

TOWN OF WACHAPREAGUE  
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING  
MAY 13, 2014

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

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

**I. Public Comments –**

- Carol Burnham advised the Diamond Property lawn is overgrown.
- Ms. Burnham brought to the attention of council children driving golf carts on the Town streets. Mayor Janci and Aileen Joeckel also have seen this and been unable to confront these children.

**II. Call to Order**

Mayor Janci called to Order the Town Council Meeting at 7:05 p.m. on May 13, 2014 in the Wachapreague Town Hall.

**III. Pledge of Allegiance**

Mayor Janci led the Council in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**IV. Approval of Minutes**

Mayor Janci indicated the date for the Minutes of the April 8<sup>th</sup> meeting was incorrectly typed in as March 11, 2014 which the Town Clerk will correct. Bonnie Munn made a Motion to Approve the Minutes for the April 8, 2014 Town Council meeting and Aileen Joeckel seconded the motion. There being no further discussion, the minutes were voted upon and passed unanimously.

**V. Review of Financial Report**

John Joeckel reported:

**PORT OF WACHAPREAGUE**

- Current assets 2014 versus 2013, year to date, are down a little over half due to payment for dredging of the Town Marina and payment for electrical materials.
- The reimbursement request to the Virginia Port Authority with receipts was sent last week for around \$35,000 of the \$47,000 cost of dredging. A reimbursement request for electrical materials will not be submitted until the end of June, 2014. Those two reimbursements will bring us back up to \$90,000.
- The Gross Profits year to date for 2014 versus 2013 are almost exactly the same.
- Expenditures this year are approximately \$96,000 versus \$92,000 last year.

**TOWN OF WACHAPREAGUE**

- The total checking and savings is up by approximately \$17,000 or 13.1%.
- Total Income last year to this year, when you eliminate the pass thru Fire Program, is almost exactly the same.
- Net income is 16.3% more than last year.
- Differences in expenses show a major increase of \$3,000 over last year due to the Town's garbage truck.
- Labor for the Marina and the Town, after a 3% reduction due to Town employee's pay increase, is 15% higher than last year.
- Projected total income budgeted versus year-end will be about the same figuring in the next three months of meals tax.

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

**VI. Old Business**

**A. Marina** – Mr. Joeckel reported

- A request has been made to the Virginia Port Authority for reimbursement of dredging expenses.
- The electrical equipment has been ordered with the hopes of completion by mid-June so the Marina's request for reimbursement to VPA can be submitted no later than June 30, 2014.
- There will be a dredging meeting with the Army Corps of Engineers on May 21<sup>st</sup>, 11:00 a.m. at the Island House to discuss the Bradford's Bay dredging project which will probably commence latter part of this year or early 2015. Not sure of the extent of the dredge but it is to start at the Wachapreague Channel.
  - a. Also to be discussed is a hydrographic survey of the Virginia Inside Passage; Phase I - will be done by a Contractor South of Chincoteague to Metompkin Bay; Phase II – will be the Southern end of the Virginia Inside Passage from Swash Bay down to Fishermen's Inlet and; The middle will be done by the Army Corps of Engineers which includes Wachapreague from Bradford's Bay out to the Wachapreague Inlet.
  - b. Mr. Joeckel reported a recent discussion with the Army Corps of Engineers and believes the Wachapreague Inlet and the loss of Cedar Island will be discussed at the May 21<sup>st</sup> meeting.
  - c. In a conversation with our local Coast Guard Mr. Joeckel was informed of groundings in and about the inlet where the water depth is supposed to be charted at a depth of 23'.

**B. Town Maintenance/Garbage**

Bonnie Munn reported the Town brush truck recently had the driver's side window replaced by Colona's, as it would not go up. The cost of repair was \$203.01.

The white benches in Seaside Park need to be cleaned and the mosaics sealed. Best if done in the heat of the summer.

Mayor Janci requested Town maintenance employee's edge around the gardens at Seaside Park.

Bonnie Munn is to speak with J.D. to place these requests on his schedule.

**C. Powell Memorial Park** –

Bonnie Munn advised Gregory Stratton would like the use of the Park but needs to contact the Department of Parks and Recreation. Also, the Park is to be reserved from June 22<sup>nd</sup> to 24<sup>th</sup> under Stuart Bell.

**D. Streets and Drainage** – Stuart Bell reported:

- Receipt of a letter from VDOT with a description request of all broken and damaged sidewalks and their exact location. Mayor Janci and Mr. Bell worked together to gather this information for VDOT's May 15<sup>th</sup> deadline. It appears the Town of Wachapreague will be next.
- A discussion of overgrown lawns on the Diamond, Mariner and 16 South Street properties were mentioned. Mayor Janci reviewed the Town Ordinance on overgrown lawns citing civil penalties and, any notification given to property owners cover a period of one year.
- It was also noted a Stop sign was down at Church and Main Street and one missing at High Street. Mr. Bell will look into this.

**E. Stormwaters** – John Joeckel reiterated:

- Receipt of last month's letter from Mr. Norman B. Pitt of the Accomack County, Department of Planning and the three options discussed and presented at that meeting.
- The County Board of Supervisors, in a recent meeting, opted to develop their own Stormwater Management Plan.

- It was suggested the most beneficial option for the Town would be to opt into the State of Virginia's Stormwater Management Plan.
  - The Town needs to make it known no later than July 1, 2014 the Stormwater Management Plan they wish to opt into.
  - Mr. Joeckel is to call DEQ, Shawn Fluharty, the representative responsible for the State's Stormwater Management Plan and Mr. Pitt to get a better idea of each Plan and will present them at the June 10, 2014 Town Council Meeting when a decision will have to be made.
  - Mr. Joeckel suggested consideration of reviewing various responsibilities of oncoming Council for this and all new issues as they become known since there are additional tasks that are arising that do not fit the current job duties of council members and these other upcoming issues need to be spread around due to workload.
- F. **Town Hall Beautification/Maintenance**— Tres Atkinson is absent.
- Mayor Janci addressed the water issue at Town Hall as the well only goes 25' down. Bundick Well & Pump was called and an adjustment made to slow down the withdrawal of water from the Tank. It was noted the well will eventually need to be replaced.
  - Mayor Janci is putting in new grass at Seaside Park which will require watering. A suggestion was made to revive the old hotel well in the Park which goes to a depth of 90'. Mayor Janci advised new wells now require a depth of 250-300'.
  - Aileen Joeckel had contacted Boggs Water & Sewage regarding a potential Grant and was quoted approximately \$3,500 to revive the Seaside Park well and indicated lines could be placed throughout the Park for an additional unknown cost.
  - Council to consider this at a later time.
- G. **Safety/Security**— Selina Coulbourne discussed the golf cart issue where only Stuart Bell, Jackie Zang, Frank Large and Bill Savage have followed the Ordinance and purchased decals.
- Non-compliance with Town Ordinance holds a maximum fine of \$100. Mr. Joeckel is to prepare a sample ticket that can be printed on card stock for issuing to delinquent golf cart owners. The Town has the authority to write tickets and a sample one is to be presented at the next Town Council Meeting.
  - A Notice of the \$100 Fine is to be posted at the Post Office, Front Door of Town Hall and other locations yet to be determined.
  - A request was made to follow up with the Department of Motor Vehicles regarding DMV Stops which prevents delinquent personal property owners from obtaining a new DMV license if they hadn't purchased a car or golf cart/utility decal. This practice has been implemented for years by Accomack County and recently by the Town of Chincoteague.
  - It was suggested taking a picture of children driving golf carts on the Town streets and then calling Child Protective Services.
- H. **911 System** — Selina Coulbourne reported:
- Mr. and Mrs. Brian Brennan have placed a post with the number 5 on it outside of their house on the corner of Custis Street and Lee Street since the April 8, 2014 Town Council meeting.
  - Mayor Janice advised David Rowan has indicated he will not write a letter to alleviate the Brennan's concerns.
  - A proposed letter to Mr. and Mrs. Brennan has been drafted and sent to David Rowan who will be adding some legalese to it.
  - Ms. Coulbourne has been going along Main Street with the 911 Map and most house numbers differ from the map. It appears High Street is correct, Church Street has problems,

Pearl is mostly right, Riverview on one side of the street is off. Ms. Munn suggested obtaining names of property owners by accessing accumap and entering the street address.

- Mr. Joeckel presented a proposed 911 Address Ordinance which needs to be reviewed by Council and placed on the June 10, 2014 Agenda for a vote and if passed, implemented. It is suggested the Town attorney be contacted to see if this Ordinance needs to have a public hearing before it is voted upon.
- I. **Seaside Park**— Mayor Janci discussed the cleanup that took place at the Seaside Park on Saturday May 3<sup>rd</sup> and acknowledged and thanked the following volunteers: Cathy and Vernon Bell, Carol and Bill Burnham, Shirley and Joe Barry, Lorraine and Jim Fishback, Cathy Janci, Clinton Brown and Lynn Weeks.
- Mayor Janci discussed the request of Chris Wardius of the Wachapreague Inn for a horseshoe pit at the Park and one in which Mr. Wardius has offered to set up. It was decided it could be housed at the lower corner down along the edge of the Park to alleviate any danger and unsightliness along Main Street. A Motion to approve the request to have a horseshoe pit at the Seaside Park was voted upon and passed unanimously.
  - Mr. Joeckel asked if the horseshoe pit would be a professional regulation pit and if so, the potential to hold tournaments. The Town must also be in compliance with DCR regulations and restrictions. Carol Burnham indicated DRC requirements deal mostly with drainage and growth to be as natural as possible.
  - Bonnie Munn discussed the potential for putting in a regulation horseshoe pit at the Powell Memorial Park too since it is believed the cost would be minimal. To be discussed at a future meeting.
- J. **Delinquent Real Estate Taxes and Town Tags/Decal Fees**— Mayor Janci advised:
- Lynn Weeks has requested from Mary Jo Tatum up-to-date invoices for delinquent 2013 property taxes for Reginald Mariner, Katherine Niepold Bilicki, T.R. Button, Harry Nelson, Raydean Lipscomb, Juliana Riahi, Norman Taylor, Sr. and William Trout. Of the prior year delinquent 2012 property taxes Mr. Rowan has not received any response or payment from Raydean Lipscomb or Juliana Riahi.
  - Mr. Joeckel requested Ms. Weeks check with Accomack County Treasurer’s Office to see if they could place on the Real Estate Tax Bills they generate for the Town of Wachapreague the wording, in accordance with our Town Ordinance, the 10% penalty plus 10% per annum if not paid by December 5<sup>th</sup>. Ms. Weeks will call the County to see if this is a possibility.
- K. **Planning Commission** - Mayor Janci advised he has removed himself from this Committee due to the conflict of also being the Zoning Administrator. He will give the Committee access to Town Hall and act as their secretary, for now.
- Mayor Janci came without the Meeting Minutes but in summary the Committee wants to keep the character of the Town. They are looking at the computerized version of the Comprehensive Master Plan and changes, if any, would be presented to the Town Council, followed by a Public Hearing and then voted upon.
  - Mayor Janci is to provide Ms. Weeks with a copy of the Planning Commission Meeting to forward to all council.
  - As the Planning Commission is now short by one there is a need to find a replacement.

L. **FEMA**— Mayor Janci reported:

- Receipt of a letter from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) dated April 30, 2014 where the Town is in a 90 day notice period to file an appeal of the revised Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM). Any complaints by the citizens of the Town of Wachapreague must come through the Town to be addressed by FEMA.
- Mr. Joeckel cited an April 2, 2014 letter from the Department of Conservation and Recreation regarding applications for grants from the Virginia Dam Safety and Floodplain Management Division for 2014, a total of \$500,000 being available pending budget approval. The deadline for this application would have been May 1, 2014. It was a 50% matching Grant. However, the Town would have had to complete the application with costing within 2 weeks of receipt. FEMA maps presented tonight are finalized maps which the Town will have to tie into for development of the Floodplain Management Plan and will also include Zoning Ordinance changes. Zoning changes will include legal costs as well as the Public hearing process.
- Mr. Joeckel advised Accomack-Northampton County Planning District has now begun the rewrite of the Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan within which will be Floodplain Management issues. Wachapreague has their own section within that Plan. The rewrite will commence this summer and end in 2016.
- The Accomack-Northampton County Planning District will have regular monthly meetings for the next 2-1/2 years and needs to be attended by a representative of the Town of Wachapreague.
- In the new Town Comprehensive Plan will be the potential for ordinance changes along with a Flood Management Plan and ordinance changes that will be extensive and costly. As this grant will come up again in April 2015 the Town will need to come up with a proposal well in advance of this deadline.
- The Town will need to designate someone to oversee this whole process. Ms. Joeckel suggested switching council duties where strengths are best utilized.
- Mr. Joeckel also noted no monies will be set aside in the budget for 2015 without knowledge of what the costs will be.

M. **Town Employee Job Descriptions** – John Joeckel still to finish Harbor Master job description.

N. **Tourism/Business and Tourism Advisory Board** – Aileen Joeckel was out of Town so the Committee meeting will be held next week.

- Ms. Joeckel indicated Mona Cossitt will have something to show us on the Town website at our next meeting.
- The kiosk is built to order and Mr. Wardius will be putting it together. The marlin has been carved and needs to be painted. The kiosk will be placed in the Seaside Park as a place of arrival with pavers surrounding it.

O. **Board of Zoning Appeals Appointments** – Aileen Joeckel has named Joe Tormos. No vote taken at this time.

P. **Volunteer Awards** –

John Joeckel will draw up a formula to follow for an outstanding volunteer whether a Town resident or not. A sitting Mayor or current Town Council would not be eligible. The award would be something that would truly show the appreciation of the Town like a carving, a

painting, or something not to exceed \$200 but done by a local artisan here in Town. This award could only be presented to this person once every 5 or so years.

Stuart Bell suggested the Town have a card with the Town Logo to send out to residents as a Thank You or sorry to hear of your illness, etc. Ms. Joeckel will look into getting cards made for this purpose. A vote was taken and passed unanimously.

- Q. **2015 Budget Considerations** – John Joeckel mentioned May 23<sup>rd</sup> at 7:00 p.m. will be the Work Session for the 2015 Budget. He requested Council contact him by e-mail with any thoughts or changes they may have to the proposed Budget before then.

VII. **New Business** –

- Mayor Janci asked if permissible to park boats and trailers in the Marina parking lot at night. Stuart Bell felt there would be concern of theft and thus liability on the part of the Town.
- Mayor Janci discussed the need to replace flag pole brackets. Ms. Weeks indicated that maintenance has new brackets as they were ordered last summer.
- Mayor Janci also discussed a security video camera to oversee the Seaside Park and Nikki Wardius volunteering the use of the Wachapreague Inn roof for mounting one. Ms. Weeks will look into a possible Grant from VML Insurance to help out with the cost.

- VIII. **Announcements** – Mayor Janci congratulated all Council on their recent win at the polls.

IX. **Adoption of Executive Closed Session** –

Bonnie Munn made a motion for Council to move into closed session to discuss Director of Zoning compensation. Aileen Joeckel seconded the Motion. A Roll Call Vote was taken and passed. The Motion and Roll Call Vote are attached hereto these Minutes.

X. **Motion to Reconvene Open Meeting** –

Stuart Bell made a motion to reconvene open meeting. Selina Coulbourne seconded the Motion. A Roll Call Vote was taken and passed. The Motion and Roll Call Vote are attached hereto these Minutes.

- XI. **Adjournment** – Bonnie Munn 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 9:15 p.m.

CBW  
5-13-14

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MAYOR

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TOWN CLERK