

# Town Meets Its Civic Goals, Says Mayor Lee Simmons

By RICK GUNTER  
The Journal Staff

CREWE — Mayor Lee Simmons recently said the town's government has met or exceeded goals he set months ago for municipal progress. He applauded fellow members of Crewe Town Council during the panel's end-of-the-year meeting at Crewe Library.

The praise at the December 12th meeting came in the shadows of 2012, when the council and the mayoralty positions face re-election.

Mayor Simmons listed six goals he had set at the beginning of 2011. These

included fixing the town's aging sewer system. "We are well on our way," he said. "We made tough decisions ... and raised rates. The system should run efficiently for years to come."

The town not only raised rates, but it borrowed money and applied for grants from rural development agencies to fund the multi-million project.

He said that a second objective was to make a decision on whether the town should join the proposed Prince Edward water authority. He did not say as much, but the town did not formally make a decision on joining or not joining. Crewe

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Crewe Mayor Lee Simmons goes over a list of what he called the municipality's achieved goals during 2011.

## Mayor Says Council Meets Its Goals For 2011

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was heavily courted by Prince Edward officials to either join or become a customer. Crewe officials never received specific numbers on costs of membership and water service and the town's interest faded with the passage of the months. The authority and its appeal also lost ground when the Town of Farmville pulled out as a potential partner with Prince Edward County in the project.

A third Crewe goal, according to Mr. Simmons, was to "adjust the town's budget in tough times." He said this has been done despite rising costs. He applauded council for not raising taxes on residents.

A fourth goal was to retain a town attorney. This objective was achieved, said the mayor, with the hiring of Richmond attorney Tessie Bacon, who has been praised repeatedly for her work in behalf of the town. She told council at the same meeting at which Mr. Simmons made his presentation that she "loves" her role as town attorney for Crewe.

Mayor Simmons said it also was an objective to make a decision about Crewe Community Center. This was achieved when the municipality decided to sell the aging structure to Jim and Ann Stinson, who are rehabilitating the building for future use.

The mayor also said the town has achieved a sixth goal of improving its housing stock. He cited such initiatives as the town's adopting a new building code and taking action aggressively to enforce building ordinances in Crewe.

He again applauded council for its work as 2011 ended and 2012 began.

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