

Town of Onancock
Town Council Meeting
Monday
June 26, 2017
7:00 PM

Call to Order and Roll Call:

Mayor Jones called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM and roll was called. Mayor Russell Jones and Council members Robert Bloxom, Catherine Krause, T. Lee Byrd, Ray Burger, Joshua Bundick, and Fletcher Fosque were present. All council members were present and a quorum was established.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Consideration and Approval of the Regular Town Council Minutes from the May 22, 2017 Meeting:

Mayor Jones asked if there were any additions, changes or corrections to the minutes as submitted.

With none, Council member T. Lee Byrd made a motion to accept the minutes as submitted. Council member Robert Bloxom seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

Public Business:

- a. Public Hearing, Special Use Permit Application to Operate a Homestay, Submitted by Kitty and Tom Cardaci. Mr. William Kerbin
Town Manager William Kerbin emphasized to Kitty and Tom Cardaci that homestay visits could be no more than three weeks.
Mr. Cardaci said he was thinking about doctors and nurses coming to work at the new hospital that might need a short-term rental.
Council member Fletcher Fosque reminded Mr. Cardaci that the special use permit was for homestay visits of not more than three weeks but as a homeowner he did not need a special use permit to rent his home for longer periods.
Mr. E.R. Custis a resident /owner living across the street from the property had concerns about the parking.
Council member T. Lee Byrd asked if the owners could give guests information when they arrived about appropriate parking?
Mr. Cardaci was agreeable with the request.
Council member Joshua Bundick asked if this special use permit ends when there is a change of ownership of the property.
This special use permit runs with the owner, not the property.

Mayor Russell Jones declared the Public Hearing closed.

Council member Robert Bloxom made a motion to approve Special Use Permit 03:17. Council member T. Lee Byrd seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

- b. Public Hearing, Water and Sewer Rate Changes. Mr. William Kerbin
Town Manager William Kerbin noted that this public hearing was on the agenda so the Town could formalize the changes already approved for the fiscal year beginning July 01, 2017 to the water and sewer rates and to include them in the Town code.

Mayor Russell Jones asked for public comment. With none, Mayor Jones declared the public hearing closed.

Council member Joshua Bundick made a motion to adopt the amendment to Section 21-45 of the sewer and water ordinance related to the adoption of the fiscal year 2018 budget and to add this ordinance to the Town of Onancock Code. Council member Catherine Krause seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

- c. Public Hearing, Proposed Town Code Regarding Vegetation Growth and Maintenance. Mr. William Kerbin

Town Manager William Kerbin noted that he and Police Chief Eric Williams worked together to develop the code and enforcement.

Mayor Russell Jones asked for public comment.

Mr. Haydon Rochester, a resident of Onancock, asked if there was anything in the ordinance about growth that extends into/onto/over the sidewalks, he has watched as people walking with strollers have had to step into the street to avoid the growth.

Council member Fletcher Fosque asked if the town was responsible for the sidewalks?

Answer: VDOT owns sidewalks and streets. There are a few streets the Town owns.

Council member Joshua Bundick noted our ordinance excludes flowers, trees and shrubs.

Council member Ray Burger noted that on some corners there are shrubs blocking the view of oncoming traffic and gave an example.

Mayor Russell Jones noted that streets the Town owns the Town can do something about.

Mayor Russell Jones asked if there were any more comments. With none, Mayor Jones declared the public hearing closed.

Council member Robert Bloxom made a motion to adopt the Vegetation Growth and Maintenance ordinance and add this ordinance to the Town of Onancock Code.

Council member Fletcher Fosque seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

- d. Public Hearing, Transfer of Public Funds into a VML Account. Mr. William Kerbin
Town Manager William Kerbin recommended consolidating several accounts for transparency and efficiency and transferring one or more of these accounts to the Virginia Municipal League (VML) Investment Pool.

Council member T Lee Byrd asked what costs were involved and what are the fees?

Mayor Russell Jones said the rates of return will change and the fees will be minimal.

Mayor Jones also told the Council members that the last two acting Town Managers have suggested the Town do this.

Council member Fletcher Fosque said the Town Council had this discussion a long time ago and the Town has a reserve fund and a maintenance reserve fund.

Mayor Jones asked if there were any other comments. With none, Mayor Jones declared the Public Hearing closed.

Council member Joshua Bundick made a motion that the Council adopt the VML ordinance to participate in the Virginia Investment Pool and transfer Town funds to this account.

Council member Robert Bloxom seconded the motion.

The motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

- e. Discussion of Onancock's Police Department Staffing. Mr. William Kerbin
Mayor Russell Jones noted we have a staff of five officers and it is appropriate we stay where we are.
Council member T Lee Byrd noted it takes an absurd amount of time to take care of a Driving Under the Influence (DUI); approximately four hours. It would not be a good idea to make any changes.
Mayor Russell Jones noted that the Virginia State Police are short-handed at this time.

Public Comment:

Mr. Pete Laylor, not a resident of Onancock although he said he would like to be, came to report to the Town about an encounter he had while visiting at the Wharf here in Onancock. He met members of the Spa Creek Cruising Club from Annapolis, Maryland and they wanted him to share with the town that we have the best Harbormaster (Deb Melcher) they have ever encountered and that is why they came here.

Ms. Janet Rochester a resident of Onancock thanked the Town for all its' support of the Free Library.

Ms. Anne Nock a resident of Onancock reported to the Town about an article Bill Sterling wrote about Willie Crockett, an artist here in town, in the Chesapeake Bay Magazine. She said there have been three articles about Onancock in this magazine and it might not be a bad idea to advertise with them.

Mayor Russell Jones told those in attendance that the Town of Onancock was listed in Southern Living Magazine's Best Small Town places to retire.

Planning Commission Report:

No meeting

Waterfront Committee Report:

See attached report

Personnel Committee Report:

No meeting

Council member Joshua Bundick asked if the manual was completed. Town Manager William Kerbin said it was and that Office Manager Lisa Fiege had all employees sign it.

Holiday Committee Report:

No meeting

Mayor's Report:

No report

Town Manager's Report:

See attached report

Town Manager William Kerbin encouraged council members and those in attendance to call or e-mail Town Office Manager Lisa Fiege to add events and times now that the Town website is up and running.

Council member Fletcher Fosque in relation to the Open Meeting Act warned council members to be careful of pushing reply-all when e-mailing because it could be construed as a quorum (four people) for a meeting.

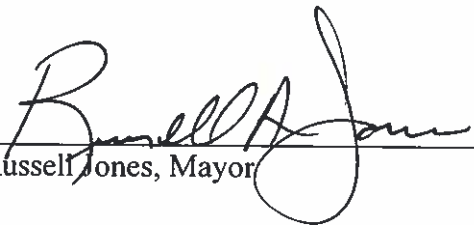
Closed Session:

None

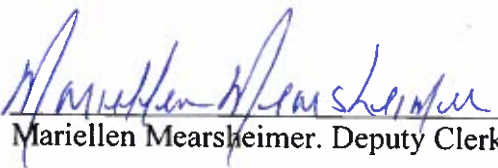
Adjourn:

Council member Robert Bloxom made a motion to adjourn. Council member T. Lee Byrd seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:50 PM



Russell Jones, Mayor



Mariellen Mearsheimer, Deputy Clerk