

TOWN OF WACHAPREAGUE  
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING  
AUGUST 9, 2016

COUNCIL PRESENT: Fred Janci, Mayor, Robert Hodgson, Vice Mayor, Kathy Ciaccio, Cathy Janci, Don Minniear, Sandie Puchalski and Carlee Vincent

TOWN CLERK: Lynn Weeks

**TOWN COUNCIL MEETING**

**I. Call to Order** –Mayor Janci called to Order the Town Council Meeting at 7:05 p.m. on August 9, 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 outlined procedures during the Public Comment session where the public is encouraged to speak however council will only consider the comments at that time. Once the Town Council Meeting commences, there will be no public interaction unless the council has a question of the public that will facilitate deliberations.

- Bonnie Munn complimented Aileen Joeckel on the Town and Tourism websites that have now launched.
- Aileen Joeckel wanted the new council to know that she and her husband, John Joeckel, had prepared Grant requests for the Seaside Park in hopes of getting the well back up and running. Unfortunately those Grant requests were denied. Ms. Joeckel further stated some year and a half ago at Seaside Park, she believed it was CVMS and DEQ a discussion took place about a well and fountain. In response to whether this was pursued or not, it was not. Further Ms. Joeckel, in speaking on her husband's behalf, noted that the last Marina dredge run by Mr. Joeckel he did not charge the Town for his services. With the upcoming marina dredge he was asking for \$3,500, \$1,000 less than the former manager of the project and that he had planned on donating it to the Seaside Park. Ms. Joeckel wanted to know if the current manager will be donating the \$3,500 to Seaside Park. Mayor Janci questioned if the Seaside Park referred to is the same one that is overfunded.
- Robert Hodgson suggested this come under the Spoil Site Fees as this is the first he has heard of the \$3,500 fee being donated to a town project. So this matter was tabled.
- Val Vincent was on council when the Seaside Park was first created and there was a well. A conversation took place at that time with either Bundick or Boggs. At that time the council had to deal with septic tanks and a swimming pool, which were filled in, as well as incorporating a bench, trees and a walkway.
- Ms. Joeckel asked if the Minutes of the meetings is current to which Ms. Week replied no.

**IV. Approval of Agenda** –Sandie Puchalski made a Motion to approve the agenda and Robert Hodgson seconded it. A vote was taken and passed.

**V. Meeting Rules** –See section III.

**VI. Approval of Minutes** – Cathy Janci made a Motion to accept the Minutes of the Oath of Office and Town Council Meeting of July 12, 2016 and Kathy Ciaccio seconded the Motion. There being no further discussion a vote was taken and passed unanimously.

**VII. Review of Financial Report** – Mayor Janci reported on the Profit and Loss Budget versus Actual for the period July 2015 through July 31, 2016 for the Town and Marina.

**TOWN**

- Increase of total income, but only by \$100.
- Expenses for Advertising/Tourism are higher by \$60, postage is less, insurance is down by \$659, repairs are down by \$1,734.
- Year to date we are better now with \$6,719 compared to \$4,182 last year with \$2,637.

Mary Jo Tatum gave us notification that these numbers are not complete at this time pending the end of Fiscal Year 2016 transactions.

#### **MARINA**

- Profit and Loss comparison show us down by \$256 in short term rentals.
- Total Expenses are down with a -\$2,119 this year versus -\$1,743 last year or \$377.

Robert Hodgson requested on future financial statements all line items be shown, whether or not any there be any income or expense, i.e. meals tax. A request is to be made to Mary Jo Tatum for this in the future.

No Motion to approve the financials was taken pending the inclusion of the line items requested. All council were in agreement.

#### **XI. Unfinished Business**

**A. MARINA** – Sandie Puchalski provided a repair list with project descriptions, as follows: 1. Shore up the dock pond area; 2. Repair worn and broken whaler supports under docks, ramp and floating dock areas first plus supplies 3. Replace/repair dock boards and runners, marine grade wood and hardware needed, again starting with the side ramp and floating dock areas. 4. Scraping of pilings and support beams; 5. Repair/replace wood around Marina Harbor Office building and restrooms with T-11 (only T-11 panels will be needed); 6. Pressure wash the Marina Harbor office building to remove plant growth and then paint with sealer; 7. Fix/replace fence & top railing around the duck pond area. Ms. Puchalski will provide estimates for this work at the next council meeting.

Mayor Janci reported having obtained the Land Disturbance Permit required for the dredge and that Tyrone Upshur of the Accomack County Planning Department, Environmental Section, was taken on a tour of the spoil site, as this is now Town property.

Ms. Puchalski advised Crystal Clean has paid for the temporary repair of the marina driveway. Ms. Puchalski also received the estimate from Beauchamp Construction to repair and replace the pavers in the amount of \$10,325, which she has forwarded on to Crystal Clean and is awaiting their response.

**B. Virginia Hazard Mitigation Plan** – Robert Hodgson reported attending the August 6, 2016 meeting of which only 4 people attended. There is not much going on at this time but believes it will be finalized in February, 2017. No new meeting has been scheduled.

**C. Spoil Site Fees** – Mayor Janci discussed the opposition by the Marina and Charter Boat owners to any additional fees. Mayor Janci has spoken with David Rowan about a resolution passed by former council and Mr. Rowan does not feel it is valid. This council has the option of doing their own resolution, letting it stand at this time or do nothing. It came to the attention of the Town Clerk that the Minutes of the April 12, 2016 Meeting are incorrect as councilman Stuart Bell, in making his Motion to not charge “Marina Owners” any fees for use of the Town Spoil Site, it read “Waterfront Property Owners” instead.

- Mr. Hodgson believes more discussion is needed on the various issues such as, mobilization fees, maintenance of the spoil site and possibility of selling portions of the land, grant monies, etc., to make it clear to everyone.

It was decided and agreed upon by all council that a Special Town Council Meeting – Work Session be scheduled for Thursday, August 18, 2016 at 6:00 p.m. in the Town Hall on the subject of “Dredging and Spoil Site Fees and Expenses. A notice is to be posted in the Post Office, Town Hall and Kiosk by August 10<sup>th</sup>.

**D. Town Maintenance/Garbage** – Sandie Puchalski advised there were only two properties where the grass is overgrown. The Parsonage on Main Street is one but it has been sold and at this time it is

unknown who purchased it. This will be looked into. The other property is owned by the Button family and a letter has been sent to them.

**E. Powell Memorial Park** – Sandie Puchalski handed out a list of repairs needed at the Park; dugout clean up, replace rusted fence by 3<sup>rd</sup> base side of field, take down old fence poles around playground area and replace with 4x4 poles and rope, paint rail fence surrounding parking area and park tables and swing set poles, and, dig out ditch for drainage & cut back surrounding trees. Ms. Puchalski has enlisted some of the guys from the Coast Guard to help in these repairs after the Labor Day weekend. In the interim Ms. Puchalski has already spoken with Wayne Burton and Ann with the County to see if they would furnish the materials needed and will follow up on this. The Coast Guard is looking forward to playing baseball there in the Fall.

**F. Town Hall Beautification/Maintenance** –Kathy Ciaccio advised of some potential donations for enhancement of Town Hall. One person has offered enough paint that could cover the interior of Town Hall. Another, a gentlemen who had worked as a floor designer for vendors at Macy’s in Manhattan, has offered to make a drawing of the interior of Town Hall to see what can be done to make it more efficient. Also discussed was the potential for office furniture and supplies. Will be discuss at a later time.

**G. Streets and Drainage** – Don Minniear advised he has been assessing the ditches and getting a better idea on their course. Mr. Minniear mentioned a resident on Custis who was cleaning out part of one of the ditches. Ms. Puchalski mentioned a conversation with a VDOT employee who advised the “spider” is what is used to clean out the ditches and it is out of commission.

Mayor Janci spoke of the FY2017 Budget for the Drainage & Ditch Fund of \$5,000 to hire someone to clear out the Town owned ditches. The Town owned ditches are the South Ditch, Marina to Finney Ditch and one by Liberty Street, to name a few. VDOT is responsible for their Right-Of-Way, which is 15’ from the center line in the street. All other ditches are the Town’s responsibility. Mayor Janci suggested Mr. Minniear get in touch with Stewart Hall at the County level to see if they could assist the Town. Some street signs in Town are missing; High Street, Church Street at the north end and Park Street and that some of the existing signs are not standing erect. Mr. Minniear is to follow up on this.

Mr. Hodgson was told there are detailed plans of the Town’s drainage ditches in Town Hall. He has offered to go through the files.

**H. Safety & Security** – Mr. Minniear had nothing to add.

**I. 911** – Ms. Weeks advised she has sent letters out to all affected property owners on Lewis Place, Pearl Street, South Street, Bayview Avenue, Center Street, Switchbridge Road and Main Street where 911 had to change their records to reflect the correct street number.

**J. Seaside Park** – Mayor Janci discussed the upcoming Labor Day Week-end Picnic. It was decided Saturday, September 3<sup>rd</sup> beginning at 1:00 p.m. would work out for most people and the rain date will be Sunday, September 4th. There will be music and grilled burgers and hot dogs. Ms. Ciaccio has offered the use of her tent. The Jancis’ will provide all of the condiments and residents are welcome to bring side dishes if they wish to share them with their friends. Corn is being donated by J.T. and Joann Eshleman. Volunteers are always welcome.

**K. Delinquent Town Real Estate Taxes, Vehicles & Golf Cart Tags** – Mayor Janci indicated there are still several real estate property taxes owed and Mayor Janci has requested Ms. Weeks do letters to the owners. Also discussed was an outstanding golf cart decal for one of the business owners in Town. Contact will be made with them. Discussed was the continuing parking on the sidewalks along Main Street. Mayor Janci requested a letter be sent the offender.

**L. Zoning Administrators Report** – Mayor Janci advised J.T. Eshleman will be adding an unattached garage/work shop for which he has obtained a Permit. Another permit request was made to enclose a back porch on Lee Street. Both permits were approved.

**L. Floodplain Administrator/CRS Coordinator** – Mr. Hodgson has nothing new to report but did mention hurricane season is upon us. In looking at roads and flooding this ties into the drainage system for the Town. The Accomack-Northampton Planning District, in working on the Hazard Mitigation Plan is in discussion on the roadways for evacuation.

**M. Planning Commission** – Mr. Hodgson advised a meeting will be scheduled before the end of the month. In accordance with the new Ordinance all RV trailers must be road ready and inspected annually. Mayor Janci also mentioned the trailers must be moved out every so many months. Discussed was the RV Park having an Evacuation Plan in place in the event of a hurricane or high tides. When the Planning Commission presents their recommendation for any updates/changes to existing Ordinances a Public Hearing must be held.

**N. Tourism/Business** – Mayor Janci reported speaking with Chris Wardius about the Billboard on Route 13 in Painter to go over with him what trees, if any, needed to be removed. The Town, through former council, Aileen Joeckel, obtained a Grant which should cover the majority of expenses. The Town will pay \$275 a month for two years. Mayor Janci did a comparison and found out billboards lease for \$400 a month. To date, no word has been received on when the work will begin.

**O. Labor Day Week-end Picnic** – Please see Section J.

**P. Feral Cat Neutering** – Kathy Ciaccio mentioned speaking with a woman at SPCA who advised there had been a “Neuter Scooter” but it is very expensive and had been funded by a Grant. Ms. Ciaccio has the woman’s name and contact information.

Robert Hodgson announced the 2000-2002 Town Council adopted the Accomack County animal control regulations which they felt adequately covered this issue. Mr. Hodgson pointed out the Ordinance does not permit feral cats in Town. A call can be made to Animal Control to have the feral cat removed. It further states a feral cat becomes yours should you feed it.

**IX. New Business –**

- Town Wide Yard Sale will take place on Saturday, September 24<sup>th</sup> in the morning. VIMS will have their science event in the afternoon. Mayor Janci mentioned having spoken with Nick of the Coast Guard about having their Boater Safety trailer here on the same day. Mayor Janci will again speak with the Coast Guard. It was decided this would be scheduled as a “rain or shine” event.
- Carlee Vincent reported the Nature Conservancy sign on the East side of Atlantic, which depicts the birds and marsh area is so badly scratched it is unreadable. Ms. Vincent feels the Nature Conservancy should be contacted and advised of this.
- Ms. Vincent also was interested in Verizon regarding cell phone capabilities. Mayor Janci advised the Wachapreague Fire Department was dealing with Verizon but that they are at a standstill. It was suggested everyone call Verizon and see if that would help.
- Mr. Hodgson was told that the Brooklyn entrance to the Town Marina parking lot is to be closed at all times, except when the Carnival is running. Mr. Hodgson is not aware whether this was an agreement made when the Marina was built or if there is an ordinance that covers it. Mr. Hodgson he will go over this with the Planning Commission.
- Cathy Janci advised VML is once again looking for Town’s that would be interested in making a Christmas Ornament for the Governor’s Mansion Christmas Tree. The theme this year is “Home for the Holidays”. Carlee Vincent is interested and will make an Ornament depicting the Town of Wachapreague.
- Kathy Ciaccio advised speaking with Ehrlich on the Town’s Mosquito Control and discussed the annual cost of \$3,257 for killing pests and mosquitos by placing dunks around the town but indicated that only kills larvae but not adult mosquitos. Ms. Ciaccio has also spoken with Saxis who have gone with environmental friendly “fogging” and found it worked the best. Ms. Ciaccio

also mentioned speaking with Clark Industries, a manufacturer of chemicals for mosquito control who advised of other options such as buying blister packs, which you can get 600 for the price of \$275, for those areas in town that have standing water. Michael Scott was mentioned for people who would pay him individually to service their yard for \$50. However Mr. Scott may not be providing this service any more.

- Ms. Puchalski spoke of the initial response from the town where there was an opt-out program for those who did not want invasive pest control.
- Aileen Joeckel said they are pleased with the dunks and they have worked very well.
- Val Vincent advised she was responsible for mosquito control when she was on council. She noticed a big difference once the dunks were used. There is a folder of opt-out residents in Town Hall. Ms. Vincent went on to say there can be no spraying along the marsh or within 250' of any moving water. When Ms. Vincent dealt with Ehrlich in the past a suggestion was made to use gas trap machines that could collect all female mosquitos. These traps could be strategically placed around the town and make the town mosquito free. At the time the residents felt it was too expensive.
- Cathy Janci said that with the latest concern for the Zika virus possibly the town residents would be more amenable to a more aggressive treatment. The council feels additional research should be done.
- Mayor Janci reported a claim that is being made against the Town regarding the 23.197 acres of which a portion holds the spoil site. Mayor Janci upon speaking with our surveyor indicated he feels Mr. Robert Douglas has a valid claim. This is all in the preliminary stages.
- **VIII. Announcements**

**IX. Adjournment** – Carlee Vincent made a Motion to adjourn the meeting and Sandie Puchalski seconded the Motion. The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

CBW  
8-9-16

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MAYOR

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TOWN CLERK