

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

January 3, 2013

PRESENT

John Joeckel, Presiding Officer
Selina Coulbourne
Aileen Joeckel
Bonnie Munn
Val Vincent

Town Clerk, Diana Brown

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

- I. *Announcement*
 - A. John Joeckel announced that the vote on the Meals Tax would not take place at this meeting. The vote will be at the February meeting after an Interim Mayor and Interim Town Council member have been selected, which should be within the next two weeks.
- II. *Public Comments* - None
- III. *Call to Order*

Presiding Officer John Joeckel called the Town Council Meeting to order at 7:02 p.m. Thursday, January 3, 2013 in the Wachapreague Town Hall.
- IV. *Pledge of Allegiance* – Mr. Joeckel opened the meeting by leading the Council and Public in the Pledge of Allegiance.
- V. *Approval of Minutes*
 - A. Val Vincent made a motion to approve the Minutes for the November 5, 2012 Town Council Meeting, the December 1, 2012 Special Town Council Meeting/Public Hearing and the December 13, 2012 Special Town Council Meeting. Bonnie Munn seconded the motion. There being no discussion, the motion was voted upon and passed unanimously.
- VI. *Review of Financial Report*
 - A. Val Vincent noted that the financials are in line with last year. Val Vincent made a motion to file the Financial Report for Audit. Aileen Joeckel seconded the motion. Report filed for Audit.
- VII. *Old Business*
 - A. MARINA –
 1. Mr. Joeckel reported that Harbor Master had provided a verbal estimate for additional surveillance cameras and will have a written proposal for the February meeting.
 - B. TOWN MAINTENANCE/GARBAGE –
 1. Councilman Bonnie Munn reported that J.D. Bradshaw has arranged for Sean Fate to drive for garbage pickup while he is on vacation week of Jan 7.
 2. The Maintenance Crew will water the new trees in Seaside Park.
 3. Mr. Bradshaw asked if John Burton could assist with brush pick up on some Tuesdays during winter months as necessary.
 4. Maintenance will work on the Town Hall caulking and repairs per request from Ms. Vincent.
 - C. TOWN HALL BEAUTIFICATION/MAINTENANCE
 1. Exterior Repairs – Councilman Val Vincent noted that one-half of the work on the building exterior was done this year. She wants to budget next year for doing the other half. She will obtain an estimate from Wardius Contracting.

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D. STREETS AND DRAINAGE/911 –

1. Councilman Aileen Joeckel has called VDOT to repair/replace street signs. However, there is apparently only one person in charge of this and she has been unable to contact him. She will continue to pursue.
2. Ms. Vincent stated to be aware of potential washing out under the road at Bayview and Atlantic.

E. SAFETY/SECURITY

1. Councilman Selina Coulbourn noted no issues except a noise problem, but the landlord was to be contacted. Ms. Vincent stated she had heard there was a bounty hunter in Town who had picked up a fugitive on Main Street. There were no other details.

F. 911 SYSTEM

1. Ms. Coulbourn reported still working on collecting information.

G. POWELL MEMORIAL TOWN PARK – Nothing to report

H. SEASIDE PARK

1. Mr. Joeckel stated that Bill Burnham had been in charge of Seaside Park and since he is no longer on Council, someone is needed to take over the interim responsibility. Val Vincent volunteered.

I. TOURISM

1. Aileen Joeckel stated there had been no December Meeting of the Tourism working group due to schedules and the holidays.
2. Ms. Joeckel has been asked to serve on the Leadership Academy for Eastern Shore Health Communities. The Academy has been approved and accepted and she will have a one-year commitment with them.
3. She is also being considered for the Eastern Shore Tourism Commission Board along with Blake Johnson and others.
4. The Ad for the Eastern Shore Visitor's Guide has been approved and payment is being sent.
5. The Working Group has entered into the Virginia Tourism Commission grant process for obtaining more funds for marketing efforts.

J. CHANNEL DREDGING

1. Mr. Joeckel reported as follows:
 - The final Project Management Plan is done
 - Pre-solicitations announcement for contract advertisements are due now
 - Bid openings are February 1, 2013
 - Contract award February 15, 2013
 - Contract immobilization – middle of March
 - Completion – middle of June
2. Barring any complication, the project should go through.
3. Copy of Project Management Plan in Town Hall for public's information.
4. The DEQ sent back the application for permit to the Army Corps of Engineers. The Army Corps of Engineers placed notice in the Eastern Shore News on December 12, 2012 for public comments which will end on January 18, 2013. Mr. Joeckel has written a letter to DEQ in support of the Army Corps of Engineers' application. He had distributed copies to Council for review and asked for Council's approval to send. Council concurred.

K. *DELINQUENT REAL ESTATE TAXES AND TOWN TAGS/DECALS*

1. Mr. Joeckel met with prospective Town Attorney to discuss. Mr. Rowan advised that attorney's fees are collectible as well. There are certain steps to be followed and he is prepared to advise the Town on this procedure.

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Discussion followed on the particulars of the Real Estate Taxes in arrears.
Town Clerk advised status.

L. DERELICT/BLIGHTED BUILDINGS

1. Mr. Joeckel advised that there is nothing new but will discuss in conjunction with Meals Tax information.

M. PLANNING COMMISSION & BZA APPOINTMENTS

1. Mr. Joeckel noted that Mr. Bilicki tried hard to get members. He requested a list of the current members for February meeting. Discussion followed regarding possibility of printing a flyer and posting.

N. BZA Appointments –

1. See N.

O. MEALS TAX

1. Mr. Joeckel distributed a Meals Tax Reporting Form which would be used by the business if the Meals Tax is approved. He also provided an information handout, "Wachapreague Prepared Meal/Beverage Ordinance: Concept for Determining the Use of Revenues" and discussed the specifics outlined in the handout. The information handout is attached hereto to these Minutes.
2. Mr. Joeckel stated that he is not asking for anything at this meeting. He is just throwing ideas out to think about because if the Meals Tax is passed, the Town would need to put in place a complete process to insure how the funds would be used. It needs to be transparent and include the participation of the residents.
3. Ms. Vincent asked how many people would serve on the Business & Tourism Advisory Group. Mr. Joeckel envisions members coming from the Island House, the Wachapreague Inn, Town Marina, Town Council, Fisherman's Lodge, a non-business person - approximately six people.

P. Golf Cart Ordinance

1. Mr. Joeckel reviewed the history of the process which started in 2011. The correspondence did not get to the representatives in time for the 2012 General Assembly session. In November, 2012 John Hopkins wrote to Delegate Lewis and Senator Northam stating the need to address the General Assembly on our behalf in order to obtain a special dispensation. This is in the works for the session beginning January 9, 2013. Mr. Joeckel will follow up and contact Delegate Lewis' office. If exception granted, the Town would need to develop an ordinance similar to Saxis' and crafted to meet our needs. Virginia Code allows for charging for golf cart usage. Cape Charles charges the same as for other vehicles.

Q. Appointment of Town Attorney

1. Mr. Joeckel met with David Rowan and advised of Town's issues and he is willing to serve as Town Attorney. He has sent Letter of Engagement for Council's review. He advised that at some time during the year, the fees will go up, but for now they are the ones quoted. Aileen Joeckel made a motion to appoint David Rowan to serve as Town Attorney for the Town of Wachapreague pursuant to terms outlined in the Letter of Engagement. Bonnie Munn seconded the motion. A Roll Call Vote was taken and passed unanimously. The Motion and Roll Call Vote are attached hereto to these Minutes.

R. Appointment of Interim Mayor and Town Council Member

Mr. Joeckel is not aware of anyone at this time; however, the Council needs to make appointments within the next two weeks or the Judge will appoint.

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- S. Petition and Writ for Special Election
Mr. Joeckel announced that David Rowan has submitted the Writ of Election based on the Town's request and the judge has accepted it.
- T. FY2012 Audit Update
Town Clerk reported that Mary Jo Tatum has received the draft and will complete going through the Journal Entries this week and will give OK for auditor to finalize.
- VIII. *New Business* - None
- IX. *Announcements* – None
- X. *Adjournment*
Val Vincent made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Selina Coulbourne seconded the motion. The motion was voted upon and passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

DFB
01/08/2013

PRESIDING OFFICER

CLERK