

TOWN OF WACHAPREAGUE
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
NOVEMBER 11, 2015

COUNCIL PRESENT: Fred Janci, Mayor, Bonnie Munn, Vice Mayor, Susie Atkinson, Aileen Joeckel and John Joeckel
ABSENT: Stuart Bell
TOWN CLERK: Lynn Weeks

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

I. Call to Order – Mayor Janci called to Order the Town Council Meeting at 7:00 p.m. on November 11, 2015 in the Wachapreague Town hall.

II. Pledge of Allegiance – Mayor Janci lead the Council in the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. Public Comments – Mayor Janci presented council with a letter dated November 10, 2015 from Matt Hart of Hart Construction, LLC and then proceeded to read it to all. Mr. Hart has purchased and renovated 24 Main Street in Wachapreague which he takes great pride in. Mr. Hart has had an ongoing problem with his neighbors, Bill and Carol Burnham; 1. They allow their dog “Scout” to relieve himself on his property at all times during the day; 2. Bill Burnham uses his side yard as a dumping site for his debris (limbs and branches); 3. Bill Burnham dug a hole 5-6 feet round and approximately 12-14 inches deep, which Mr. Hart was unaware of and, an employee of his fell into it as it had snowed the night before and was not visible. Fortunately the employee was not seriously injured; 4. Bill Burnham was caught taking lumber from his lumber pile and when questioned stated his Foreman told him he could have it.

Mr. Hart has spoken with Bill Burnham on many occasions on all of the above matters but to no avail. At a request of Mr. Hart, Mayor Janci has spoken with the Burnham’s too. Other measures taken are a 6 foot privacy fence with no trespassing signs. Also, a “Notice Not To Trespass” Order was served on the Burnham’s by the Sheriff’s office. Photographs and videos have been taken of Scout, pursuant to Mayor Janci’s request for proof. One member of the council and a neighbor has also seen Scout in action.

Mr. Hart is looking to the Town to implement its Ordinance on leaving animal waste, which violation is a Class 4 misdemeanor, punishable by a fine of not less than \$25.

Mayor Janci emailed the Burnham’s and advised them this matter would be discussed tonight but he did not hear back from them. Mayor Janci feels the least the Town could do is write a letter to the Burham’s that Scout needs to be leashed or tethered but cannot run loose in Town.

John Joeckel recommends speaking with the Town Attorney to see if video tapes would be admissible for issuing a fine. Mayor Janci is to speak with Mr. Rowan and advise council.

Mayor Janci brought in pictures of the Christmas tree ornament that Cathy Janci and Tameka Watkinson made in response to a request by the Governor’s office. The ornament shows the Wachapreague Fire Station, Reflections Art Gallery, Wachapreague Carnival ride, Daytrippers and the Island house. This ornament will be placed on the Christmas Tree at the Governor’s Mansion and next year it will go to VML.

Cathy Janci was thanked for such a beautiful ornament that truly represents the Town and was given a round of applause. Tameka Watkinson was not present but her efforts are greatly appreciated.

IV. Approval of Minutes – Minutes of the September 8, 2015 meeting were discussed with Bonnie Munn agreeing to them if the A and B addendums are made a part thereof and John Joeckel and Aileen Joeckel feel they should be eliminated altogether, although Ms. Joeckel had no problem with what was transcribed.

Bonnie Munn made a Motion to approve the September 8, 2015 Minutes with A and B being made a part thereof and Susie Atkinson seconded the Motion. John Joeckel agreed to the minutes with reservation and Aileen Joeckel was against. As such the September 8, 2015 Minutes were approved.

John Joeckel made a Motion that no longer may there be any word for word transcription of a Town Council Meeting which was seconded by Aileen Joeckel. There being no further discussion the Motion was voted on and passed unanimously.

Aileen Joeckel made a Motion to approve the Minutes of the October 13, 2015 Town Council Meeting and Bonnie Munn seconded the Motion. There being no further discussion the Motion was voted on and passed unanimously.

Susie Atkinson made a Motion to approve the Minutes of the October 19, 2015 Special Town Council Meeting and Bonnie Munn seconded the Motion. There being no further discussion the Motion was voted on and passed unanimously.

The November 10, 2015 Town Council Meeting was cancelled due to not having a quorum and rescheduled to November 11, 2015.

**V. Review of Financial Report – John Joeckel reported
TOWN**

- Total Assets are \$111,000, \$37,000 less than last year.
- Total Cash Assets are up by \$13,600 basically due to the land purchase.
- This year's actual to last year is down \$8,000 basically due to auto tag/decals, grass cutting last year of \$2,100 to "0" this year and land survey of approximately \$3,300.
- Mr. Joeckel questioned the \$1,000 Litter Grant believing it should be more than noted. He is to check on this.

MARINA

- Total Assets are up \$11,000.
- Net Income is down by \$7,000 but up \$12,000 over last year.

Bonnie Munn made a Motion to accept the Financials as of October 31, 2015 and Susie Atkinson seconded the Motion. There being no further discussion the Financials were voted on and passed unanimously.

VI. Old Business

A. SAFETY AND SECURITY – Todd Godwin was scheduled to attend the November 10th meeting which was cancelled due to not having a quorum.

B. MARINA – John Joeckel informed council he has requested Sandi Puchalski work up a repair list in anticipation of requesting Grant funds from the Virginia Port Authority. On the floating docks, Mr. Joeckel will be working on Grants and should be able to give council his report by February, 2016.

C. TOWN AND MARINA CASH ASSET DISPOSITION – Mr. Joeckel deferred to Lynn Weeks who advised due to time constraints has not had an opportunity but has spoken to Mary Jo Tatum who does not foresee any problems

D. TOWN MAINTENANCE/GARBAGE – Bonnie Munn advised the pistons are still leaking in the garbage truck and the maintenance personnel are keeping them lubricated. Ms. Munn is to speak with J.D. Bradshaw on possibly having the pistons worked on before the Spring. The Mayor of Melfa is a friend of Ms. Munn and she will speak with her about the possibility of using their garbage truck should ours be out for repairs.

D. Powell Memorial Park – Ms. Munn advised having

- J.D. Bradshaw and John Burton put up a fence of orange netting to block the southwest corner of the Park and Ms. Munn will assess it again in the Spring.

- A chain has been hung across the front of the park with a lock to prevent anyone from driving in before 9:00 a.m. or after dusk. At this time Ms. Munn is unlocking and locking the gate. Ms. Munn is looking into signs to put up advising of the Park hours.
- J.D. Bradshaw and John Burton have installed a Pet Waste Station and also replaced some swings.
- There are two remaining Pet Waste Stations that need to be installed at Seaside Park.
- Ms. Munn has a call into Wayne Burton of Parks & Recreation about a refrigerator but has not heard back from him. Bob Bilicki offered a commercial refrigerator but it is not felt it would fit in the concession stand.
- Mayor Janci discussed the play station tower Steve Jones offered the Town to see if there was still an interest which Ms. Munn and Ms. Joeckel were most agreeable to. Mayor Janci will need help to get it here and is not sure if the Town employees alone could do it. Ms. Joeckel suggested speaking with the Coast Guard as they are always looking for volunteer projects. Mayor Janci will get in touch with them.

E. Town Hall Beautification/Maintenance – Ms. Munn advised Carolyn and David Bright have removed the sea shells that surrounded the flag pole and Mayor Janci will put in its place grass seed and remove some bricks.

F. 911 System – Ms. Weeks advised this is still being worked on.

G. Seaside Park – Mayor Janci discussed the “Donation Money”.

1. Mayor Janci spoke with David Rowan who recommended Cathy Janci prepare a letter to council as to her designation of the donation funds that were received from the raffle ticket sales of the “Patriotic Quilt”. Mrs. Janci authored a letter read to council outlining her wishes for shrubs to be purchased and placed around the gazebo. The question was raised were the donation proceeds from the Patriotic Quilt monies given to the Town for the sale of the quilt or was the donation her quilt. This is something Mayor Janci needs to address with Mr. Rowan. It was established that the approach by council to donation money requires a vote of acceptance with specificity by the donor of their wishes and, if they accept the donation, another vote for disbursing the funds.

Aileen Joeckel made a Motion to pay Hortco Garden Center \$1,000 for landscape plant material and labor in Seaside Park around the gazebo and Bonnie Munn seconded the Motion. There being no further discussion the Motion was voted upon and passed unanimously.

2. Replacement of damaged spindles in the gazebo. Mayor Janci advised purchasing 20 replacement spindles at a cost of \$240. Z.R. Lewis advised he has all of the original railings and spindles that were built in 1902 of hard pine wood that were on the Wachapreague Hotel. Mayor Janci will take a look at them. Ms. Joeckel said the spindles now are maintenance free but suggests using the wood railing and spindles somewhere in the Park.

Repairs to some of the benches in Seaside Park should be completed sometime this week.

I. Delinquent Town Real Estate Taxes, Vehicle & Golf Cart Tags – Mayor Janci reported the Town is looking good as to the outstanding taxes to date which are approximately \$500.

J. Planning Commission – Aileen Joeckel advised there was no meeting this month however she contacted Curtis Smith to see if he could be of assistance in our Town Ordinances but was advised he could not. What Mr. Smith could assist us with is our working waterfront once he has completed his studies. Mr. Joeckel feels the Public Hearing for the Comprehensive Plan should be in February, 2016.

K. Virginia Hazard Mitigation Plan – John Joeckel advised they met the first Wednesday of the month. The Planning Commission will begin going to each Town within the next 4-5 months. They will want to meet with the Town Council to request information as to potential hazards and the like.

- The Coastal Erosion piece is being finalized although Mr. Joeckel wants language added to focus on Cedar Island.

- The Ad Hoc Waterway Committee meeting is scheduled and Mr. Joeckel hopes Senator Lewis and Delegate Bloxom will be attending. Mr. Joeckel wants to address State financing for dredging. He feels the only way dredging from Marker 122 out the inlet would be cost sharing with the State.

L. Tourism/Business – Aileen Joeckel advised she is in receipt of VistaGraphics, Inc. invoice for the annual Ad in the 2016 Eastern Shore Visitors Guide.

Aileen Joeckel made a Motion for the Town to pay VistaGraphics, Inc. \$1,248.30, which includes the Prompt Pay Discount of \$138.70, for the quarter page Ad to appear in the Eastern Shore Visitors Guide 2016 and Bonnie Munn seconded the Motion. There being no further discussion the Motion was voted on and passed unanimously.

- Ms. Joeckel advised the websites are still being worked on.
- The Town's Billboard on Route 13 was discussed with the Tourism Group and the restrictions imposed by VDOT. Blake Johnson suggested speaking with the property owner however Mayor Janci said there are different requirements because it is zoned agriculture. Ms. Joeckel is to speak with the fertilizer company to see if the Town could rent a spot on their property as it is believed they are in a commercial zone.

M. Appointments – Mayor Janci presented to the Town two perspective council members; Bill Blaine and Jeanette Sturgis. He requested they give a brief history.

Bill Blaine - He advised he no longer wishes to be on council and is rescinding his letter. However, Mr. Blaine gave a history of growing up in Wachapreague and moving to Philadelphia some 22 years ago working in the moving business. Subsequently he went into the moving business in Allentown, PA where he employed over 100 workers and had 26 tractor trailers. There was a union strike that he won but soon after sold his business. He then became the National Director of Sales and Marketing for two national companies. Mr. Blaine has also done consulting for the past 15 years for troubled companies. Mr. Joeckel asked Mr. Blaine if he would consider serving on one of the Town's subcommittees and he said he would.

Jeanette Sturgis – Advised she has been here a year and is interested in getting involved with the Town. Ms. Sturgis is originally from Long Island and moved to the Eastern Shore in 1986. She has lived in Onancock for 23 years and at one time owned a Bait & Tackle Shop with her husband in Quinby. Ms. Sturgis has been working as an assistant teacher in Special Ed but not sure if she wishes to continue. Up until recently she had been working in Irene Lewin's real estate office here in Wachapreague on Friday and Saturday.

Bonnie Munn made a Motion to accept Jeanette Sturgis as a temporary council member to serve the remainder of Sandi Wood's term up until June 30, 2015 and Aileen Joeckel seconded the Motion. There being no further discussion a vote was taken and passed unanimously.

Ms. Weeks is to notify David Rowan of Jeanette Sturgis' appointment and provide Ms. Sturgis with Freedom of Information Act papers and advise her of where she will need to go to be sworn in.

N. Town Property –Survey – Mayor Janci advised the Eastern Shore Surveyors is questioning two markers designated as A, bent pin and B, pipe. The Mayor indicates the deeds he has copies of read by acreage and properties they abut. On one of the deeds it reads 22 acres and further on its reads 25 acres. The surveyor feels that the ditch line is probably the most logical for a property line. As Chip Turlington has been farming some of the land the Town would have no problem with him continuing thereby utilizing the land and making some money. Mayor Janci indicates the Town should Stake a Claim and go from there.

O. Broadband Service and Communications Tower – John Joeckel advised

- A meeting was held with Neubeam and Eastern Shore Communications, where an hour was given to each provider. In attendance was John Joeckel, Aileen Joeckel, Mayor Janci and Bonnie Munn.

- John Joeckel questioned whether or not the Town should have one exclusive provider or let the two providers compete. All council were in agreement to have the two providers compete which will give the residents a choice.
- Bonnie Munn contacted Charter and obtained a copy of the Contract with the Town of Wachapreague. Charter is not interested in being a part of the last mile service.
- Mr. Joeckel read the Charter Contract and pointed out the Non-Exclusion Clause. To assure the Town would not be in any violation he suggests speaking with David Rowan. It should also be addressed with Mr. Rowan on whether it would behoove the Town to draw up contracts with Neubeam and Eastern Shore Communications. Mr. Joeckel is to provide David Rowan with the Charter Contract.

John Joeckel made a Motion to not have a sole service contract but to allow Neubeam and Eastern Shore Communications to compete and Susie Atkinson seconded the Motion. There be no further discussion the Motion was voted upon and passed unanimously.

P. Christmas Decorations – Susie Atkinson has left a message for Kerry Paul to see if; 1. The electric box has been upgraded and 2, with the upgrade can we have wreaths that have lights? She indicated the Wachapreague Fire Company will be hanging the 12 strings of lights across Main Street the Sunday before Thanksgiving.

Bonnie Munn made a Motion to buy new Christmas Wreaths with lights in an amount not to exceed \$500 and Susie Atkinson seconded the Motion. There being no further discussion the Motion was voted upon and passed unanimously.

Q. Floodplain Administrator/CRS Coordinator – Mayor Janci advised he finally heard back from Christina Groves, ISO/CRS Specialist for the Community Rating System. She indicated she needs an additional 90 days, although she has spoken with Tom Brockenbraugh, the GIS Coordinator for the Accomack County Department of Planning and the Accomack County Tax people regarding the properties in Wachapreague that are undevelopable for consideration as wetlands for adding to the CRS rating. Mr. Joeckel advised of speaking with Jeff Pitts who mentioned if FEMA gives a Grant to the Wachapreague Fire Company to move due to the floodplain they would be required to demolish the building. Mr. Joeckel feels consideration should be given to finding alternative uses for the building. Mayor Janci agrees. To be discussed at a much later date.

R. VML Insurance Renewal – Mayor Janci discussed the insurance renewal and the comparison to last year’s invoice that was sent to council. John Joeckel questioned if there were any changes in the coverage or deductibles. Mayor Janci advised the coverage has remained the same but would check on the deductibles.

John Joeckel made a Motion to renew the VML Insurance Policy for the period July 1, 2015 to July 1, 2016 at the cost of \$12,507 which was seconded by Susie Atkinson. There being no further discussion the Motion was voted upon and passed unanimously.

Electric Drop for Christmas Lights – Please see section “P”

W. Ordinance Review – Please see section “J”

VII. NEW BUSINESS

VIII. ANNOUNCEMENTS –

- Mayor Janci advised the Officer in Charge of the Coast Guard will be leaving to go to Deep Creek. The Change of Command is tentatively scheduled for December 11th and they would like to hold it at Seaside Park with a possible get-together afterwards at the Fire Company, pending their approval.
- The Christmas Holiday with Santa Clause coming to Town was discussed and mentioned that Nikki and Chris Wardius in the past had hired someone with the Town reimbursing the Wardius’. Aileen Joeckel will get together with them and discuss December 10th as a possibility.

- Bonnie Munn mentioned several residents in Town who have had health issues and that she has volunteered to visit them on behalf of the Town. In addition to giving them a card a suggestion was a dish garden to which council all agreed.
- Council member, Stuart Bell, has had numerous surgeries due to a detached retina and council felt something more would be appropriate for him and his wife. Ms. Munn will take care of this.
- John Joeckel would like to have some Resolutions done: one to Darryl Matthews for his \$700 donation in Memory of Eddie Matthews, his father; Catherine Janci for her time and dedication on the Patriotic Quilt and the Christmas Ornament for the Governor’s Mansion; and Vernon and Cathy Bell for all they do for the Town.
- **Adjournment** – Susie Atkinson made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Bonnie Munn seconded the motion. The motion was voted upon and passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

CBW
11/1/15

MAYOR

TOWN CLERK