



## **GATE CITY TOWN COUNCIL PUBLIC HEARING MINUTES**

**January 11, 2022**

**156 East Jackson St., Gate City, VA 24251**

**6:30 PM**

**I. PUBLIC HEARING MEETING CALLED TO ORDER AT 6:33 P.M. BY: Mayor – Bob Richards**

**II. ROLL CALL –** Town Clerk – Lydia Morales

	PRESENT:	ABSENT:
Mayor, Bob Richards	X	
Vice Mayor, Robin Richards	X	
Council Member, Allan "Cotton" Roberts	X	
Council Member, Roger Cassell	X	
Council Member, Wallace W. Ross, Jr.	X	
Council Member, Tyler Kilgore	X	
Town Manager, Greg Jones	X	
Town Attorney, Michele Brooks	X	

Others present: Gabriel Edmunds, Scott County Virginia Star; Chief of Police Justin Miller; Noah Kimbler; Jim Addington, Addington Oil Company; Leslie Crawford, Gate City Frontier; Father Christopher Hess of St. Bernard Catholic Church of Gate City; Donnie Alley; Claude Williams, Wilderness Road Enterprises; Kathy Stewart; Allison Kimbler; Courtney Mailey

**III. NEW BUSINESS**

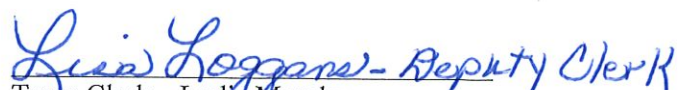
- CIGARETTE TAX RATE**

**IV. PUBLIC COMMENT**

- **Mr. Jim Addington, Addington Oil Company** – Mr. Addington stated that he appreciates the Council reconsidering the cigarette tax rate that was previously passed and hopes that the finance committee has spoken to the Town of Weber City to see how their collections are going. Mr. Addington stated that he hopes the Council will follow the lead of Weber City with a 20 cents per carton tax rate.
- **Mr. Claude Williams, Wilderness Road Enterprises** – Mr. Williams stated that he has been in business for 26 years and it has always been a struggle for small businesses. Mr. Williams stated that it is a tight margin on the things that he sells such as cigarettes, gasoline, and other volume sales. Mr. Williams stated that when anything adds to the bottom line of our cost, we have to raise prices. Mr. Williams stated that this causes customers to go somewhere else. Mr. Williams stated that unfortunately, if we continue with the current rate of \$4, we are at a disadvantage. Mr. Williams stated that he hopes we can be even with Weber City.

**V. PUBLIC HEARING CLOSES AT 6:35 P.M.**

  
Bob Richards – Mayor

  
Town Clerk – Lydia Morales