

**VIRGINIA:**

At a regular meeting of the Washington County Board of Supervisors held Tuesday, October 23, 2007, at 7:00 p.m., at the County Administration Building in Abingdon, Virginia the following were present:

**PRESENT:**

- Kenneth O. Reynolds, Chairman
- Jack R. McCrady, Jr., Vice Chairman
- Phillip B. McCall
- Dulcie M. Mumpower
- Odell Owens
- Paul O. Price
- Anthony S. Rector

- Mark K. Reeter, County Administrator
- Lucy E. Phillips, County Attorney
- Mark W. Seamon, Accounting Manager
- Naoma A. Mullins, Recording Clerk

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**1. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Kenneth Reynolds, Chairman of the Board, who welcomed everyone in attendance.

**2. Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance**

Vice Chairman Jack McCrady gave the Invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**3. Approval of Agenda**

*On motion of Mrs. Mumpower, second by Mr. Owens, it was resolved to approve the agenda as presented.*

*The vote on this motion was as follows: (7-0)*

- Mr. McCall                    Aye*
- Mr. McCrady                Aye*
- Mrs. Mumpower            Aye*
- Mr. Owens                   Aye*
- Mr. Price                    Aye*
- Mr. Rector                  Aye*
- Mr. Reynolds               Aye*

**4. Approval of Minutes**

*On motion of Mr. McCall, second by Mr. Owens, it was resolved to approve the minutes of the October 9, 2007, regular meeting with the following corrections:*

*Page 15023, Board Member Reports, Paragraphs 2 through 4 replace Zoning Department with Building Department.*

*The vote on this motion was as follows: (6-0-1)*

<i>Mr. McCall</i>	<i>Aye</i>
<i>Mr. McCrady</i>	<i>Aye</i>
<i>Mrs. Mumpower</i>	<i>Aye</i>
<i>Mr. Owens</i>	<i>Aye</i>
<i>Mr. Price</i>	<i>Aye</i>
<i>Mr. Rector</i>	<i>Abstained</i>
<i>Mr. Reynolds</i>	<i>Aye</i>

**5. Public Hearings**

- a. Public Hearing and Consideration of adoption of an Ordinance to Vacate Tract No. 6 from the “Plat Showing a Division of the Dixon Lands” (Plat Book 49, Pages 29 and 30) in the Tyler Magisterial District of the County of Washington, Virginia

Ms. Phillips provided introductory remarks on the proposed ordinance. She explained that the proposed ordinance would allow the owner of the property in question, Mr. Harold Walsh, to further subdivide his property by vacating the tract of land from the recorded subdivision plat. Ms. Phillips explained that Mr. Walsh presented this request to the Board on March 27, 2007, and the Board denied the application. At that time, Mr. Walsh did not have a definite plan for division and there were concerns about sewer and water. Since that time, Mr. Walsh had his property reviewed by an engineer, developed a specific plan for division, and has noted on the plat proposed for Board consideration tonight the field bed locations for waste water drain fields. Ms. Phillips noted that the drain fields are not traditional septic systems, but are soil based wastewater systems.

Mr. Price commented that he thought the previous proposal for septic systems on this property was to pump wastewater uphill and inquired if a different system was now being proposed. Ms. Phillips explained that Mr. Walsh did not have a specific plan for wastewater when he first presented his application to the Board in March. She further explained that Mr. Walsh submitted a plan to the County after the March 27 Board meeting, but withdrew the plan before it came before the Board. The proposal before the Board tonight is the second proposal for Board consideration. Mr. Price inquired about the types of septic systems that are allowed in the County. Ms. Phillips explained that the County ordinance allows for soil based waste water systems and there are systems of this nature currently operating in the County.

Mr. Reynolds opened the public hearing and invited comments concerning the proposed ordinance.

Mr. Harold Walsh addressed the Board explaining that when he first appeared before the Board of Supervisors he did not have specific plans. Mr. Walsh explained that he now has a specific plan and that

the Health Department has done perk tests on the property. He further explained that his plan was put together according to the County Code so he hopes the Board will approve his request. Mr. Walsh advised that none of the discharge of wastewater would go into the river.

At this time substantial discussions ensued among the Board. Mr. Price inquired to Mr. Walsh about the type of field beds. Mr. Walsh explained that it is a drip system and the wastewater will go into the field bed and not leave the property. Mrs. Mumpower inquired about what portions of the land perked. Mr. Walsh explained that the land perked on the hill and that is where the septic system would be installed. Further discussions ensued among the Board primarily about the type of septic systems being proposed by Mr. Walsh.

The following people spoke in opposition to the proposed ordinance:

Ms. Carol McCroskey expressed disappointment with the County because it is her feeling that one man is being allowed to do what he wishes with his property where others landowners cannot. Ms. McCroskey stated that the Dixon's who previously owned the land had a plat made and they were not able to do what is being proposed by Mr. Walsh. She further stated that the same rules should apply to everyone. Ms. McCroskey commented that she is not aware of any changes to the County ordinance.

Ms. Blakely McCroskey explained that most people do not know what it is like to live on the river. Ms. McCroskey explained that she has seen flooding in her yard and she lives a good ways from the river. She addressed concerns with sewage issues and stated that there could be problems with the drain lines breaking causing the sewage to go into the river. Mr. Owens asked Ms. McCroskey if she had seen the property in question and the road under water. Ms. McCroskey replied that she had many times. Mrs. Mumpower asked if the road is closed when it is under water. Ms. McCroskey stated that the Virginia Department of Transportation places signs saying that the road is closed due to flooding.

Mr. Walsh addressed concerns of the citizens. He explained that no houses would be built in the floodplain. Mr. Walsh further explained that he lives on Northfork River Road and that when it floods it affects all roads. The homes will be built 700-900 feet from the river and the septic systems will be installed away from the floodplain and the river.

The Board discussed this issue at length with comments from Mr. Walsh and Ms. McCroskey. Several Board members expressed their concerns about the flooding issues that could affect the property in question and potential buyers of the property.

There being no further comments, Mr. Reynolds declared the public hearing closed.

Ms. Phillips addressed the Board to advise that Mr. and Mrs. Tom Illowecki came by her office in response to the notice of public hearing and asked that she communicate to the Board their support of Mr. Walsh's application.

Mr. Owens explained that there is no doubt the front part of the property is a beautiful place. He further explained that the back portion of the property is extremely steep and that he could not imagine how a driveway could be built on the hill where the septic systems are to be located. Also, if the rock and dirt from the hill are pushed onto the bottom of the property then when a flood comes it would wash it into the road. Mr. Owens stated that that it appears that the County Ordinance was designed to protect property like this from development. He further stated that there is not public water or sewer available to this property and that it has been well established that the front part of the property does flood.

Mr. Price commented that he has been consistent in the way he has voted on similar issues. He stated that the property looks rugged, but he is not an engineer.

Mrs. Mumpower commented that she has been consistent in voting. She explained that the Board has to consider each tract of land on an individual basis. Mrs. Mumpower stated that Mr. Walsh’s property is pretty; however, the Board has to take into consideration the issues that might affect potential purchasers of this property. After further discussions the following action was taken:

***On motion of Mr. Owens, second by Mrs. Mumpower, the Board acted not to adopt the proposed ordinance.***

***The vote on this motion was as follows: (5-2)***

<b><i>Mr. McCall</i></b>	<b><i>Aye</i></b>
<b><i>Mr. McCrady</i></b>	<b><i>Aye</i></b>
<b><i>Mrs. Mumpower</i></b>	<b><i>Aye</i></b>
<b><i>Mr. Owens</i></b>	<b><i>Aye</i></b>
<b><i>Mr. Price</i></b>	<b><i>Nay</i></b>
<b><i>Mr. Rector</i></b>	<b><i>Nay</i></b>
<b><i>Mr. Reynolds</i></b>	<b><i>Aye</i></b>

- b. Public Hearing and Consideration of Adoption of a Resolution Authorizing Submission of a Grant Application to the Virginia Department of Transportation for the Damascus Tourism Center with Pedestrian and Bicycle Facilities Connecting the Center to the Trails Project

Washington County Public Library Director Charlotte Parsons and Dr. Mel Heiman, Chairman of the Washington County Public Library Board of Trustees addressed the Board presenting a review of the grant application to the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) for the Damascus Tourism Center with pedestrian and bicycle facilities connecting the center to the Trails Project. Ms. Parsons explained the project will provide a new tourist center, crosswalk, sidewalk, curb ramps, bike lane, bus stop, kiosk, parking, landscaping, historic street lighting fixtures, park benches and other street furniture, bike racks, lockers and safety and interpretive markers and signs, maps and brochures. The tourist center will be located in the new Damascus Library Branch building. The project will connect residents, hikers, bikers and bus riders from the trails and downtown area to the new tourist center and library. These transportation improvements will assist local residents, visitors, hikers from the Appalachian Trail and hikers/bikers/horse-back riders from the Virginia Creeper Trail.

Substantial discussions ensued among the Board. Dr. Heiman commented that if the grant is not approved the Library Board would not come back to the Board to ask for additional funding.

Mr. Reynolds opened the public hearing and invited comments concerning the proposed VDOT grant application.

There being no comments, Mr. Reynolds declared the public hearing closed.

***On motion of Mr. Rector, second by Mr. McCrady, it was resolved to adopt the following Resolution:***

**RESOLUTION 2007-32**

*WHEREAS, in accordance with Commonwealth Transportation Board construction allocation procedures, it is necessary that a request by Resolution be received from the local government or state agency in order that the Virginia Department of Transportation program an enhancement project in Washington County, Virginia;*

*NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Supervisors of Washington County, Virginia that Washington County requests the Commonwealth Transportation Board to establish a project for the construction of the Damascus Tourism Center With Pedestrian and Bicycle Facilities Connecting the Center to the Trails.*

*BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Washington County hereby agrees to pay a minimum 20 percent of the total cost for planning and design, right of way, and construction of this project, and that, if the County subsequently elects to cancel this project the County hereby agrees to reimburse the Virginia Department of Transportation for the total amount of costs expended by the Department through the date the Department is notified of such cancellation.*

*The vote on this motion was as follows: (7-0)*

<i>Mr. McCall</i>	<i>Aye</i>
<i>Mr. McCrady</i>	<i>Aye</i>
<i>Mrs. Mumpower</i>	<i>Aye</i>
<i>Mr. Owens</i>	<i>Aye</i>
<i>Mr. Price</i>	<i>Aye</i>
<i>Mr. Rector</i>	<i>Aye</i>
<i>Mr. Reynolds</i>	<i>Aye</i>

Mr. Reeter inquired to Ms. Parsons about a letter he received concerning a planning exercise that is being contemplated. He explained that the letter asked for three County representatives to participate in the planning exercise. There are currently two Board members on the Library Facilities Planning Committee and inquired who Ms. Parsons recommends being asked to participate. Dr. Heiman explained that since the Board has two representatives on the Library Facilities Planning Committee they would need to designate a third person to participate in the planning exercise.

Mr. Owens recognized Betty Wise with VDOT who is attending the meeting as part of the requirements of the Transportation Enhancement Grant.

*Sciuenex's Note: The Virginia Department of Transportation Enhancement Grant referenced above is included as Minutes Exhibits Item 2007-10-23-A.*

**6. Consideration of Request for Use of School Contingency funds for School Improvement Projects**

Washington County School Superintendent Dr. Alan Lee presented a request to the Board for supplemental appropriations in the amount of \$590,000.00 for three projects. Dr. Lee explained the first request is for \$350,000.00 to close off a courtyard area at Watauga Elementary School to create four classrooms and two bathrooms. The second request is for \$225,000.00 to install a new roof at Greendale

Elementary School. The third request is for \$15,000.00 to install a new roof on the Old Cannery Building which is currently leased by the School Board to the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW).

Mr. Larry Bauer, Director of Facilities and Logistics for Washington County Schools provided further detail on the three school improvement projects.

Discussions ensued among the Board. Mr. McCrady commended the School Board for proposing a new roof for the Old Cannery Building because it houses the people (VFW) who made education possible. Mr. Owens expressed appreciation to all veterans. Mr. McCall inquired if the School System anticipates other major facility expenditures for the rest of this fiscal year. Dr. Lee stated that he does not expect any major items, but cannot make prediction. Mr. McCrady commented that the VFW sponsors an annual scholarship for Washington County Schools. Dr. Lee explained that the VFW provides \$1,000 scholarships to each County high school annually. Further, VFW representatives are in attendance at all school events to honor their Country. The VFW is very much appreciated.

***On motion of Mr. Rector, second by Mrs. Mumpower, the Board acted to approve a supplemental appropriation in the amount of \$590,000.00 to the School Board Line-item 94900-5895, Reserve for School Contingencies for the following projects:***

<b><i>\$225,000.00</i></b>	<b><i>Greendale Elementary School Roof Replacement</i></b>
<b><i>\$350,000.00</i></b>	<b><i>Watauga Elementary School Improvements</i></b>
<b><i>\$ 15,000.00</i></b>	<b><i>New Roof for the Old Cannery Building</i></b>

***The vote on this motion was as follows: (7-0)***

<b><i>Mr. McCall</i></b>	<b><i>Aye</i></b>
<b><i>Mr. McCrady</i></b>	<b><i>Aye</i></b>
<b><i>Mrs. Mumpower</i></b>	<b><i>Aye</i></b>
<b><i>Mr. Owens</i></b>	<b><i>Aye</i></b>
<b><i>Mr. Price</i></b>	<b><i>Aye</i></b>
<b><i>Mr. Rector</i></b>	<b><i>Aye</i></b>
<b><i>Mr. Reynolds</i></b>	<b><i>Aye</i></b>

**7. Presentation Concerning Purchase of Additional Wastewater Treatment Capacity from Bristol Virginia Utilities**

Interim General Manager Robbie Cornett of the Washington County Service Authority (WCSA) presented the Board with a review of the tentative agreement between WCSA and Bristol Virginia Utilities (BVU) concerning the purchase of additional wastewater treatment capacity. Mr. Cornett introduced WCSA Board of Commissioners Chairman Gerald Cole and Vice Chairman Scott Rector. He explained that on October 1, 2007 the WCSA Board of Commissioners and BVU Board of Directors reached a tentative agreement which includes the following important issues:

- In addition to the current 572,000 gallons of wastewater capacity per day currently purchased by the WCSA from BVU, the WCSA will purchase, at a cost of \$1,738,847, an additional 500,000 gallons of wastewater capacity per day from BVU, totaling 1,072,000 gallons per day of capacity.

- WCSA's minimum water purchase from BVU will increase from 400,000 gallons per day to one million gallons per day. The maximum allowable will be 3.5 million gallons per day for the first four years of the agreement. That maximum drops to two million gallons per day after four years.
- Based on the agreement, it will no longer be necessary in the foreseeable future for the WCSA to build a wastewater treatment plant in the western end of Washington County to serve customers in this area.
- The parties agree to roll all existing contracts into a single contract.

Mr. Cornett explained that before a final agreement could be executed that the \$1,738,847 in funding to purchase the additional 500,000 gallons per day of wastewater would be required. He further explained that this is an opportunity that will allow expansion of much needed water and wastewater services to the western end of the County. Mr. Cornett requested the Board of Supervisors consideration to pledge the \$1,738,847 to the Service Authority to fund the purchase of the 500,000 gallons per day of wastewater treatment capacity. He explained that the final agreement is not expected to be executed until the Spring of 2008 at which time the funding would be needed.

Substantial discussions ensued among the Board. Mrs. Mumpower commended Robbie Cornett and Wes Rosenbaum for their diligent work as a team on the tentative agreement. She stated that the western district is in serious need for sewage treatment and this is a tremendous step forward for the County. Mrs. Mumpower further stated that it is best for all involved when the County and City of Bristol can work together. She inquired to Mr. Cornett how much wastewater capacity the County has remaining BVU. Mr. Cornett explained that there are approximately 200,000 to 250,000 of the 532,000 gallons per day capacity from the original agreement. He further explained that the opportunity to purchase additional wastewater and water capacity will take the County 15-20 years in the future. Mr. Cornett thanked the Board for giving Wes Rosenbaum and him the opportunity to work on an equitable agreement that benefits both the County and City of Bristol. Mr. Price inquired if the WCSA had any money they could put toward the purchase of the additional wastewater capacity. Mr. Cornett explained that they did not. He further explained that the wastewater system of the WCSA has broken even. This past year is the first year the wastewater system has had a profit which was about \$200,000. Mr. Cornett stated that in the past money was taken from the water part of the WCSA to keep the wastewater side from going into the red. For that reason the WCSA without raising sewer rates does not have the opportunity to come up with funds. Mr. Price commented that the \$1,738,847 is a lot of money to only benefit a portion of the County. Mr. Rector inquired to Mr. Cornett if the matter with BVU had been cleared about the exact amount of wastewater capacity the County has remaining. Mr. Cornett explained that the new agreement would clear the issue and what counts against the County's capacity and what does not. Mr. McCall expressed appreciation to the City of Bristol for their help with making additional wastewater and water capacity available stating that otherwise the County could be rationing water. There was discussion concerning the new wastewater agreement being negotiated with the Town of Abingdon. After further discussions, the following action was taken:

***On motion of Mrs. Mumpower, second by Mr. Owens, the Board acted to transfer \$1,738,847.00 from the County's Capital Reserve Account within the Capital Improvement Fund to the County's Utilities Fund for the purchase of 500,000 gallons per day in additional wastewater treatment capacity from Bristol Virginia Utilities, and to authorize disbursement of these funds to the Washington County Service Authority at such time as is called for upon completion and execution of the final agreement between Washington County Service Authority and Bristol Virginia Utilities.***

Mr. Price commented again that this was a large amount of money to spend to only benefit a portion of the County. Mrs. Mumpower replied that the Board of Supervisors cannot single out one district that the Board must objectively consider the County as a whole and all of the citizens when making decisions. She explained that the Exit 7 area is rapidly growing and the additional wastewater treatment capacity is needed. Further discussions ensued.

*The vote on this motion was as follows: (6-1)*

<i>Mr. McCall</i>	<i>Aye</i>
<i>Mr. McCrady</i>	<i>Aye</i>
<i>Mrs. Mumpower</i>	<i>Aye</i>
<i>Mr. Owens</i>	<i>Aye</i>
<i>Mr. Price</i>	<i>Nay</i>
<i>Mr. Rector</i>	<i>Aye</i>
<i>Mr. Reynolds</i>	<i>Aye</i>

**8. Recess**

It was consensus of the Board to take a recess.

**9. Consideration of Request for Matching Grant Funds for Emergency Response Organizations**

Mr. Reeter explained that the County Emergency Services Committee (Tony Rector and Paul Price) have reviewed a requests from Goodson-Kinderhook Fire and Rescue, Damascus Rescue Squad and Washington County Fire and Rescue for money to use as matching grant funds for the purchase of equipment.

Mr. Rector invited comments from emergency services representatives in attendance.

Mr. Steve Rachel, Chief, Goodson-Kinderhook Fire and Rescue explained that all the requests are for matching funds that are required for state grant funding for emergency medical services agencies. Mr. Rachel explained that the American Heart Association upgraded Cardiac protocols. He further explained that it was first thought that the monitors currently used by Goodson-Kinderhook could be reprogrammed, but discovered that the model of machines currently in service could not be reprogrammed. Mr. Rachel explained that Goodson-Kinderhook received three grants requiring matching funds, one is 80/20 match and two are 50/50.

Further discussions ensued.

*On motion of Mr. Rector, second by Mr. McCall, the Board acted to approve the following supplemental appropriations:*

- 1. \$16,000.00 to Goodson-Kinderhook Fire and Rescue for use as matching funds for the purchase of cardiac monitors and defibrillators.*
- 2. \$1,290.00 to Damascus Rescue Squad for use as matching funds for the purchase of pagers.*

- 3. *\$11,000.00 to Washington County Fire/Rescue #1 for use as matching funds for the purchase of firefighter gear from Line-Items 32400-5090 & 5091.*

*The vote on this motion was as follows: (7-0)*

<i>Mr. McCall</i>	<i>Aye</i>
<i>Mr. McCrady</i>	<i>Aye</i>
<i>Mrs. Mumpower</i>	<i>Aye</i>
<i>Mr. Owens</i>	<i>Aye</i>
<i>Mr. Price</i>	<i>Aye</i>
<i>Mr. Rector</i>	<i>Aye</i>
<i>Mr. Reynolds</i>	<i>Aye</i>

**10. Consideration of Request by Mount Rogers Planning District Commission for CEDS Local Projects Priority List for FY 07-08**

Assistant County Administrator Christy Parker presented a request from the Mount Rogers Planning District Commission (MRPDC) for Washington County’s list of local priority projects, which they will incorporate into a Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) for FY 07-08 for the MRPDC region. Ms. Parker explained that many grant agencies like to see projects that they consider for grant funding be mentioned in the CEDS. She further explained that the Board was provided for their consideration a list of projects for Washington County. Ms. Parker stated that she worked with Mr. Reeter to compile this list based on the prior year’s listings.

Discussions ensued among the Board. Mr. Owens requested that the expansion of public water service in the Tyler District be placed on the list. He explained that the Tyler District has a lot of contaminated water and there is a real need for public water.

*On motion of Mr. Rector, second by Mr. McCall the Board acted to approve Washington County’s list of local priorities to be incorporated into Mount Rogers Planning District Commission’s Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy with the addition of a project to expand public water service to the Tyler District.*

*The vote on this motion was as follows: (7-0)*

<i>Mr. McCall</i>	<i>Aye</i>
<i>Mr. McCrady</i>	<i>Aye</i>
<i>Mrs. Mumpower</i>	<i>Aye</i>
<i>Mr. Owens</i>	<i>Aye</i>
<i>Mr. Price</i>	<i>Aye</i>
<i>Mr. Rector</i>	<i>Aye</i>
<i>Mr. Reynolds</i>	<i>Aye</i>

*Scrivener’s Note: The CEDS Local Projects Priority List referenced above is included as Minutes Exhibits Item 2007-10-23-B.*

**11. Consideration of October 24 Joint Meeting with Abingdon Town Council Concerning Proposed County/Town Sports Multiplex Project**

Mr. Reeter explained that a piece of property has been identified and deemed suitable in terms of location, acreage and ability to develop to be considered for the sports complex. The property is currently being marketed and there is an interested buyer. Therefore, it was determined that the Abingdon Town Council and Board of Supervisors should have a joint meeting as soon as possible for the purpose of review and discussion of the property and consider action in the form of a joint resolution to acquire the property when it becomes available. Mr. Reeter further explained that the Abingdon Town Council has called a meeting for October 24, 2007, at 7:00 PM in the County Administration Building.

Discussion ensued among the Board. Mr. Reynolds commented that he and Mr. Reeter have met several times with Abingdon to review suitable sites, and the group has had a hard time finding suitable property. It appears that property will become available that meets the criteria, and Abingdon has expressed interest in working with the County. Further discussions ensued. Mrs. Mumpower stated that she would not be able to attend the joint meeting with Abingdon because of a funeral. Mr. McCall commented that the owner of the property is Clifton Stewart so he will have to abstain from voting. After further discussions, the following action was taken:

*On motion of Mr. Rector, second by Mr. Owens, it was resolved to recess tonight's meeting to October 24, 2007, 7:00 PM, at the County Administration Building for a joint meeting with the Abingdon Town Council concerning the proposed County/Town Sports Multiplex Project.*

*The vote on this motion was as follows: (7-0)*

<i>Mr. McCall</i>	<i>Aye</i>
<i>Mr. McCrady</i>	<i>Aye</i>
<i>Mrs. Mumpower</i>	<i>Aye</i>
<i>Mr. Owens</i>	<i>Aye</i>
<i>Mr. Price</i>	<i>Aye</i>
<i>Mr. Rector</i>	<i>Aye</i>
<i>Mr. Reynolds</i>	<i>Aye</i>

**12. Consideration of November 8 Joint Meeting with Washington County Industrial Development Authority Concerning The Highlands Commercial Development**

Mr. Reeter explained that there is a need for a joint meeting between the County and Washington County Industrial Development Authority (IDA) to discuss the incentive package financing to Newton Oldacre MacDonald (NOM). NOM, the developer of The Highlands Retail Commercial Development, has fulfilled their obligation to receive the initial \$3,000,000.00 incentive grant from the IDA pursuant to the Memorandum of Agreement. It is proposed that this meeting be held on November 8 at which time both bodies would receive a review of the terms and conditions of the overall incentive package approved from NOM and to take action on certain agreements and resolutions needed to facilitate sale of bonds. Mr. Reeter stated that the Board could recess at the October 26 Retreat Planning Session to November 8.

**13. County Administrator Reports:**

**a. Agenda for Retreat Follow-up Planning Session Recessed Board Meeting, October 26, Jubilee Retreat Center, Abingdon**

Mr. Reeter reminded the Board of the Retreat Planning Session to be held on October 26 from 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM at the Jubilee Retreat Center in Abingdon.

**b. Proposal for Modification of Service Windows at Departments of Zoning Administration & Building Inspection**

Mr. Reeter reviewed the proposal to modify the service windows at the Departments of Zoning Administration and Building Inspection in the main lobby of the County Administration Building to provide for customer seating in front of the service windows and more customer privacy. The proposed plan would move the service windows out of the main lobby area, providing for customer seating at the windows and for more customer privacy by separating the customer waiting area from the service windows. Mr. Reeter explained that this proposal was the least expensive way for a quick fix to the problems. Other proposals would require removal of a load bearing wall and the services of an engineer to determine if there would be any structural damage to the building by moving the wall.

The Board discussed this issue at length. Board members felt that having service windows do not create a good environment for customers visiting the County Zoning Administration & Building Department. It was recommended that the County Administrator look at placing desks for the customers in the office of the permitting clerks and eliminate the service window. Mr. Reeter said from the standpoint of what needs to be done to configure the service windows it would be easier to simply put desk in office.

**c. Reminder: Kiwanis Abingdon Christmas Parade, November 16, 2007, 7:00 PM**

**d. Reminder: Virginia Association of Counties Annual Conference, November 11-13, 2007, The Homestead**

In another matter, Mr. Reeter explained that General Services Manager Stephen Richardson has provided the Board with a memo at stations requesting that a vehicle returned by the County Solid Waste Department be declared surplus.

***On motion of Mr. McCall, second by Mr. Price, the Board acted to declare a 1989 Chevrolet S-10 Truck as surplus.***

***The vote on this motion was as follows: (7-0)***

<b><i>Mr. McCall</i></b>	<b><i>Aye</i></b>
<b><i>Mr. McCrady</i></b>	<b><i>Aye</i></b>
<b><i>Mrs. Mumpower</i></b>	<b><i>Aye</i></b>
<b><i>Mr. Owens</i></b>	<b><i>Aye</i></b>
<b><i>Mr. Price</i></b>	<b><i>Aye</i></b>
<b><i>Mr. Rector</i></b>	<b><i>Aye</i></b>
<b><i>Mr. Reynolds</i></b>	<b><i>Aye</i></b>

At this point, Mr. Reeter distributed a revised ordinance pertaining to general advertising and location signs in B-2 Zoning Districts. He explained that he revised the draft along the lines of what he generally understood the Board's interest to be at the October 16 joint Board meeting with the Planning Commission. Highlights of the proposed ordinance include that a sign must be located on a parcel of 15,000 square feet or greater and restricted to 35 feet in height with two message bearing surfaces no larger than 12 X 25. Any new signs could not be placed more than 1,500 feet apart and lighted or electronic signs shall be prohibited in B-2 Zoning Districts. Mr. Reeter stated that he wanted to see if this was the direction the Board wished to go in regards to sign regulations. If this is the Board's direction then another public hearing with the Planning Commission could be scheduled for November. If the Board feels more study is needed on the issues the matter can be referred to the Land Use Steering Committee.

Discussions ensued among the Board. Board members reiterated their position taken at the October 16 joint meeting with the Planning Commission that all pending applications for such signs be considered under the present County Zoning Ordinance. No action was taken.

**14. County Attorney Reports:**

Ms. Phillips explained that at the last meeting she was directed to send a letter to Backer Park Foundation to request financial documents. She reported that Backer Park Foundation has submitted to the County an accounting of funds and bank statements. She noted that she had given a copy of the accounting to Jack McCrady and would provide a copy to other members of the Board upon their request.

**15. Board Information**

Mr. Reeter reviewed the following Board information:

- ElderSpirit Community Spirit Center Dedication, November 4
- Abingdon's Wolf Creek Wastewater Reclamation Facility Open House, October 25

**16. Board Member Reports**

Mr. Price advised that he would walk in the Abingdon Christmas Parade.

Mr. Price requested the use of the Board Meeting Room on November 3, 2007 to conduct an open meeting.

Mr. McCrady inquired if the County had a water management plan. Mr. Reeter explained that the Washington County Service Authority has a water contingency plan.

**17. Recess to 7:00 PM October 24, 2007 for Joint Meeting with Abingdon Town Council, Conference Room 1, County Administration Building**

*On motion of Mr. Rector, second by Mr. Owens, it was resolved to recess to 7:00 PM, October 24, 2007, for joint meeting with Abingdon Town Council, Conference Room 1, County Administration Building.*

*The vote on this motion was as follows: (7-0)*

<i>Mr. McCall</i>	<i>Aye</i>
<i>Mr. McCrady</i>	<i>Aye</i>
<i>Mrs. Mumpower</i>	<i>Aye</i>
<i>Mr. Owens</i>	<i>Aye</i>
<i>Mr. Price</i>	<i>Aye</i>
<i>Mr. Rector</i>	<i>Aye</i>
<i>Mr. Reynolds</i>	<i>Aye</i>

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**Prepared by:**

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Naoma A. Mullins, Recording Clerk

**Approved by the Washington County Board of Supervisors:**

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Kenneth O. Reynolds, Chairman