

Town of Onancock
Town Council Meeting
July 26, 2018
7:00 PM

Call to Order and Roll Call:

Mayor Fosque called the meeting to order 7:00 PM and roll was called. Mayor Fletcher Fosque and Councilmembers Robert Bloxom, Catherine Krause, Joy Marino, Ray Burger, Joshua Bundick and Maphis Oswald were present. All members were present and a quorum was established.

Chairman Grier called the Planning Commission meeting to order and roll was called. Chairman Judith Grier and Commissioners Bill Bagwell, Ridgway Dunton, Lawrence Frey and Scott Schreiber were present. All members were present and a quorum was established.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Consideration and the Approval of the Regular Town Council Minutes from the June 25, 2018 Meeting:

Mayor Fosque asked if there was any changes, additions, corrections or discussion on minutes as presented.

With none, Councilmember Krause made a motion to approve the minutes as submitted. Councilmember Oswald seconded the motion. The motion was passed by unanimous voice vote.

Public Business

(*Note: All public hearings were held before any votes were taken)

- a. Joint Public Hearing – Onancock Planning Commission and Onancock Town Council – Tower Text Amendment for Parks and Open Spaces Zoning District: Mayor Fosque explained the process of having a joint public hearing.

Mayor Fosque opened the joint public hearing at 7:05 PM. Town Manger Kerbin reviewed the proposed text amendment changes. Mr. Kerbin asked Mr. Romine, Attorney for Verizon, to review the requested changes. Mr. Romine finished by stating that once the proposed text amendment was approved Verizon would need to get Town Council's approval for a special use permit so that they can complete the project.

No public comment. Councilmember Bundick confirmed that this project would not violate contracts of those currently on the water tower.

Mayor Fosque closed Town Council's public hearing at 7:11 PM.

Commissioner Bagwell made a motion to open the public hearing. Commissioner Schreiber seconded the motion. The motion was approved by voice vote at 7:12 PM.

The Commissioners had a general discussion on the proposed text amendment.

Commissioner Schreiber made a motion to recommend the proposed text amendment to Town Council for their consideration. Commissioner Dunton seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

Chairman Grier closed Planning Commission's public hearing at 7:13 PM.

Councilmember Bloxom made a motion that the Town Council approve the text amendment to permit the construction of towers in the Parks and Open Space Zoning District, with a special use permit. Councilmember Krause seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

- b. Public Hearing – Special Use Permit, 11 Liberty Street, Mr. David Mitchell – Town Manager William Kerbin: Mayor Fosque opened the public hearing at 7: 13PM. Mr. Kerbin reviewed the special use application for Council. Mr. Kerbin recommended that Council approve the application.

Mr. Mitchell spoke on behalf of his special use permit.

Council discussion followed.

With no further discussion Mayor Fosque closed the public hearing at 7:19 PM.

Councilmember Krause asked for clarification of the word "homestay" that was used in the public hearing notice. Mr. Kerbin explained that it was a typo since this property was not requesting a short-term rental permit.

Councilmember Bloxom made a motion to approve SUP 3:18 with the following conditions:

- *The owner of the dwelling unit within which the apartment is located resides within the dwelling itself; and,*
- *The owner of the dwelling will provide four (4) parking spaces for off-street parking.*

Councilmember Bundick seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

- c. Public Hearing – Vice Mayor Selection Ordinance – Town Manager William Kerbin: Mayor Fosque opened the public hearing at 7:20 PM. Mr. Kerbin explained the need for the proposed Town Code change. Mr. Kerbin read the proposed language aloud.

With no public comment, Mayor Fosque closed the public hearing at 7:21 PM.

Councilmember Burger made a motion that the Onancock Town Council approve the Vice-Mayor ordinance and adopt it as part of the Town of Onancock Code. Councilmember Burger seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

- d. Offshore Drilling Presentation – Ms. Terra Pascarsa, Oceana: Ms. Terra Pascarsa, Oceana, and Mr. Jay Ford, Chesapeake Bay Foundation, gave a presentation which discussed the growing concerns for the proposed off-shore drilling. They are requesting that the Town of Onancock follow in the footsteps of other municipalities on the Eastern Shore of Virginia by passing a Resolution in opposition to this activity.

Councilmember Bundick recused himself from the discussion due to his employment status with United States Federal Government.

Several Councilmembers expressed their interest in passing a Resolution against this activity.

Ms. Pascarosa and Mr. Ford thanked Council for their audience.

- e. Resiliency Adaptation Feasibility Tool (RAFT) Presentation – Ms. Michelle Covi and Ms. Angela King: Dr. Michelle Covi and Ms. Angela King gave a presentation about the Resiliency Adaptation Feasibility Tool (RAFT). They are encouraging the Town of Onancock to participate in the program. They shared that there will be a community workshop on August 14, 2018, they are asking that the Town identify 5-10 individuals who would be interested in participating on behalf of the Town.

Council discussion followed.

There was no public comment.

- f. Tree Board – Mr. Bill Burnham: Mr. Kerbin explained that Mr. Burnham was unavailable to attend the Council meeting and asked to postpone the report for the August meeting.
- g. Wharf Fee and Charge Increase Ordinance – Town Manager William Kerbin: Mayor Fosque opened the public hearing at 7:22 PM. Mr. Kerbin explained the suggested change in the Town Code as well as read it aloud.

Mayor Fosque explained that this change would allow Town Council at the recommendation of the Waterfront Committee and Town Manager to change the rates and fees without a public hearing.

Mayor Fosque read a letter in opposition of the change from Mrs. Sue Mastyl, Harborton, VA.

Council discussion followed.

No further public discussion.

The public hearing closed at 7:27 PM.

Councilmember Krause made a motion that the Onancock Town Council approve the Wharf Fee and Charge Increase ordinance and adopt the ordinance as part of the Town of Onancock Code. Councilmember Bloxom seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

- h. FY2018 Christmas Decorations Budget Carry Forward – Town Manager Kerbin: Mr. Kerbin explained that this is a budget carry-forward from FY2018; the unspent monies from the Holiday Decorations line item.

Councilmember Oswald made a motion that Onancock Town Council carry forward Christmas Decorations funds from FY2018 to FY2019 in the amount of \$1,500.00. Councilmember Bundick seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

- i. Appointment of Mr. Matt Spuck to the Planning Commission – Town Manager William Kerbin: Mayor Fosque shared that per Town Council’s request the Planning Commission selected the candidate that they would like to fill the current vacancy. The Planning Commission asked that Mr. Matt Spuck, North Street, be appointed to the Commission.

Councilmember Bundick made a motion to appoint Mr. Matt Spuck to the Onancock Planning Commission for a four-year term. Councilmember Bloxom seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

- j. FY2018 Fourth Quarter Report: Mr. Kerbin reviewed the fourth-quarter financial report from FY2018.

Mayor Fosque and Councilmember Oswald asked that the Council be briefed monthly on the Town’s financials from now on. There was some discussion of the ease of generating the report monthly. Mrs. Lisa Fiege explained that the current report structure is more involved than pushing a button. Mayor Fosque asked that Councilmember Bloxom meet with Mr. Kerbin and Mrs. Fiege to discuss ideas for new monthly reporting format.

Public Comment:

Mr. Adam James, Onancock Volunteer Fire Department, updated Town Council on the current status of the Fire Department. Some items discussed were; the replacement of a water tanker and brush truck, the increase in their service area, decrease in revenue for mileage on ambulance calls, as well as paid staff and volunteer staff.

Town Council thanked Mr. James for the update.

Planning Commission Report:

Mr. Kerbin explained that the Commission appointed Commissioner Judith Grier to the role of Chairman. Mayor Fosque explained that one of the Planning Commission seats needs to be filled by a Council representative. Councilmember Bloxom expressed his interest in the position.

Councilmember Krause made a motion to approve Councilmember Bloxom as the Council representative to the Planning Commission. Councilmember Bundick seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous voice vote. Councilmember Bloxom abstained from the vote.

Mayor Fosque also mentioned that other committees will also require a Council representative.

Councilmember Burger expressed interest in the Friends of Onancock School committee.

Councilmember Bloxom made a motion to approve Councilmember Burger as the Council representative for the Friends of Onancock School Board. Councilmember Oswald seconded. The motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

Some discussion followed about the Water and Sewer Committee as well as the Samuel Outlaw Building Board.

Councilmember Bundick expressed his interest in the Water and Sewer Committee appointment.

Councilmember Bloxom made a motion to approve Councilmember Bundick as the Water and Sewer Committee Council representative. Councilmember Oswald seconded the motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

Councilmember Krause mentioned that she is resigning from the Holiday Decorations Committee as the Council representative.

Mayor Fosque explained that Councilmember Oswald needs to resign from the Onancock Board of Zoning Appeals due to her appointment to Town Council. Mayor Fosque stated that Town Council will need to make a recommendation to the Circuit Court Judge of Accomack County for Councilmember Oswald's replacement.

Waterfront Committee Report:

Councilmember Bloxom reported on the most recent Waterfront Committee Meeting. Some items that were discussed are as follows: replacement of the orange fencing; purchase of stainless steel cables; the need for additional assistants at the Wharf; and, the movement of the "No Wake" signs. Councilmember Bloxom expressed his appreciation for the Harbormaster's hard work.

Personnel Committee Report:

Councilmember Krause explained that Council would be convening Closed Session shortly for personnel matters.

Holiday Committee Report:

No meeting.

Mayor's Report:

Mayor Fosque shared that Governor Ralph Northam would be in Onancock over the weekend. Governor Northam will be at the Onancock Farmers and Artisans Market Saturday, July 28, around 10:00 AM. Mayor Fosque also shared that the regional sewer discussions are going on; the money used for the project, should it come to fruition, will be handed down from the federal government. Mayor Fosque also stated that he would like to get a work session scheduled for Council so that they can work on the capital improvement plan/timeline. The meeting would be open to the public, but it will merely be informational and no motions will be made.

Town Manager's Report:

Mr. Kerbin read his report aloud. Some of the items mentioned by Mr. Kerbin were: Southern Software conversion; bike/pedestrian path; crosswalks; delinquent collections; FOIA training; Wharf barrier; and, the National Guard concert.

Council Comments:

Councilmember Bloxom welcomed the new councilmembers. Councilmember Bloxom also mentioned that Mrs. Nancy James would not be heading the 2019 St. Patrick's Day Parade efforts.

Councilmember Krause also welcomed new councilmembers. Councilmember Krause shared that the Town does not have anyone to manage events such as the St. Patrick's Day Parade.

Some discussion followed about having an events coordinator on staff and/or using the Harbormaster in the off-season for these types of activities.

Councilmember Burger asked if Council could invite a group in favor of off-shore drilling to a meeting so that Council could hear both sides of the discussion prior to passing a Resolution against that activity.

Councilmember Oswald shared that she is excited to be back on Town Council.

Councilmember Bundick welcomed the new members as well.

Closed Session, if needed:

Councilmember Bloxom made a motion for Town Council to convene a Closed Meeting for the purposes of holding a discussion of the personnel, pursuant to Section 2.2-3711(A)(1) of the Code of Virginia of 1950, as amended. Councilmember Krause seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

Closed session started at 9:05 PM.

Councilmember Bloxom made a motion to reconvene Town Council in Open Meeting, and that a roll call vote be taken and recorded on this motion so that each member who votes in favor shall, thereby, certify compliance with all the matters identified in Section 2.2-3711(D) of the Code of Virginia of 1950, as amended. Councilmember Bundick seconded the motion and a roll call vote was taken.

Robert Bloxom Yes No
Joy Marino Yes No
Catherine Krause Yes No

Ray Burger Yes No
Maphis Oswald Yes No
Joshua Bundick Yes No

Closed session ended at 9:34 PM.

Adjourn:

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

The meeting adjourned at 9:34 PM.



Fletcher Fosque, Mayor



Lisa Fiege, Deputy Clerk