

TOWN OF WACHAPREAGUE
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
OCTOBER 14, 2014

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

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

I. Public Comments –

Blake Johnson of the Island House Restaurant arrived around 7:15 p.m. and council acknowledged his presence and asked if he wished to address them. Mr. Johnson is having his 3rd annual Oyster Roast on November 1, 2014 to benefit the Navy Seals Foundation. Mr. Johnson would like to utilize the Herbert Powell Memorial Park for overflow parking and Vice Mayor Munn said she would arrange this on his behalf. Ms. Munn advised the Town will be flying the American Flags along Main Street in support of his event. Mr. Johnson would like to close off a portion of Atlantic Avenue directly in front of his restaurant and requests permission from the Town and asked what other steps he would need to take. Ms. Munn advised VDOT requires a Land Use Permit and directed him to Dale Pusey in Accomac. Also requested was the use of the corner of Seaside Park to set up tables for patrons to get tickets, show I.D. and place wrist bands prior to entering the restaurant. Mr. Johnson indicated he has received \$20,000 so far from sponsors that will go directly to the Navy Seals Foundation. All council concurred on all requests presented.

Mr. Johnson took this opportunity to thank John Joeckel for his efforts in the dredging in and around the marina and the Island House Restaurant.

II. Call to Order

Vice Mayor Munn called to Order the Town Council Meeting at 7:00 p.m. on October 14, 2014 in the Wachapreague Town Hall.

III. Pledge of Allegiance

Vice Mayor Munn led the Council in the Pledge of Allegiance.

IV. Approval of Minutes –

Aileen Joeckel made a Motion to Approve the Minutes of the September 9, 2014 Town Council Meeting and Susie Atkinson seconded the motion. There being no further discussion, the Minutes of the September 9, 2014 meeting were voted upon and passed unanimously.

V. Review of Financial Report – John Joeckel reported:

TOWN OF WACHAPREAGUE

- Has \$150,000 this year versus \$124,500 in 2013, an increase of 25% in cash.
- The Suntrust C.D.'s have expired and the Town is looking into Shore Bank as an alternative.
- Net Income is up 15% and Expenses are down 26%; positive cash of \$6,500 is shown, an increase of 53% over FY 2013.
- Eleven people owe back taxes or 5% for a total due of \$2,175.

PORT OF WACHAPREAGUE

- Has \$84,500 in checking. Reimbursement of \$8,600 for the electrical repairs from the VPA Grant will bring it to \$93,500. This will show a decrease of \$10,000 in FY 2014 versus FY 2013.
- Net Income is down by approximately 16% this year versus FY 2013.
- Three people owe marina fees for a total of \$1,400.

Sandi Wood made a Motion to accept the September 30, 2014 Financials and Susie Atkinson seconded the Motion. There being no further discussion, the Financials were voted upon and passed unanimously.

VI. Old Business

A. Marina – Mr. Joeckel advised:

- He has awarded the marina roof replacement project to Chris Wardius of Wardius Contracting, Inc. for \$2,550. This amount reflects a \$152 reduction in labor costs and \$150 in debris removal with use of the Town Brush Truck. Work should commence by the end of October. With the reduction and reimbursement from the VPA Grant the overage will come to \$87.50.
- The reimbursement request to VPA in the amount of \$8,758 for the completion of the electrical repairs was sent on October 8th. Monies left from the VPA Grant are approximately \$6,000.

B. Golf Carts – Chris Wardius has mailed in his application and \$10 fee for a decal. An inspection of his golf cart is necessary prior to issuing the decal.

C. Town Maintenance/Garbage - Bonnie Munn advised everything is okay.

D. Powell Memorial Park – Bonnie Munn has gone to the Park and taken pictures of the work done in the concession stand. She does not feel a very good job was done and will speak with Wayne Burton.

E. Town Hall Beautification/Maintenance – Ms. Munn feels Town Hall should be painted inside and out. Council deferred comment at this time.

F. Streets and Drainage – A proposed letter was presented to council to use as notification to property owners of their ownership of the sidewalks. John Joeckel asked if written proof has been furnished to the Town showing this in fact to be true. Stuart Bell is to speak with Chris Isdell of VDOT and request written confirmation of who in fact does own the sidewalks.

G. Safety/Security – Stuart Bell reported nothing at this time.

H. 911 System –

- A proposed letter was presented to council for their approval to send to out of town/state property owners with the Address Update Form. All council were in agreement to use the proposed letter. Susie Atkinson and Bonnie Munn have completed their assigned streets and Lynn Weeks will start the process of sending these letters out.
- Council requested the status on the Brennan certified letter and was advised one has now gone to the Brennan's at their Wachapreague address.

I. Seaside Park –

- Susie Atkinson advised notifying John Joeckel of David Door who he could contact regarding a surveillance camera setup for Seaside Park.
- Mr. Joeckel has sent a note to Absolute Security but has not had any response to date.
- VML will not be accepting applications until December.

J. Delinquent Real Estate Taxes – Bonnie Munn advised Lynn Weeks has heard from Ana Vlavlukin, a joint owner of the Riahi property who has given her current address in New York, New York to forward the invoice on the outstanding real estate taxes. Ms. Weeks has notified David Rowan's office who will forward the invoice to Ms. Vlavlukin.

K. Planning Commission – Aileen Joeckel advised she had to cancel the October 8th meeting and will reschedule it at a time prior to the November 11, 2014 Town Council Meeting in preparation for Pete Hodgson's presentation.

L. FEMA – Mayor Janci was absent. Bonnie Munn discussed the Mayor's plan to attend a one-week course on "Managing Floodplain Development" through NFIP (L-273) in Waynesboro, Virginia. Recently, this course became available in Norfolk in February, 2015. Council feels the Norfolk

location would be more cost effective. The location will be determined by the availability of the Mayor.

Hazard Mitigation Plan –

- The Accomack-Northampton Planning District Commission is in the process of rewriting the Eastern Shore of Virginia Hazard Mitigation Plan and has asked the Town of Wachapreague to appoint a representative to be part of this committee. This is an approximately 2 year commitment with one meeting per month. John Joeckel has offered to be the Town's representative and all council were in agreement.
- Blake Johnson mentioned being approached by a Mark Steelman, a person unknown to him, about forming an organization or group of people regarding the encroachment of the Barrier Island.
- John Joeckel discussed a field trip he had a month ago with the Army Corps of Engineers and the U.S. Coast Guard. Mr. Joeckel advised the Army Corps of Engineers is now evaluating whether the Federal Government has an interest in Cedar Island and not just the County of Accomack or the State. If there is a Federal interest in Cedar Island it would be for the environmental protection of the wildlife habitate and the salt marsh which is a United Nations Biosphere (?). There are a lot of conservation and environmental stakeholders that have an interest in preserving Cedar Island. The Federal interest may come down to preservation of the salt marsh and habitate. Should this be the case the Government may only come up with 50% and the remaining 50% match would have to be made up by additional stakeholders. Mr. Joeckel has discussed this with State Delegate Bloxom and our intent, if feasible, would be to work with the State in partnership with the Army Corps of Engineers for any remediation efforts to Cedar Island. This is an ongoing matter which will take a long time.

M. **Town Employee Job Descriptions** – The Job Description for the Harbor Master presented at the September 9th Town Council Meeting by Mr. Joeckel was reviewed by council and agreed to by all as originally presented.

N. **Tourism/Business and Tourism Advisory Board –**

- Aileen Joeckel made a Motion to approve expenditure for an Ad in the Virginia Eastern Shore Tourism Brochure in the amount of \$1,297.80 which includes the Prompt Pay Discount of \$144.20 and Sandi Wood seconded the Motion. There being no further discussion the Motion was voted upon and passed unanimously.
- Ms. Joeckel presented a color copy of the proposed Ad which shows a bicyclist in front of the Gazebo in Seaside Park, charter boats at the Marina and one of the businesses in Town. Stuart Bell felt more pictures of boating and fishing would best represent the Town.
- VistaGraphics chose these pictures to broaden the appeal of the Town.
- Susie Atkinson and Bonnie Munn thought possibly one of the 4th of July parade pictures, maybe one of the carnival and a fishing one.
- Ms. Joeckel reported there has been no final decision made.

O. **Board of Zoning Appeals Appointments** – Aileen Joeckel has nothing at this time.

P. **Town Ordinances** – John Joeckel is still concerned that not all ordinances have been properly executed and Lynn Weeks is to check the original ordinances.

Q. **Tangible Property Tax** – John Joeckel has requested Lynn Weeks search the Minutes of Town Meetings from June 6, 2006 when the Ordinance Levying Taxes on the Town of Wachapreague was

adopted at the rate \$.22/\$100 for tangible personal property and when the change occurred to \$.13/\$100.

VII. **New Business –**

Real Estate Tax Bill Inserts -

- (a) John Joeckel discussed the proposed changes/additions to the Taxpayer Information Sheet to include the 911 Ordinance and incorporates the Dangerous Structures Ordinance which the Town had adopted on October 2, 2001. All council agreed.
- (b) Also agreed to by Council is the 2013-2014 Year in Review authored by John Joeckel.

Official Town of Wachapreague T-Shirts & Hats –

Mayor Janci requested Lynn Weeks discuss in his absence the public's interest in T-shirts and possibly hats that just have the Town of Wachapreague on it. Aileen Joeckel mentioned it can be rather costly unless you purchase a large number of them. Blake Johnson uses Harbor Graphics for his T-shirts. Sandi Wood's son-in-law has a machine and may be able to help us. She is to speak with him about pricing. This will be revisited at a later date.

Virginia Department of Health –

John Joeckel requested this be placed on a future Agenda to discuss the Health Department's requirements prior to any upcoming Town events where food will be served.

VIII. **Announcements –** Mary Jo Tatum is engaged and planning a Spring wedding and Diana Brown married on September 20th and she and her husband have purchased a home in New Bern, North Carolina.

IX. **Adjournment –** Stuart Bell made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Aileen Joeckel seconded the motion. The motion was voted upon and passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

CBW
10-14-14

MAYOR

TOWN CLERK