

Town of Onancock
Town Council
May 28, 2015
7:00 PM

Call to Order and Roll Call:

Mayor Jones called the meeting to order at 7:06 PM and roll was called. Mayor Russell Jones and Councilmembers T. Lee Byrd, Sandra Fox, Joshua Bundick, and Fletcher Fosque were present. Four councilmen were present and a quorum was established.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Consideration and Approval of Minutes from the Regular Meeting on April 27, 2015: Mayor Jones asked if there were any corrections, changes, or additions to the April 27, 2015 meeting.

With none, Councilmember Bryd made a motion to approve the April 27th, 2015 meeting minutes as submitted. Councilmember Fosque seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

Public Business:

A. Proposed Fiscal Year 16 Annual Operating Budget:

Mayor Jones opened the floor for comments. Town Manager Lawton explained that the budget will be approved on June 21st. Councilmember Fox then asked about the parade fund. She questioned if the parade fund was just for the Christmas Parade or if it was for the St. Patrick's Day Parade as well. Town Manager Lawton confirmed that the fund is only for the Christmas Parade. Councilmember Fosque inquires about the left over funds from the 2014 Christmas Parade fund. Town Manager Lawton says that the left over funds will be added to the 2015 Parade Fund. Councilmember Bundick questions if the Town employees will receive the 2% raise which had been discussed. Town Manager Lawton confirmed that this is still happening. No other questions were asked regarding the 2016 Fiscal year Proposed budget. Mayor Jones closed the first public hearing.

B. Proposed Increase in Sewer Rates Effective July 1, 2015:

Mr. Lawton explained that the proposal is acceptable although not perfect. Mr. Lawton shared that Accomack County sent three spate proposals to the Town and that Council voted to approve the proposal titled, "The Lowest Town Rate". Mr. Lawton explained that there have been a few changes to the initially agreed upon proposal. The County has asked for an increase in flow from 100,000 gallons to 150,000 gallons. Also, the Agreement would be in play for 40 years and the County would have to provide the Town with a 30 month notice prior to cancellation. The Town has also expressed an interest in creating a method of monitoring what types of elements are being placed in to the system from the County. The concern being that if the Town is fined from the Department of Environmental Quality for high levels of elements, such as copper the Town would be able to identify the source and work towards fostering an appropriate solution to the issue.

Councilmember Bundick made a motion to approve the sewer agreement with Accomack County for the lowest town rate for sewer. Councilmember Byrd seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

C. Supplemental Appropriation, St. Patrick's Day Parade Revenue:

Mr. Lawton explained that the supplemental appropriation is to cover the expenses that were incurred for the event. These monies were received through donations to the Town for the St. Patrick's Day Parade.

Councilmember Fosque made a motion to approve a supplemental appropriation to the FY 15 Budget to Fund 10 Revenue – Parade Revenue and Fund 10 Expense – Parade, both in the amount of \$6,750.00 Councilmember Fox seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

Public Comment:

A. Mrs. Peaches Dodge of 12 Meadville wanted to bring the Town Manager and Councilmembers up to date on the ESCADEV building on Market Street which was hit by a car earlier this year. They are redoing the front of the building to accommodate their needs and to form a better traffic pattern when entering and exiting the parking lot from Pennewell Avenue. Councilmember Byrd expresses his concern about ESCADEV clearing the timber behind their building. Mrs. Dodge explains that they have had volunteers offer to help bush hog and landscape the lot. She says some of the trees will stay but the bigger ones will have to go. Once the lot has been cleared the ESCADEV has plans to build another shelter on that lot. Mrs. Dodge makes the comment that she feels very supported by the Town of Onancock, and the Police officers of Onancock.

B. Mr. Allen Silverman comments that while driving down Market Street his came up on what turned out to be a road block and license check. Mr. Silverman expresses his concern that the town Police car lights were making it difficult to see, which made it hard for him to tell exactly what he was coming up on.

Planning Commission:

No Comment.

Marketing Commission:

M. Lawton shared that Mrs. Nancy James made a presentation on the St. Patrick's Day parade to the committee.

Mr. Lawton explained that the committee will be working on making an old map to explain the history of Onancock.

Ms. Ann Nock shared that there is a map from 1912 in the Town Office which should assist the committee in their efforts.

Personnel Commission:

No Meeting.

Waterfront Committee:

The committee held a meeting on May 12th, 2015. Councilmember Byrd explained that slip reservations are up from last year and that comments have been very positive. Mid-Atlantic Petroleum will pour concrete tomorrow so that the gas tanks can be installed. Councilmember Byrd shared that the hope is to have the gas tank fully operational within three weeks. Councilmember Byrd also shared that the next Waterfront Committee meeting will be held June 9th, 2015.

Mayor's Report:

No report.

Town Manager's Report:

Mr. Lawton explained that the Virginia Port Authority has agreed to extend the Wharf Gas Tank grant monies through the next fiscal year. The cost of the project has increased \$22,000 and therefore the local match will have to as well.

Mr. Lawton shared that the bank reconciliations have been balanced and that the Town is in good financial shape. Mr. Lawton mentioned that the Police funds will have to be added to, covering that were not originally budgeted for such as training and the increased cost of ammunition.

Mayor and Town Council Comments:

Councilmember Byrd thanked Councilmember Bundick again for his interest in getting Town residents into compliance with the vehicle decal requirements.

Councilmember Bundick expressed his interest in having Town Staff notify those in Town who are delinquent in purchasing their Town Decals. There was some discussion of possibly putting the notice on the utility bills or through a mailing of sorts.

Mrs. Dodge expressed an interest in a fine being assessed for those who are delinquent in purchasing their vehicle decals.

Councilmember Bundick asked Mr. Lawton to report at the next meeting where the Town stands on this delinquency.

Adjourn:

Councilmember Bundick made a motion to adjourn. Councilmember Fosque seconded the motion. The passed by unanimous voice vote.

The meeting adjourned at 8:14 PM.



Russell Jones, Mayor



Allison Hart, Deputy Clerk