

Town Council:

Bob Bloxom
Ray Burger
Thelma Gillespie
Catherine Krause
Joy Marino
Maphis Oswald



Mayor: Fletcher Fosque
Town Manager: Matt Spuck

15 North Street
Onancock, VA 23417

757-787-3363
www.Onancock.com

Town of Onancock

Public Hearing – held virtually and allowed for physically distanced persons to attend in-person in Council Chambers

November 19, 2020, 5:30 PM

Minutes

- 1) Call meeting to order
 - a) Mayor Fosque called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM
 - b) Mayor Fosque asked Mr. Spuck to call roll:
 - i) Councilmember Bloxom Attended via video
 - ii) Councilmember Burger Attended via video
 - iii) Councilmember Gillespie Absent
 - iv) Councilmember Krause Absent
 - v) Councilmember Marino Attended via video
 - vi) Councilmember Oswald Attended via telephone

(1) A quorum was present
- 2) Pledge of Allegiance was not recited due to remote attendance
- 3) Mayor Fosque called the public hearing to order and requested Mr. Spuck to open the hearing with a short presentation that explains the purpose for the hearing and certain pertinent background information
 - a) Mr. Spuck shared:
 - i) The Virginia Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program funds local governments to address critical community development needs, including housing, infrastructure, and economic development. This program has been administered by the Virginia Department and Community Development (DHCD) since 1982. CDBG funds are made available to DHCD by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).
 - ii) In accordance with Section 104(b)(3) of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, the use of CDBG funds meet one of the following national objectives:
 - (1) Give maximum feasible priority to activities which will benefit low-and-moderate-income families;
 - (2) Aid in the prevention or elimination of slums and blight, and;
 - (3) May also include activities which are designed to meet other community development needs having a particular urgency because existing conditions pose a serious and immediate threat to the community.
 - iii) The Virginia CDBG program makes funding available to local governments for planning and implementing community development projects in non-entitlement localities. Each project and activity utilizing CDBG funding must meet a national objective. Projects that do not meet at least one of the three national objectives will not be considered for funding.
 - b) The Town of Onancock has been fortunate to receive CDBG funds in the past. Our use of these funds includes these projects:
 - i) Onancock – Northeast I: 1979, 7 homes

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- ii) Onancock – Northeast II: 1989, 23 homes
- iii) Onancock – Northeast USDA: 1989, 12 homes
- iv) Onancock – Northeast Planning Grant: Planning grant to prepare to apply for Community Improvement Grant (CIG) in early 2021. Infrastructure and housing impact yet to be determined.
- c) The purpose of this public hearing is to solicit public input on local community development and housing needs in relation to Community Block Grant (CDBG) funding for a project in our community. Attendees are encouraged to also comment on the Town’s past use of CDBG funds. This hearing does not relate to any one specific project or application, but rather the benefit CDBG funds might create in the community, in general, and to learn from residents the opinion on prior CDBG projects.
 - i) Public comment (2 town residents attended in person (sign in sheet attached), none attended virtually:
 - (1) Mr. Smith asked if there was even an evaluation performed of the specific use and benefit – like a return on investment – on the prior housing projects.
 - (2) Councilmember Oswald responded by saying that in 1979, many of the homes in that section of town needed indoor plumbing, and this project like provided that upgrade.
 - (3) Councilmember Bloxom commented that evaluating a home repair or upgrade on a project seemed meaningless or irrelevant on a project completed more than 20-years ago.
 - ii) Mrs. Smith asked who administers projects like this.
 - (1) Mr. Spuck responded that in the past, Onancock has been fortunate to partnered with A-NPDC (Accomack-Northampton Planning District Commission) who expertly administers applications and projects like these. In the future, other partnerships might be used depending on the nature or timing of the project.
- d) Mayor Fosque solicited any additional public comment. Hearing none, he closed the public hearing.
- 4) Motion to adopt resolution for Continuity of Government Operations, as included with published agenda
 - a) Moved by Councilmember Marino with a proper second by Councilmember Bloxom.
 - i) The vote was unanimous, 4-0, with no abstentions.
- 5) Motion to adopt the resolution for Town Council meeting electronically for the next 60-days or until rescinded or re-adopted, as per full resolution included with the published meeting agenda.
 - a) Moved by Councilmember Bloxom with a proper second by Councilmember Oswald
 - i) The vote carried unanimously, 4-0, with no abstentions
- 6) Mayor Fosque requested a motion to adjourn the Town Council meeting of November 19, 2020 at 5:59pm
 - a) Moved by Councilmember Oswald with a proper second by Councilmember Marino
 - i) The motion passed unanimously, 4-0, without abstention.

Duly adopted by Town Council this 30th day of November, 2020

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Fletcher Fosque", written over a horizontal line.

Mayor, Fletcher Fosque