

Town of Onancock
Town Council Meeting
April 24, 2017
7:00 PM

Call to Order and Roll Call:

Vice-Mayor Fosque called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM and roll was called. Vice-Mayor Fletcher Fosque and Councilmembers Robert Bloxom, Catherine Krause, T. Lee Byrd, Ray Burger and Joshua Bundick were present. Mayor Russell Jones was absent. A majority of members were present and a quorum was established.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Consideration and Approval of the March 27, 2017 Meeting Minutes:

Vice-Mayor Fosque asked if council had any corrections to the meeting minutes as submitted.

With none, Councilmember Krause made a motion to approve the meeting minutes as submitted. Councilmember Byrd seconded the motion. Vice-Mayor Fosque asked for any additional discussion. With none, council passed the motion by unanimous voice vote.

Public Business:

- a. Resolution 2016 Eastern Shore of Virginia Hazardous Mitigation Plan Town of Onancock, Virginia, Mr. William Kerbin: Mr. Kerbin explained to council that the hazardous mitigation plan document is a requirement from FEMA. It serves as a planning toll for localities in the event of a disaster. Mr. Kerbin also shared that it also helps identify some vulnerabilities the town may when been facing a disaster.

Councilmember Krause asked if the town had a phone tree in place so that staff and council can be alerted to issues in a timely fashion. Mr. Kerbin stated that the town does not currently have a phone tree. Councilmember Krause asked that the town look into getting one in place.

Mrs. Fiege explained to council that this Resolution is specific to the Onancock, VA section of the document. The Accomack-Northampton Planning District Commission are the authors of the document and that they are required to update the document every five years. Mrs. Fiege continued to share that the town's staff and affiliates assisted with the Onancock revisions.

Vice-Mayor Fosque asked for further discussion.

With none, Councilmember Bundick made a motion to adopt the Resolution of 2016 Eastern Shore of Virginia Hazardous Mitigation Plan Town of Onancock, Virginia as presented in the packet. Councilmember Bloxom seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

- b. Town Wide Yard Sale, Ms. Cynthia Holdren: Ms. Cynthia Holdren, Onancock Civic and Business Association (OBCA), spoke on behalf of the OBCA Super Saturday Yard Sale. Ms. Holdren shared that OBCA has worked diligently to promote the event through advertising efforts. Ms. Holdren stated that to date the response has not been good with only two spaces currently reserved for the Town Gazebo. Ms. Holdren did share that some of the churches and businesses in town were also planning to participate. Some home owners also have plans to set-up tables in their yards in the downtown area. Ms. Holdren explained that part of the lack of interest may be due to the Onley Medical Center having a yard sale on the same day. The Super Saturday Yard Sale will be held on May 6th with a rain date of May 13th.

Vice-Mayor Fosque asked is anyone had any questions.

Councilmember Byrd thanked Ms. Holdren for their efforts.

- c. Onancock's Plan Document, Mr. William Kerbin: Vice-Mayor Fosque amended the agenda to add this item for council's consideration. Mr. Kerbin asked Mrs. Fiege to explain the Plan Document to council.

Mrs. Fiege explained the law firm of Kaufman & Canoles prepared a Plan Document for the town so that its employees would be able to pay their health care premiums on a pre-tax basis. This option will allow employee to save money on their taxes annually. Mr. John Custis, Town Attorney, recommended the firm because they have experience with employee benefits.

Mr. Kerbin shared that this will be a nice perk for current and potential employees.

Councilmember Bloxom asked about the cost to the town. Mrs. Fiege explained that except for the cost of generating the Plan Document there will be no other costs incurred by the town.

Councilmember Byrd shared that this a key benefit to the town's employees and that he supports the adoption of the Resolution.

Councilmember Bloxom made a motion to pass the Resolution to adopt a Flexible Benefits Plan for Medical Coverage. Councilmember Byrd seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

Public Comment:

None.

Planning Commission:

No meeting.

Waterfront Committee:

Councilmember Byrd reviewed the Harbormaster's report for the April 4th Waterfront Committee meeting. The wharf is currently 31% of ahead of last year's reservation for the boating season.

Councilmember Byrd shared the overwhelming community support for the wharf. Residents have been assisting with scrubbing the facility, pressure washing the facility, donating new life rings and rugs for the office. Councilmember Byrd also shared that two new assistants have been hired. One has already started and the other will start in mid-May. Councilmember also explained that there has been further discussion on the shower situation at the marina in regards to local event users. Town staff is now looking at erecting a sprinkler over by the kayak landing so that people may rinse off in lieu of using the shower facility at the Harbormaster Shack. Lastly, the ice cooler that has been at the wharf for some time now is no longer working and has been removed by the town's current ice provider Seaford Ice. The town is now going to contract with Shore Ice for its ice needs.

Councilmember Bloxom asked why the "No Wake" sign was no longer up. Councilmember Byrd explained that the sign is the responsibility of the Coast Guard and that the wharf staff have been in contact with them asking them to get it back up.

Holiday Committee:

No meeting.

Personnel Committee:

No meeting.

Mayor's Report:

None.

Town Manager's Report:

Mr. Kerbin shared the following update with council:

- Eastern Shore Communication has been selected to upgrade the Town Hall phone system and these upgrades should be completed by May 31, 2017.
- The Personnel Committee is currently reviewing the proposed revisions of the Personnel Manual and it should be ready for approval at the May council meeting.
- The town has terminated its contract with Ordereze for its website needs. Currently, the town is reviewing proposals from other vendors.
- Mayor Jones and Mr. Kerbin participated in a roundtable discussion with Congressman Scott Taylor that included other elected officials, healthcare representatives and other citizens.
- The tentative date for the demolition of the shop building at the Old Onancock School is May 8th.

Closed Session, if needed:

None.

Mrs. Karen Splawn, Friends of Onancock School, asked council to come by the school to see the painting on the front of the building,

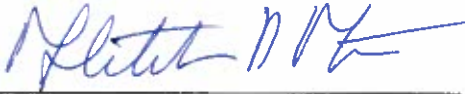
Councilmember Krause thanked OBCA for their role in working with the Friends of Onancock School and working with the Eastern Shore of Virginia Historical Society's Hopkins Brothers new display.

Councilmember Krause encouraged everyone to check out the new display at the Hopkins Brother's Store which highlights Onancock's Mercantile History.

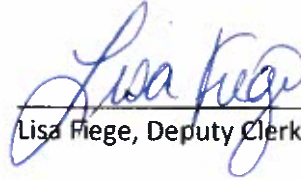
Adjourn:

Councilmember Byrd made a motion to adjourn. Councilmember Krause seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimous voice vote.

The meeting adjourned at 7:27 PM.



Fletcher Fosque, Vice-Mayor



Lisa Fiege, Deputy Clerk