

Town of Onancock  
Town Council Meeting  
April 23, 2018  
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 Councilmembers Robert Bloxom, T. Lee Byrd, Ray Burger, Joshua Bundick and Fletcher Fosque were present. Councilmember Catherine Krause was absent. A majority of 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 March 26, 2018:

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

*With none, Councilmember Bundick made a motion to approve the minutes as submitted. Councilmember Burger seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous voice vote.*

Public Business:

- a. Adoption of the FY19 Budget – Town Manager William Kerbin: Mayor Jones explained that the proposed budget has been through a council work session and public hearing and that the last step is for Council to legally adopt the FY19 budget. Mr. Kerbin stated that there have been no updates or changes to the proposed budget since the public hearing.

*With no additional comment, Councilmember Byrd made a motion to adopt the FY19 Town of Onancock budget including the approval of all related sewer and water rate increases as presented in the budget public hearing on March 26, 2018. Councilmember Bloxom seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous voice vote.*

- b. Motion to Update Onancock's Vehicle Decal Regulation – Town Manager William Kerbin: Mr. Kerbin explained that this proposed code change will put the Town in compliance with the new State regulations regarding vehicle decals.

Councilmember Bundick asked if the Town already had a code regarding decals. Councilmember Fosque explained that previously the Town Code did not specify that the decal be placed on the vehicle in relationship to the inspection sticker.

Councilmember Fosque asked why the change was necessary. Councilmember Burger shared that due to eye sight technology the stickers needed to move so that they would not interfere with those safety features.

*Councilmember Bundick made a motion to approve the following ordinance regulating the location of the Town decal:*

*“The windshield sticker license tag issued under this article shall be affixed on the inside of the windshield of the motor vehicle. It shall be placed adjacent to the State inspection sticker and no higher than three (3) inches from the bottom of the windshield, or at such other location as may be prescribed by State law.”*

*Councilmember Fosque seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous voice vote.*

Councilmember Bundick noticed that this item of business was to have a public hearing. Mayor Jones opened the public hearing at 7:11 PM. Mayor Jones asked Council and the public if there were any comments on this item of business. With none, Mayor Jones closed the public hearing at 7:11 PM. Councilmember Fosque asked if any Councilmember wished to change their vote. Everyone stated they stood by their original vote.

- c. Recodification Schedule for the Town Code – Town Manager William Kerbin: Mr. Kerbin explained that Municode has been selected as the group that will be handling the Town’s recodification. This process could take 12-18 months. Mr. Kerbin also shared that a three-member committee will need to be created to review the draft before it comes before Council. Mayor Jones shared that the previous two Town Managers recommended updating the Code.

Public Comment:

No comments.

Planning Commission Report – Councilmember Fosque:

Councilmember Fosque shared that the Planning Commission is still working on the Town’s Comprehensive Plan update. The Commission has decided to take a step back from the revision until after the Main Street Initiative group completes their survey of Town residents and businesses. Once the survey is completed the Planning Commission will have a better idea of how to move forward with the land use section of the Plan.

Councilmember Fosque shared that there would not be a meeting in May and that the Commission is still one member short. Councilmember Fosque asked that those interested individuals let Mrs. Lisa Fiege or Mr. William Kerbin know so that he can review their request with Council.

Councilmember Fosque explained that he will no longer be on Planning Commission as of July 1, 2018.

Councilmember Fosque mentioned that the Commission did discuss a possible revision of the current homestay regulations but it is uncertain that the Commission will propose revised language to Council. Councilmember Fosque stated that he is uncertain how Council could regulate individuals from buying property in Town specifically to utilize as an investment.

Councilmember Bundick clarified that if the ordinance was to only allow owner-occupied homestays then none of the current homestays in Town would be allowed. Councilmember Fosque stated with the exception of one, that is correct.

Waterfront Committee Report – Councilmember T. Lee Byrd:

No meeting.

Personnel Committee Report – Councilmember Catherine Krause:

Councilmember Bundick shared that they just finished hiring process for the new Harbormaster.

Holiday Committee Report – Councilmember Catherine Krause:

No report.

Mayor’s Report:

Mayor Jones thanked all the candidates that are running for Town Council. Mayor Jones expressed his appreciation for their willingness to be a part of the process.

Town Manager’s Report:

Mr. Kerbin read his report aloud:

- T.K. Fitchett has been hired as the new Harbormaster. He will begin on April 25, 2018.
- The Mayor and Mr. Kerbin participated in an infrastructure summit held by Congressman Taylor on April 14. One of the projects proposed included providing sewer services further down the Route 13 corridor including Melfa, Exmore and Nassawadox. Other projects discussed included workforce housing, coastal resilience and extending a natural gas pipeline down the Eastern Shore.
- Mr. Kerbin met with the National Guard band in planning for a concert scheduled for September 8, 2018 at 7:00 PM at the Old Onancock High School.
- Mr. Kerbin attended a Tourism Summit on April 9 at the Eastern Shore Community College. The summit focused on the Main Street Program, agritourism and the new Tourism Commission website which includes a landing for the Town.
- Mr. Kerbin attended the Samuel Outlaw board meeting on April 11 as well as the Samuel Outlaw fundraising committee on April 16.
- Police Chief and Mr. Kerbin met with the Eastern Shore Chamber of Commerce staff to discuss planning the Le Tour de Shore bike race which is to be held on June 16. The bike race will begin and end at the Gazebo Park.
- There are two new doggie bag stations in Town; located at Market Street and Lee Street, and at Onancock Street and Kerr Street. Mr. Kerbin thanked the Onancock Business and Civic Association (OBCA) for installing the new stations.

Council Comments:

Councilmember Bundick suggested that the Town work on being designated as dog friendly. Ms. Terris Kennedy, Blarney Stone Pub, mentioned that dogs are now allowed on their restaurant patio. Ms. Kennedy explained that they worked closely with the Tourism Commission to get the rule changed so that the Health Department would allow dogs on the patio as long as there is proper signage and they are leashed.

Councilmember Byrd thanked OBCA for putting on the Candidates Forum. Councilmember Byrd also shared that the new Harbormaster, TK Fitchett, will be an excellent addition to the Onancock Wharf.

Councilmember Bundick also thanked OBCA for putting on the Candidates Forum. Councilmember Bundick asked that the Town Staff look into changing the microphones in the Council Chambers.

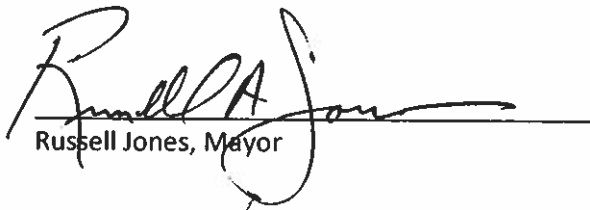
Closed Session, if needed:

None was needed.

Adjourn:

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

The meeting adjourned at 7:27 PM.



Russell Jones, Mayor



Lisa Fiege, Deputy Clerk