

TOWN OF WACHAPREAGUE
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
JUNE 14, 2016

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

PUBLIC HEARING

Budget FY2017

Mayor Janci discussed the purpose of this meeting is to go over the proposed FY2017 Budget and turned the Public Hearing over to John Joeckel. Mr. Joeckel advised a Budget Work Session was held on May 28, 2016 and the proposed FY2017 Budget was advertised in the Eastern Shore News on June 4, 2016. The Council meeting to approve the Budget is scheduled for June 21, 2016.

Cathy Janci questioned the reduction of \$250 in the Seaside Park Fund that was \$1,250 last fiscal year but is budgeted for \$1,000 this fiscal year.

John Joeckel pointed out in FY2014 and FY2015 the Budget was \$1,000 and in FY2016 it was \$1,250 Mr. Joeckel brought up the fact that there is a \$1,778 reserve in this fund which has not been used. Mr. Joeckel indicated declining revenues, reduction in assets, Floodplain Manager/CRS Coordinator salary and a proposed increase to the town employees as a reason for the decrease.

In response Mayor Janci stated there were many line items that could be looked at. In response to the \$1,778 reserve in the Seaside Park Fund was due to donations to the Park at Town Picnics and that he uses the allotted amount from the Town first before accessing the reserve.

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

I. Call to Order – Mayor Janci called to Order the Town Council Meeting at 7:10 p.m. on June 14, 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 opened the Public Comment session to Nat Atkinson. Mr. Atkinson asked about the Spoil Site fees which had been voted on at the May 10, 2016 Town Council Meeting but is still noted on the Agenda. As a Charter Boat Captain he is concerned about any increase to slip holders which the owners would inevitably have to have reflected in their rates. Mr. Atkinson mentioned the reduction in fishermen chartering boats and so asked council to please take this into consideration.

Mimi Sedjat wanted to thank the Town for the renovations done to the flagpole and said how nice it looks with the flag flying at the Marina. Ms. Sedjat also discussed the webcam at the Island House overseeing the waterway that Channel 13 Weather shows sometimes in the morning and evening when reporting the weather. Blake Johnson of the Island House recently had mentioned his visit to the station and the possibility of the weather webcam. Ms. Sedjat went on to thank Stuart Bell for following through on the drainage issue at her house and Mr. Bell having a representative from VDOT review hers and other problem areas in the Town of Wachapreague.

IV. Approval of Agenda – Bonnie Munn requested the removal of (H) Town Maintenance/Garbage, (I) Powell Memorial Town Park, (J) Town Hall Beautification/Maintenance; Susie Atkinson requested

removal of (E) Spoil Site Fees; Stuart Bell (L) Safety & Security and John Joeckel requested removal of (D) Fishing and Crabbing Pier Project and (F) Property Donation Concerns.

Bonnie Munn made a Motion to approve the removal of Agenda Items D, E, F, H, I, J and L and Susie Atkinson seconded the Motion. There being no further discussion a vote was taken and passed unanimously.

V. Approval of Minutes – John Joeckel questioned a passage in the May 10, 2016 Minutes where it was written “Mr. Joeckel mentioned a possible Federal Grant with a 65% Federal to 35% Town matching” which is incorrect. Ms. Weeks is to remove this portion from the May 10, 2016 Minutes. There were no comments on the May 28, 2016 Budget Work Session.

John Joeckel made a Motion to Approve the May 10, 2016 Minutes, with revision, and the Special Town Council Meeting – Work Session of May 28, 2016 and Stuart Bell seconded the Motion. There being no further discussion the May 10, 2016 and May 28, 2016 Minutes were approved by all.

V. Review of Financial Report – John Joeckel reported
TOWN

- Total Assets are down \$45,000 due to the property purchase dredge site.
- Income is down by \$3,500 primarily due to no grass cutting this year, outstanding auto tag/decals sales of \$1,200 with total repairs and maintenance of \$2,000.
- Professional fees are up 125% mostly relating to land purchase and survey fees of \$4,500.
- Total expenses are up by 12% or \$9,000 over last year.
- Net Income is down 75% or \$13,000 versus last year.

MARINA

- Total income is up \$8,000 this year over last year.
- Expenses are down \$8,000 over last year.
- Net income is up \$11,000 versus a negative \$5,000 last year.
- Total assets are \$6,000.

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

VI. Unfinished Business

A. MARINA –Mr. Joeckel advised the Virginia Port Authority Grant has been approved in the amount of \$63,750 for the dredging at the Town Marina with the Town being responsible for \$16,250.

- Mr. Joeckel asked Sandie Puchalski about the “No Wake” signs. Ms. Puchalski advised she has them and they will be put up in the near future.
- Stuart Bell asked about the sign at the Marina which offers a cash reward for vandalism. Ms. Puchalski advised the sign was placed there when the Marina first opened and no one has ever made a claim. It was decided the Town employees would remove the sign and replace it with one that does not offer a reward.

Stuart Bell made a Motion for the Town employees to remove the sign and replace it with one that does not offer a reward which was seconded by John Joeckel. There being no further discussion a vote was taken and passed unanimously.

B. Virginia Hazard Mitigation Plan – Mr. Joeckel advised the correct name for this is the Accomack-Northampton Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan. A meeting was held recently and the members are diligently working on putting together the coastal erosion and projected damages associated with it. This is a two year process and they are one year into it. Someone on the upcoming council needs to attend these meetings as FEMA will not award the Town CRS credits if one meeting is missed. The next meeting is the first Wednesday in July (July 6, 2016) at the Community College from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon.

- Aileen Joeckel reported that in the meeting with Curtis Smith, Connie Morrison and David Fluhart the question came up of rental properties in Town. When it was mentioned the building across the street had a rental property on the main floor Mr. Fluhart had indicated it was illegal as it was not zoned apartment. Mayor Janci indicated it has always been an apartment since he has been in Town but will check into it.

C. Eastern Shore Regional Navigable Waterways Committee – Mr. Joeckel, Chairman of this Committee, had a meeting with the Coast Guard at the end of May. The Coast Guard will be removing 166 aids to navigation out of the 241. Wachapreague fared well as all aids to navigation from Finney Creek to Wachapreague Channel all the way out to the Inlet will be maintained. The Coast Guard will be putting back all of the bouys at Bradford Bay and replace the ones they never replaced before. NOAA will be doing some surveys of the inlets in Chincoteague, Quinby, and Wachapreague. There is a need to better determine the waterways from the Inlet all the way to Marker 122 that has not been done in decades. Once these surveys are published the Committee can take further steps to work with the State Commonwealth on dredging of both the Bayside and Seaside, Wachapreague being the priority.

D. Fishing and Crabbing Pier Project – See Section IV.

E. Spoil Site Fees – See Section IV.

F. Property Donation Concerns – See Section IV.

G. VML Insurance

(a) Annual Renewal July 1, 2016-2017 –the premium is \$9,706.

Bonnie Munn made a Motion to approve expenditure of \$9,706, annual rate for the 2016-2017 period for the Town of Wachapreague and Stuart Bell seconded the Motion. There being no further discussion a vote was taken and passed unanimously.

(b) Virginia Municipal League membership dues for 2016-2017 of \$388.00.

Bonnie Munn made a Motion to approve the membership dues of the Virginia Municipal League in the amount of \$388 for 2016-2017 and Aileen Joeckel seconded it. There being no further discussion a vote was taken and passed unanimously.

H. Town Maintenance/Garbage – See Section IV.

I. Powell Memorial Park – See Section IV.

J. Town Hall Beautification/Maintenance – See Section IV.

K. Streets and Drainage – Stuart Bell advised meeting with Chris Isdell of VDOT and an associate of his to go over the drainage problem in Town. They met with Charles Fair at 11 Church Street where the culvert is in bad need of repair, clear to Custis Street. Also addressed was the Siskovich property at 2 Lee Street, Brooklyn and Liberty, Pearl to Mears including the property behind Bill Burnham’s house. Chris Isdell stated this is covered by VDOT and he will have the repairs done. Mr. Bell hopes the credit will be given to this council when they see VDOT at work.

Also discussed were people parking on the sidewalks and it was noted anyone on council could address the individuals when they see them.

The matter of people sitting on their lawn chairs on the sidewalk along Main Street was discussed. It was felt it did not give a good impression of the Town.

L. Safety/Security – See Section IV.

M. 911 System – Bonnie Munn advised meeting with Freida of the Accomack County Administrator’s Office with Ms. Weeks who gave detailed instructions on the forms that needed to be filled out and sent to MSAG. Ms. Munn advised it has been four years in the making with Selina Coulbourne taking the reins and getting this started and then passing them on to this council. Susie Atkinson indicated that she had been involved in the 911 system in the past by going to the Fire Department and copied the 911 Book. Ms. Munn said it is a thankless confusing job but it will soon be completed.

N. Seaside Park – Mayor Janci advised Dreux Alvare of Hortco is checking the plants he planted around the gazebo as some of them are not looking good. Dreux indicated he will give them a little more time and replace them if warranted.

O. Delinquent Town Real Estate Taxes, Vehicle & Golf Cart Tags – Mayor Janci discussed several outstanding real estate properties and advised he will speak with some of them. There are several golf cart owners who have not purchased a decal. This is to be discussed later.

P. Mosquito Control – Mayor Janci had contacted Ehrlich requesting the technician contact him when he comes to Town to see exactly where he is placing the dunks. The technician has spoken with the Mayor, however, the Mayor was not available to meet with the technician at that time.

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

R. Planning Commission – Aileen Joeckel addressed Robert Hodgson, a member of the Planning Commission, and it was decided a meeting would be held in the month of July.

S. Tourism/Business – Aileen Joeckel reported

- The Town website now has the History link with photographs. Mona Cossitt has some additional charges for the work she has done and requires payment before launching the websites. There will be some additional charges for training Ms. Weeks on updating council information, adding minutes, events, etc.
- Two options were presented to use the Billboard sign on Rte. 13, in Painter which is owned by Thomas Hickman. The Wachapreague Inn has been leasing it and has offered to sublease it to the Town for a two year period. The first option would be \$400/Month with a one-time installation cost of electric and lights on the sign of \$1,100 with a \$40-\$60 a month electric bill. The second option was \$275/month with the Town being responsible for all labor and materials to install lights, monthly electric bill, trimming bushes and any maintenance needed such as framing, plywood or poles. Ms. Joeckel believed that once the improvements were made the cost would be \$4,020 which would include electricity and getting it up and running. Ms. Joeckel broke this down even further with light installation \$1,500; Skin for the billboard \$1,000; improvements \$500; Structure \$500; \$200 for the person who is doing the artwork with the sign needing to read “Eat, Stay & Play”, Wachapreague “Little City by the Sea” and a “Playground for your Passion”. Also discussed was a picture of Blake Johnson and his family.
- Susie Atkinson questioned if Thomas Hickman is aware of this arrangement. She feels a confirmation from him is required. Ms. Joeckel is to check on this.

Aileen Joeckel made a Motion to Approve Option Two pending approval by Tommy Hickman in the amount of \$7,500, which includes lights, skin, design and upgrades and Bonnie Munn seconded the Motion. There being no further discussion a vote was taken and passed unanimously.

- Ms. Joeckel advised the Tourism Board Meetings are usually held on a Thursday at 9:30 a.m. at the Island House, pending availability of all members. As the Grant is in Ms. Joeckel’s name and she has a six month extension she will stay on to the completion. However, someone on council needs to be appointed to participate in these meetings and report to council.

T. Appointments – Mayor Janci advised speaking with David Rowan and that sitting council members cannot be approved for the Board of Zoning Appeals until after June 30, 2016. Mr. Joeckel stated that the appointment of the Board of Zoning Appeals members does not become effective until July 1, 2016 and that there is no conflict. Mayor Janci questioned whether a citizen can be on more than one committee i.e., the BZA and the Planning Commission as the Town Charter indicates “council shall appoint a board of appeals, consisting of five members, none of whom shall hold any other positions within the town.” Susie Atkinson said she believes that passage means no one on council can be on the BZA. When her father was on council that was how it was.

U. 4th of July Celebration – Bonnie Munn advised obtaining the Permit to close Main Street by obtaining signatures from Dale Pusey of VDOT, Sheriff Todd Godwin, Sargent J.J. Renas of the State

Police and Steve Miner, County Administrator, for the 4th of July parade. Also 20 cones have been reserved for the street closure and must be picked up by Friday at VDOT on Courthouse Road in Accomac. Ms. Munn also advised the \$100 fee of VDOT for street closures was waived. Ms. Munn also has spoken with Sheriff Todd Godwin who has accepted the Town's invitation to be the lead in the parade.

Mayor Janci gave the tentative schedule for the parade; line up on Bradford's Neck Road at 12:30 p.m., parade to commence at 1:00 p.m., skydiving at 2:00, food 2:15 to 2:30. Entrants in the parade are the Accomack Community Band, Fire Company, Coast Guard, Ruritan Club of Pungoteague, decorated golf carts, etc.

VII. New Business – Mayor Janci advised the Town is in receipt of a letter from the Department of Public Safety. The Board of Supervisors has designated this Department as the enforcing agency for the Statewide Fire Prevention Code (SFPC) in the county and appointed Peter Surran, Fire Inspector, as the local fire official. Expressed in this letter were three options: (1) The Town could adopt enforcement of the SFPC and appoint its own fire official; (2) Draft an Ordinance or Official letter stating the Town adopts enforcement of the fire code and that the county fire official will be the town's fire official; (3) Draft an Ordinance adopting enforcement of the fire code but designating that the State Fire Marshal's Office (SFMO) will conduct inspections in the Town. It was the consensus of council to go with the County.

VIII. Announcements – Mayor Janci thanked council for all the work they have done over the past years. Mayor Janci thanked Bonnie Munn for her diligence on 911 where submission to MSAG has been done plus her work on Powell Memorial Park and with the town maintenance personnel; Stuart Bell for his tenacity with Chris Isdell of VDOT relating to repair of the sidewalks along Main Street and showing him the poor condition of the Town's drains which VDOT recognized as a responsibility of theirs and VDOT will repair them; John Joeckel on preparing Budgets for the Town, requesting and receiving VPA Grants for dredging the Town Marina which he has handled from start to finish, participation in the Accomack/Northampton Hazard Mitigation Steering Committee who meet once a month, and oversaw the Marina in general, and preparation of Ordinances from draft form to final approval, to name a few; Susie Atkinson for her handling of mosquito control and her prior commitments to the Town over the years; Aileen Joeckel for having worked with the Business and Tourism Advisory Board, consisting of local businesses whose accomplishments were the Town Kiosk, Town and Tourism Websites, Picture Boards for the Town Marina, a \$10,000 Grant and many more, and being a part of the Planning Commission. Mayor Janci stated that even though there were ups and downs he was happy to have worked them.

IX. Adjournment – Aileen Joeckel made a Motion to adjourn the meeting and Bonnie Munn seconded the Motion. The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

CBW
6/14/16

MAYOR

TOWN CLERK