

TOWN OF WACHAPREAGUE  
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING  
MAY 10, 2016

COUNCIL PRESENT: Fred Janci, Mayor, Bonnie Munn, Vice Mayor, Stuart Bell, Jeanette Sturgis and John Joeckel

ABSENT: Susie Atkinson and Aileen Joeckel

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 May 10, 2016 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 Ruth Boettcher of VDGIF and Hank Badger of VMRC

- The purpose of Mr. Badger’s presentation was to answer questions raised by the Town of Wachapreague as to Dawson Shoals. Mr. Badger advised VMRC has owned Dawson Shoals and various other land masses along the coast since the 1990’s. Mr. Badger provided literature on “Coastal Primary Sand Dune/Reaches Guidelines: Barrier Island Policy” and “Management Plan for the Ungranted State Lands”, as well as an inventory of State owned lands along the Atlantic Coast of Accomack and Northampton Counties. Mr. Badger advised there has been a 50’ loss of sand every year since 2001.
- Mr. Badger indicated boaters are welcome on Dawson Shoals but advised pets need to be restrained or under control of their owners.
- Additional maps may be requested from Royce Ridge in Newport News at (757)247-2230.
- Ruth Boettcher of Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries presented a Table of avian nesting pairs on Dawson Shoals between 2005 and 2015 and, a Table representing Cedar Island shorebird breeding pair totals from 2011 to 2015. These Tables show the breed and the concern for the species delineated as; greatest conservation need, State-threatened species, Federally-threatened species or State endangered species. Ms. Boettcher spoke of the posted signs to keep people and animals away from the protected breeding areas. Ms. Boettcher advised breeding times run from April or May through August to September.
- MiMi Sedjat complimented the Town Council on all of their achievements and hopes the oncoming council will be as pro-active. Ms. Sedjat wondered why the upcoming council were not present at this meeting believing this would be a good way for them to get acclimated.
- John Joeckel discussed the navigable and non-navigable waterway projects and the need for funding. The Navigable Waterways Committee is in the process of prioritizing projects with economic evaluation to provide supporting documentation for the needed funding of waterway dredging and maintenance of aids to navigation. ~~Mr. Joeckel mentioned a possible Federal Grant with a 65% Federal to 35% Town matching.~~ As a unified voice mutually agreed to objectives will benefit the entire Eastern Shore waterway system and provide guidance to the Accomack and Northampton County Supervisors who can provide political support for mutually agreed to regional project programs at the State and Federal levels. One goal is to have these regional projects submitted to the General Assembly for consideration in their 2018 Budget for State waterway funds.
- **IV. Approval of Agenda** – John Joeckel requested the removal of the Virginia Hazard Mitigation Plan (B), Eastern Shore Regional Navigable Waterways Committee (C), Fishing and

Crabbing Pier Project (D), Spoil Site Fees (E), Property Donation Concerns (F) and Floodplain Administrator/CRS Coordinator (Q).

Bonnie Munn made a Motion to approve the removal of Agenda Items B, C, D, E, F and Q and Stuart Bell seconded the Motion. There being no further discussion a vote was taken and passed unanimously.

**V. Approval of Minutes** – Bonnie Munn made a Motion to Approve the February 9, 2016 and April 12, 2016 Town Council Meeting Minutes and Stuart Bell seconded the Motion. There being no further discussion the February 9, 2016 and April 12, 2016 Minutes were approved by all.

**V. Review of Financial Report** – John Joeckel reported the Town and Town Marina are both okay.  
**TOWN**

- Total Assets are down \$40,000 due to the property purchase dredge site.
- Profit and Loss Statement shows income down by \$1,000 and expenses are up by 9% or \$6,700 due to professional fees and survey costs.
- Net Income is down 50%, \$8,000 this year versus \$16,000 last year.

**MARINA**

- Cash assets are up by 8% or \$8,000 this year.
- Net Income is \$10,000 over last year.
- Ms. Weeks reported an on-site inspection and valuation services of the Town Marina was performed on behalf of VML Insurance which shows an increase of \$52,000 bringing the replacement cost to \$813,000. Mr. Joeckel does not know how this will affect the insurance premium.
- Also noted was an increase in expenses for Seaside Park which Mayor Janci stated should include \$1,000 in donations. Mayor Janci is to speak with Mary Jo Tatum on this.

Bonnie Munn made a Motion to approve the Financials and Stuart Bell seconded the Motion. There being no further discussion a vote was taken and passed unanimously.

**VI. Unfinished Business**

**A. MARINA** –Mr. Joeckel advised he has nothing to report on the VPA Grant as their decision will not be made public until May 24<sup>th</sup>.

- Mr. Joeckel noted a sign at the Marina which indicates a \$1,000 cash reward for any vandalism. No one on council was aware of this sign. Council wants it removed.
- Mr. Joeckel also noted the “No Wake” signs need to be replaced and thought this was to be done before the Flounder Tournament. Mr. Joeckel also feels they should be anchored in a better way as we are always losing them.
- Stuart Bell pointed out the flag pole at the Marina is all rusty and needs to be sanded down and repainted. J.D. Bradshaw and John Burton will be requested to handle this. Also requested are LED spot lights with photocell to shine on a new flag and Street Number be placed on the Marina Building.

Stuart Bell made a Motion for the purchase of a new flag, rust removal and paint, LED lights with photocells and the Street Number on the Marina Building in an amount not exceed \$1,500 which was seconded by John Joeckel. There being no further discussion a vote was taken and passed unanimously.

**B. Virginia Hazard Mitigation Plan** – Removed from Agenda, see Section IV.

**C. Eastern Shore Regional Navigable Waterways Committee** – Please see Public Comments otherwise removed from the Agenda, see Section IV.

**D. Fishing and Crabbing Pier Project** – Removed from Agenda, see Section IV.

**E. Spoil Site Fees** – Removed from Agenda, see Section IV.

**F. Property Donation Concerns** – Removed from Agenda, see Section IV.

**G. Budget – FY2017** – Mr. Joeckel proposed Budget meetings be scheduled for Saturday, May 28<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m. for the Budget Work Session, post the Budget Ad in the Eastern Shore News for the June 1

publication, June 14<sup>th</sup> for the Public Hearing on the Budget and Town Council Meeting and, June 21<sup>st</sup> for the approval meeting. All council were in agreement with this schedule.

**H. Town Maintenance/Garbage** – Bonnie Munn mentioned the Garbage truck has been serviced by Moore’s Towing and Repair Company in Exmore where the two rear pistons had to be refurbished. Ms. Munn was pleased that the truck went in for service late Wednesday night and ready for pick up the following Monday morning and the repair cost was \$1,600. The Town will definitely use Moore’s Towing and Repair for most of the Town’s truck repairs in the future.

**I. Powell Memorial Park** - Bonnie Munn advised she is still unlocking and locking the Park except on bad weather days. Parks & Recreation has mowed the grass. The dog training class that has been held on Saturday morning only has one more to go. There are some events scheduled through Parks & Recreation in May and June and they have been keeping Ms. Munn up on the schedule.

**J. Town Hall Beautification/Maintenance** –Bonnie Munn has nothing new to report.

**K. Streets and Drainage** – Stuart Bell said vehicles are still parked on the sidewalks along Main Street. Chris Isdell of VDOT has informed Mr. Bell that VDOT will not do more repair work on the sidewalks along Main Street if this continues. Discussed also was updating the Parking Ordinance to include a fine. “No Parking” signs along Main Street are needed. To be discussed at a later date.

**L. Safety/Security** – Mr. Bell has nothing new to report.

**M. 911 System** – Was not discussed.

**N. Seaside Park** – Mayor Janci reported a dozen volunteers came out to help on Saturday, May 7<sup>th</sup>, the official Town of Wachapreague Clean Up Day. He very much appreciated the help from Vernon and Cathy Bell, Joe and Shirley Barry, Steve and Barbie Jones, Pete Hodgson, Joyce Munden and family and David and Mary Ann Gouak.

**O. Delinquent Town Real Estate Taxes, Vehicle & Golf Cart Tags** –Mayor Janci thanked Ms. Weeks for her diligence on the delinquencies, which he was pleased to note is dwindling. He noted there was still 3 that owe a fair amount. Residents are still coming in to purchase Town tag/decals.

**P. Mosquito Control** – Nothing new to report.

**Q. Floodplain Administrator/CRS Coordinator** – Removed from Agenda, see Section IV.

**R. Planning Commission** – John Joeckel presented a proposed letter, in accordance with Virginia Code, §15.2-2212, for appointment to the Planning Commission with staggered dates of termination for Pete Hodgson, Z.R. Lewis, MiMi Sedjat, David Van de Graff and Aileen Joeckel. Mr. Joeckel noted an appointee may request reinstatement once their term ends.

John Joeckel made a Motion that all Planning Commission Members receive the proposed letter, in accordance with Virginia Code, §15.2-2212, with staggering dates of termination, and Stuart Bell seconded the Motion. There being no further discussion a vote was taken and passed unanimously.

**S. Tourism/Business** – John Joeckel reported, in Aileen Joeckel’s absence that

- The Graphics for the Way Station signs are in the works.
- The Town website is near completion.
- Citizens for a Better Eastern Shore (CBES) is having their Bike Tour on Saturday, October 22<sup>nd</sup>, which will be begin and end in Wachapreague. Meriwether Payne is part of CBES and is looking for sponsors in the range of \$2,500, \$1,000, \$500 or \$100. Jeanette Sturgis and Bonnie Munn mentioned Pepsi sometimes will sponsor a banner if approached and Ms. Payne agreed.
- Bonnie Munn stated she would have J.D. Bradshaw and John Burton put up the flags along Main Street for the Bike Tour.

Stuart Bell made a Motion to Sponsor CBES for \$500 for their October 22, 2016 Bike Tour with placement of the flags along Main Street and John Joeckel seconded the Motion. There being no further discussion a vote was taken and passed unanimously.

**T. Appointments** – John Joeckel presented a proposed letter, in accordance with Virginia Code §15.2-2308, for submission to Judge O’Brien for appointing Patricia Bragg, Stuart Bell, Charles Fair, Bonnie

Munn and Aileen Joeckel to the Board of Zoning Appeals for the Town of Wachapreague. These appointments will become effective July 1, 2016, with staggering dates of termination. An appointee may request reinstatement once their term ends.

John Joeckel made a Motion to send a letter to the Accomack County Circuit Court Judge, William R. O'Brien, in accordance with Virginia Code §15.2-2308, for appointing Patricia Bragg, Stuart Bell, Charles Fair, Bonnie Munn and Aileen Joeckel to the Board of Zoning Appeals with staggering dates of termination and Bonnie Munn seconded the Motion. There being no further discussion a vote was taken and passed unanimously.

**U. 4<sup>th</sup> of July Celebration** – Mayor Janci discussed the upcoming 4<sup>th</sup> of July Celebration which is on a Monday this year and asked if present council would volunteer. Bonnie Munn offered to once again secure the Permit for closing Main Street for the parade, Jeanette Sturgis said she would be happy to make cupcakes, etc., but that she will be out of town that week-end. Ms. Weeks has offered her time in whatever capacity would be needed. John Joeckel said he has offered to cook at the event but has never been requested to follow through.

**VII. New Business** – Resident, Jeff Deem of Custis Street, had written a letter to Mayor Janci about the potential of a tree falling across the road and hitting his house that is on the property line of two neighbors. Mr. Deem wanted to know what his options were regarding his concern and Mr. Joeckel and Ms. Munn suggested he contact the neighbors, either in person or in writing. Mentioned was the fact that the tree is leaning and its roots are showing, however, Mr. Deem is not sure if the tree is healthy or sick. By notifying the neighbors in writing and they do not address his concerns and the tree falls across the street and hits his house he would have legal recourse. Mr. Deem is to write a letter to both neighbors of his concerns.

**VIII. Announcements** – None

**IX. Adjournment** – John Joeckel made a Motion to adjourn the meeting and Bonnie Munn seconded the Motion. The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

CBW  
5/10/16

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MAYOR

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TOWN CLERK