

Town of Onancock
Town Council Meeting
August 26, 2019
7:00 p.m.

Call to Order and Roll Call:

Mayor Fosque called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and roll was called. Mayor Fletcher Fosque and Councilmember Robert Bloxom, Joy Marino, Catherine Krause, Ray Burger, Maphis Oswald and Matt Spuck were present. All members were present, and quorum was established.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Mayor Fosque asked for a moment of silence in honor of Ms. Ann Nock.

Consideration and Approval of the Meeting Minutes from the July 25, 2019 Regular Town Council Meeting: Mayor Fosque asked if there were any changes, additions or corrections to the minutes as submitted.

Councilmember Spuck asked that in paragraph two under section A, the word "affective" be changed to "effective" as well as under section B in the third paragraph the word "concerned" be changed to "concern".

Councilmember Marino asked that "Personal" Committee be changed to "Personnel".

Councilmember Bloxom made a motion to approve the minutes as amended. Councilmember Oswald seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

Mayor Fosque explained that Central Accomack Little League Senior Boys team was present at the meeting and that the Onancock Town Council is honoring them this evening for their hard work making it the Little League World Series this summer. The Town of Onancock is proud to host the Central Accomack Little League in its town. Mayor Fosque read the Resolution of Commendation aloud.

After council thanked them for coming, discussion followed regarding a sign acknowledging their achievement. Mayor Fosque also suggested that the town look into putting a sign up directly people to the little league field.

Public Business:

- a. Discussion of the Eastern Shore Sanitary Sewer Transmission Force Main Project and Appointment of Committee Members – Mayor Fletcher Fosque: Mayor Fosque shared an overview of the Public Information Sessions that were held in the middle of the month. Mayor Fosque explained that there are still a lot of questions the town needs answers to before signing on the dotted line.

Councilmember Bloxom suggested that a committee be set-up to delve into these questions.

Councilmember Oswald stressed that this decision needs to be played out in the public. Councilmember Oswald suggested that the entire council be a part of this process and then maybe down the road ask a committee to review it further.

Council continued to discuss the potential benefits of a committee.

Councilmember Bloxom explained that the committee would have public meetings and council will have input into the scope of work. Councilmember Bloxom also explained that a library of documents will be created, and everyone will be able to review those documents. Councilmember Bloxom suggested that a joint work session be scheduled for the town council and the committee.

Mayor Fosque listed the individuals who have been asked to serve on the committee; Councilmember Bloxom, Councilmember Spuck, Mr. Eric Dodge, Mr. Alan Silverman, Mr. Duke Shannahan, Ms. Carol Tunstall, Mr. Keith Colona and Mr. T. Lee Byrd.

Councilmember Krause made a motion to appoint the individuals named for the Hampton Roads Sanitation Evaluation Committee.

Councilmember Oswald asked is it would be a steering committee.

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

Mayor Fosque scheduled a joint work session for Tuesday, September 3rd at 7:00 p.m.

Mayor Fosque and Mr. Kerbin added an additional agenda item regarding the Onancock Main Street Initiative and the Accomack-Northampton Planning District Commission (ANPDC):

Mr. Kerbin explained that this is for the Downtown Revitalization grant project. The town has been asked to submit a request, on behalf of the Main Street Initiative, to the ANPDC for assistance with this downtown revitalization CDBG planning grant. Mr. Kerbin shared that this grant is for \$35,000 and there is no match required from the town.

Council discussion followed. Some members were concerned that this grant proposal would negatively affect the Northeast Revitalization CDBG Grant Project. Mr. Kerbin explained that they are two separate grants and will have no effect on each other.

Mayor Fosque explained that vote tonight would grant approval for Mr. Kerbin to write a letter to the ANPDC asking for their assistance with submitting this grant. The ANPDC would also administer the grant funds.

Councilmember Bloxom made a motion that the Town of Onancock instruct the Town Manager to submit a letter of request of assistance to the A-NPDC to apply for a Downtown Revitalization Community Development Block Planning Grant. Councilmember Marino seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

Public Comment:

Mrs. Fiege read Mr. Haydon Rochester's letter to town council regarding the possible partnership with Hampton Roads Sanitation Department aloud.

Planning Commission Meeting:

No meeting.

Waterfront Committee Meeting:

Councilmember Bloxom shared that the committee discussed marketing our slips during the off-season along with the possibility of making one of the bathrooms available to town residents which would be marked as open to the public when the building is open. The committee also discussed the possibility of multi-night stay discounts for transient guests. The next meeting will be on September 10 at 5:30 p.m.

Personnel Committee Meeting:

Councilmember Krause shared that the next Personnel Committee meeting will be Friday, August 30th.

Councilmember Oswald asked who comprised the committee. Mayor Fosque shared that it is Town Manager Kerbin, Mayor Fosque, and Councilmember Krause.

Mayor's Report:

Mayor Fosque asked council if they would be interested in planting a tree or having a bench placed by the Town Gazebo in honor of Ms. Ann Nock. All members agreed adding that the town should also do a plaque in her honor.

Mayor Fosque shared that he had received an email from a man who was upset about the Trump banner a guest at the marina was flying. WHAT ELSE SHOULD I ADD HERE??????

Mayor Fosque mentioned that town staff was looking in to coordinating a Robert's Rules of Order training for town council. Councilmember Krause asked that an email with the possible dates be sent around so that council could pick a date from that email.

Town Manager's Report:

Mr. Kerbin read his report aloud.

- Wharf Interpretive Panel: The wharf interpretive panel has been installed and staff is looking at further screening to cover the existing gaps between the signs.
- Sewer Grinder Pump: Bob Bloxom, Bryan Horton and Mr. Kerbin met county and hospital staff to discuss a proposed solution to the hospital rags affecting the town pump station. All parties agreed to a period of joint monitoring by county and Town staff to determine if the problem is still occurring.
- Onancock Day at Welcome Center: The Onancock Day at the Welcome Center was very successful. Burnham Guides, Onancock Sailing Adventures, Onancock School and The Samuel Outlaw organization had tables at the event. Other businesses sent literature down to be handed out to visitors. The Welcome Center counted 788 individuals visiting the center that day.
- Cell Tower: Verizon is conducting some final testing to make the tower operational.
- Replacement of Mt. Prospect Bridge Water Line: The water line that had been broken under Mt. Prospect Bridge has been replaced. There will now also be access to water on the Onancock Landing Side for watering plants.

- Resilience Adaptation Feasibility Tool (RAFT) Tool 1 Year Meeting: Joy Marino and Mr. Kerbin attended the 1-year RAFT meeting. Localities reported their progress on various RAFT activities over the past year. They reported on our comprehensive plan review, investigation of mitigation measures to alleviate flooding at the wharf such as a duckbill and production of magnets with emergency information.

Financial Report:

No report.

Follow-up on Council Action Items:

No discussion followed.

Council Comments:

Councilmember Marino wanted to thank the owner of Shooting Star Gallery for re-framing the Willie Crockett painting that is located in the front office of Town Hall. This was done at no charge to the town.

Councilmember Krause mentioned that the Bagwell Bridge sounds horrible when riding a bicycle over it. Councilmember Krause asked Mr. Kerbin to follow-up with the Virginia Department of Transportation about this concern.

Councilmember Oswald asked Mr. Kerbin to write a follow-up response to Mr. Rochester's letter to council about the potential sewer transmission line project.

Councilmember Spuck asked Mr. Kerbin why there was no financial report this month. Mr. Kerbin explained that he was on vacation which left him short on time. Councilmember Spuck stated that he would still like to see the year to year comparison.

Closed Session, if needed:

None.

Adjourn:

Councilmember Krause made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Bloxom. The motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

The meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.



Fletcher Fosque, Mayor



Lisa Fiege, Deputy Clerk