

TOWN OF WACHAPREAGUE
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
August 12, 2014

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

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

I. Public Comments –

1. Linda Jones asked if the Town would be holding a Yard Sale this fall. Ms. Jones suggested a donation table be placed near Town Hall where items could be collected and sold with all revenues going toward a “fireworks” fund. It was noted that this would be by the citizens of the Town of Wachapreague and not sponsored by the Town. Saturday, September 13th was agreed to by all. Ms. Jones will place a Notice in the Post Office.

2. Ms. Jones also has observed vehicles in Town that are not current on their Town Tags/Decals. Lynn Weeks advised due to time constraints a review of residents who are in arrears has been delayed but not forgotten.

3. Jesse Vodvarka discussed Cedar Island and G.O. Tubes that would act as a barricade to protect the Town of Wachapreague as an alternative to dredging and a possible savings of \$25,000. Mr. Joeckel discussed a boat trip with the U.S. Coast Guard and Army Corp of Engineers into the Wachapreague Inlet to assess the loss of the southern tip and thinning of Cedar Island, shoaling of the Wachapreague Inlet and the effects on the salt marsh due to the direct impingement of Ocean waves from the loss of the southern tip of Cedar Island. Ms. Joeckel also brought up the permitting process for spoils and the years it takes for everyone to sign on. Mayor Janci also mentioned The Nature Conservancy and their stance on altering the natural process of things.

4. Jackie Zang brought up the feral cat population in Town. Ms. Zang has captured and had neutered several females, as well as the Janci's. A request for assistance from the Town to help pay for having these feral cats neutered was requested. Susie Atkinson believes there is an Ordinance on the books which addresses this issue. Lynn Weeks is to review the Ordinances and advise. It was determined this issue would be placed on next month's Agenda for a determination.

II. Call to Order

Mayor Janci called to Order the Town Council Meeting at 7:35 p.m. on August 12, 2014 in the Wachapreague Town Hall.

III. Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Janci led the Council in the Pledge of Allegiance.

IV. Approval of Minutes –

Aileen Joeckel made a Motion to Approve the Minutes of the July 8, 2014 Oath of Office and Town Council Meeting and Bonnie Munn seconded the motion. There being no further discussion, the Minutes of the July 8, 2014 meeting were voted upon and passed unanimously.

V. Review of Financial Report –

John Joeckel reported yearend figures still being tabulated and appreciation has not yet been calculated.

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- Year to year was approximately \$16,000 less income and approximately \$15,000 less expenses.
- Net Income for the same time last year to this year is virtually the same \$14,000 to \$14,000.

- Assets in checking and savings this year is approximately \$144,000 compared to last year of \$124,000 an increase in savings of a total of \$20,000.

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Mr. Joeckel reported:

- Depreciation has not been taken into account at this time.
- Mr. Joeckel was unsure if the reimbursement from the Port Authority Grant is reflected in these financials.
- The net income shows a negative balance of \$19,000 this year and \$19,000 last year. A lot of adjustments still need to be made.
- The total checking and savings is \$95,000 and last year was \$104,000, which is down about \$8,000 to \$9,000.

Bonnie Munn made a Motion to accept the July 2014 Financials and Aileen Joeckel seconded the motion. There being no further discussion, the Financials were voted upon and passed unanimously.

Mr. Joeckel in the Budget for FY 2014 estimated the Meal Tax revenue to be around \$20,000 and advised the actual revenues were \$26,400.

VI. Old Business

A. Marina – Mr. Joeckel discussed

- An estimate for replacing the roof of the Town Marina had been given in the amount of \$2,200 which was presented to Council and a vote taken not to exceed this amount at the July 8, 2014 Town Council Meeting. However, additional estimates were requested and have now been received. A verbal estimate was given by Jimmy Pruitt in the amount of \$2,900 and a written estimate by Chris Wardius for \$2,850. Mr. Joeckel being familiar with Chris Wardius and his work and dependability suggested retaining Mr. Wardius for these repairs.
Susie Atkinson made a Motion to retain Chris Wardius for the roof replacement of the Port of Wachapreague Marina Office in the amount of \$2,852.00 (an increase of \$652) and Bonnie Munn seconded the Motion. The Motion was voted upon and passed unanimously.
- Mr. Joeckel reported the “No Wake” signs have been purchased and was unsure if they are in place yet, but will be shortly by Richie Puchalski.
- The electrical work has been completed on the docks and an updated invoice received. The balance due from the original invoice and some additional charges that were known. Change orders which included LED lights, fixing faulty wiring and repair of bad wiring as discovered, came to an additional \$6,870.00. Mr. Joeckel has requested Sandie Puchalski get a detailed breakdown of these additional change orders. As \$6,500 had been approved by Council at the July 8, 2014 Town Council Meeting payment for labor costs to U.S. Electric in the amount of \$4,806.49 is to be placed in line for payment immediately.
- Dredging in the Wachapreague Channel is underway.
- Mr. Joeckel had the opportunity to accompany the U.S. Coast Guard, Chief of Station Connor and seven Army Corp of Engineers personnel on the USCG fast response boat where they discussed Cedar Island, Wachapreague Inlet and the salt marsh. With the continuation of the thinning of Cedar Island the concern is the Atlantic Ocean impacting the salt marsh along with the substantial shoaling of the Wachapreague Inlet.
- There are two issues here (1) shoaling of the waterway and, (2) the environmental issue of loss of Cedar Island, the salt marsh and their impact on the Town of Wachapreague.
- Mr. Joeckel is working with the Army Corp of Engineers to have Wachapreague designated as a “Critical Harbor of Refuge”, as Chincoteague and Cape Charles are. With this designation the Town would get a step-up in funding prioritization with the Army Corp of Engineers in Congress. One requirement would be a National Defense facility which we have with the U.S. Coast Guard.

Another step would be a political path where we would ask our representatives to back us up to the Federal Government through Congressman Rigell, Senator Warner and Senator Kaine. An additional step would be for the Army Corp of Engineers to review and evaluate us to justify our being designated a "Critical Harbor of Refuge". This will be a long process.

B. Golf Carts –

- Mayor Janci called David Rowan on three separate occasions without success regarding the Virginia Citation.
- Mayor Janci reported most golf cart owners have now complied except for Blake Johnson and Chris Wardius. Aileen Joeckel is to speak with them.

C. Town Maintenance/Garbage

Bonnie Munn reported J.D. Bradshaw advised everything okay with the Town vehicles and lawn mowers.

D. Powell Memorial Park –

Bonnie Munn reported:

- Nothing has been done to the concession stand, to her knowledge.
- On July 26, 2014 there were two parties booked; Brandy through Bonnie Munn from 5 – 7 and, Veronica Millburn through Parks and Recreation from 8 - ?. When Brandy arrived Veronica Millburn was extremely rude and indicated she would call the police if Brandy did not leave. Ms. Munn has apologized to Brandy.
- Ms. Munn has spoken with Parks and Recreation and indicated all bookings for Powell Memorial Park now scheduled and to be scheduled will be coordinated between both entities to avoid this happening again.
- Andrea Derby, Clerk for the Town of Accomack, wants to reserve the park for November 29th for a "Half Marathon". Ms. Munn referred her to Parks and Recreation and asked if the Town would have any restrictions. Response was no.

E. Streets and Drainage – Stuart Bell was absent.

F. Town Hall Beautification/Maintenance – Ms. Munn reported:

- She has requested J.D. Bradshaw spray the weeds growing around Town Hall.
- Ms. Munn also discussed freshening up the interior of Town Hall and recommended painting the walls and replacing the carpeting. This issue to be discussed at a later date.

G. Safety/Security – Stuart Bell was absent.

H. 911 System – Susie Atkinson reported:

- Working with Mayor Janci on four occasions and Lynn Weeks to secure names and 911 addresses for all but two streets.
- Ms. Atkinson will go door to door on High, South, Custis and Paul and has assigned Bonnie Munn-Bayview, West and Pearl; Aileen Joeckel - Centre, Glade, Richardson, Powellton, Lewis and Lee; Mayor Janci – Atlantic, Main, Riverview and Liberty.

I. Seaside Park – Mayor Janci and John Joeckel advised the VML Insurance Risk Management Grant is on a sliding scale with a maximum of \$1,000 per year that can be requested. Mr. Joeckel indicated he still needs to make a determination on a security camera system before applying for the Grant.

J. Delinquent Real Estate Taxes – Mayor Janci indicated his need to speak with David Rowan on his progress with Juliana Riahi's delinquent real estate taxes. Lynn Weeks advised she recently sent Ms. Riahi's 2013 delinquent real estate taxes to add to the prior year's Mr. Rowan already has. Reginald Mariner, has paid the Town \$600 toward his outstanding taxes and lawn care but still owes the Town close to \$1,000. Emily Diamond only received her lawn care invoice recently.

- John Joeckel discussed the Personal Tangible Property Tax the Town imposes on Mobile Homes. In reviewing a 2006 Ordinance this tax was \$.22/100. Over the past years it has dropped down to \$.13/100. Mr. Joeckel believes a vote would be required along with a Public Hearing to effect such a change. To his knowledge none has occurred.
 - Mr. Joeckel also discussed the Town Ordinances and has requested Lynn Weeks scan them into the computer so that he may review them for any possible updating. Some town ordinances appear unsigned by a Mayor, some ordinances appear to be out of date, all require review.
- K. **Planning Commission** – Aileen Joeckel advised August 13th would be the next meeting.
- L. **FEMA** – Mayor Janci discussed the FEMA requirements regarding all mobile homes in Town. They all must be mobile with a quick disconnect for electric and sewer and up-to-date registration and inspection. If they are not, it then falls under the Town’s Zoning Ordinance. If the Town overlooks any of this it will affect the Town’s rating for insurance coverage.
- M. **Town Employee Job Descriptions** – John Joeckel to prepare one for the Harbor Master.
- N. **Tourism/Business and Tourism Advisory Board** – Aileen Joeckel advised:
- Due to vacations there was no meeting.
 - The website is still being worked on and Ms. Joeckel is to provide council by e-mail with a rough draft.
 - Ms. Joeckel has spoken with Allen Burns regarding the light box at the Bridge/Tunnel Welcome Center and renewal.
- O. **Board of Zoning Appeals Appointments** – Aileen Joeckel has nothing at this time.
- P. **Mayor and Town Council Compensation and Annual Dinner:**
- In accordance with the Town Charter, each newly elected Council must address and vote on the issue of compensation. John Joeckel made a Motion to continue no compensation for the remaining term of current council and Bonnie Munn seconded the Motion. The Motion was voted upon and passed unanimously.
 - Aileen and John Joeckel have offered their home for a Holiday get together. Everyone agreed and this will be discussed again at a later date.
- VII. **New Business** – Bonnie Munn spoke with Andrea Derby, Clerk of the Town of Accomack. Ms. Derby advised Mike Mason, Head of Finance, discussed with her the possibility of the County collecting the Vehicle Tag/Decal Taxes. This could be done by the County purchasing a software package costing \$6,000-\$7,000, which then could be split among participating Town’s. Ms. Munn was unsure of all of the details but Mr. Mason could come to one of our meetings to explain this in detail. No decision was made.
- Jesse Vodvarka voiced a complaint about a tree that was cut to the ground on his family’s property. Council advised ANEC is taking down or lowering trees throughout the Town within the 10 foot easement on all properties.
- VIII. **Announcements** – Bonnie Munn produced a sample note card with the “Little City by the Sea” logo. All were in agreement and Ms. Munn is to order 250 of them on card stock with envelopes included.

- X. **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 9:00 p.m.

CBW
8-12-14

MAYOR

TOWN CLERK