 p.m., motion was made by Council Member Lester to come out of *Closed Meeting* and to reconvene the meeting back into open session, with motion on the floor being seconded by Council Member Greer and carried unanimously.

CERTIFICATE OF CLOSED MEETING

Whereas, the Town of Rocky Mount Council has convened a Closed Meeting on this date pursuant to an affirmative recorded vote and in accordance with the provisions of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act; and

Whereas, Section 2.2-3712 of the Code of Virginia requires certification by this council that such *Closed Meeting* was conducted in conformity with Virginia Law;

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved that the Rocky Mount Town Council hereby certifies that, to the best of each members' knowledge: (1) only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements under this chapter and (2) only such public business matter as were identified in the motion by which the Closed Meeting was convened were heard, discussed, or considered in the meeting by the public body.

Steven C. Angle, Mayor

Motion was made by Council Member Greer certifying that nothing was discussed in Closed Meeting other than what was stated. Motion was seconded by Council Member Walker. The Mayor swore to adopt the motion on the floor by Council Member Greer that this was all that was discussed as defined in Section 2.2-3412 of the Code of Virginia. Voting yes were Vice Mayor Posey W. Dillon and Council Members Jerry W. Greer, Sr., John H. Lester, Roger M. Seale, Robert W. Strickler, and Gregory B. Walker.

The Mayor reported that no action was taken.

ADJOURNMENT

At 9:20 p.m., motion was made by Council Member Lester to adjourn, seconded by Council Member Strickler and carried unanimously.

Steven C. Angle, Mayor

ATTEST:

Stacey B. Sink/Deputy Clerk

/sbs