

**Town of Onancock
Town Council Meeting
Monday, February 28, 2022
7:00 PM**

1) Call to order and Roll Call:

Mayor Fletcher Fosque called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM and roll was called. Mayor Fletcher Fosque and Councilmembers Thelma Gillespie, Cynthia Holdren, Joy Marino, Sarah Nock and Maphis Oswald were present. Councilmember Ray Burger was not present. A quorum was established. Town Manager Matt Spuck and Deputy Clerk Debbie Caton were also present.

2) The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

3) Consideration and Approval of January 24,2022 Meeting Minutes:

a) Councilmember Nock made a motion to approve the minutes with the noted grammatical errors being updated. Councilmember Holdren seconded the motion. The was motion was passed with 5-0 vote.

4) Public Business

a)Director Joani Donohoe from Historic Onancock School (HOS) presented 2021 Annual Report. She discussed the following:

- HOS feels comfortable with economic plan throughout the pandemic.
- Strategic plan – refer to packet and website.
- HOS mission is to continue to support the town with a place for meetings and special events.
- HOS made several improvements to the facility which included outdoor space and playground.
- Indoor space is at capacity with a waiting list.
- Planning for the 100 yr anniversary celebration is in process.
- Performance pavilion presented to Planning Commission in March 2022 for future consideration by Town Council.

Call to order and Roll Call of Planning Commission.

Chairperson Schreiber called the Planning Commission to order at 7:15 PM and roll was called. Chairperson Schreiber, Commissioner Brockmeier, Commissioner Byrd, Commissioner Fosque, Commissioner Frey and Commissioner Tunstall were present. Commissioner Bagwell was not present. A quorum was established.

b) Public Hearing – Homestay – 38-77 Special Exemptions

Chairman Schreiber introduced the ordinance and stated the issues presented. Planning Commission recommended the ordinance as included in the agenda for tonight's public hearing.

Mayor opened public hearing at 7:15 AM

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The following public comments were recorded.

- Susan McGuire – 12 Joynes St
Feels she has a perfect space for Air BNB. Agrees to all fees/special use permit. Plans to discuss with neighbors. Intends for her space to be a great benefit to the Town.
- Patrick Tompkins – 5 Kerr St – did not agree with the contiguous property rule. Proposed this aspect of ordinance be removed for consideration.
- John Fiege – 35 Meadville Dr –. He does not think the town should restrict the number of Airbnbs.
- Channing Guvernator - 105 Market St. –Would consider investing in more properties in town but is precluded by the single ownership clause of the ordinance. Hopes to serve community and tourists by providing accommodations for family members attending a funeral or overflow for families during the holidays.
- Bob Spoth– 10 Market St – likes the cluster rule and feels it is very important to keep in the ordinance. He suggested a defined difference between guest house, B&B and Airbnb.
- Kathy Boyd – 5 Market St – support the proposed ordinance as written. Concerns about neighborhood.
- Colton Wilmouth – out of town – Asked for the ordinance to be more accessible to the public via website. He feels the standards/rules that are already in place by Airbnb will self-eliminate overall concerns with upkeeping the standards of Town.

Closed public hearing at 7:35 PM

Town Council and Mayor discussed the ordinance and public comments.

Council member Oswald motioned to accept ordinance with updates to Paragraph A, and to include in final ordinance attached to these minutes.

Council member Gillespie seconded the motion

Motion accepted 5-0.

c) Public Hearing - Paper Roads -6-100 to 6-102

Public hearing opened at 8:09 PM.

Mayor Fosque read 3 public comments into record. (attached to these minutes)

Town Council and Mayor discussed the ordinance and public comments.

Town Manager explained the current ordinance presents only one option for the Town. Other options in addition to current ordinance range from abandoning the right of way to the ordinance being heard, and any combination in between.

Council member Marino motioned to accept ordinance with adjustments (final ordinance attached).

Council member Nock seconded the motion.

Motion passed with vote of 4-yes, 1-abstaining vote (Councilmember Oswald) 0 - no

Planning Commission adjourned @ 8:35

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d) Adopt Planning Commission schedule was approved.

e) Mayor Fosque asked to appoint Dawn Byrd and Peaches Dodge to the Board of Zoning Appeals. (BZA) He will contact attorney to update the changes. No issues from Town Council.

f) Matt Spuck reported the Town received \$87,000 loan from USDA and \$46,800 grant to purchase town equipment. \$5,000 is not covered but is within the FY2022 capital budget. Resolution read into record by Council member Oswald with a motion to accept. Council member Mario seconded the motion. Council voted 5-0 to pass.

5) Budget – Preliminary budget to be sent to Council by March 10th. Budget workshop scheduled for March 15th at 6:00 PM. Revisions/updates by March 24th. April 25th will be the Public Hearing with approval May 23rd.

6) Public Comments

Concert moved to Market Street Methodist Church because high ticket sales.
Haydon Rochester 39 King St

Peaches Dodge

Thanked the Town Manager and others for continued support of the ESCADV.
New shelter is under construction.

Lori Eagen

Steve Thayer

Karen & David Tweedie

Concerns about conditions on Turner St. Asking for help to maintain the street. Matt Spuck stated FY 23 budget to encompass tar, chip, with an external slurry seal.

7) Committee Reports:

a) HRSD -Matt Spuck reported HRSD – transition went well. Next phase to close on pump stations. This will allow HRSD to do necessary upgrades.

b) Waterfront – next meeting is Tuesday, March 8th.

c) Planning Commission – next meeting is Monday, March 7th.

d) Personnel –Council member Marino reported updating personnel policies and strategies for police retention. Next Meeting is Tuesday, March 1st.

8) Mayors' report – Mayor reminded everyone of the St Patrick's Parade scheduled for Saturday, March 19th. Asked Council to march as well as pass out candy.

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9) Town Manager's Report

- Chief Williams secured grant for O/T hours.
- New hire for Parks & Landscaping-- Mike Colona – start date 03/07/22
- Golf cart shortage for Wharf
- VTC – ARPA grant - \$50,000 from Accomack. Spending plan being produced for Council approval.
- All Wharf advertising is in print for the upcoming season.
- NE grant & project meeting March 2nd

Motion to enter in closed session by Council member Nock. Council member Holdren seconded. Approved with 5-0 vote.



Town Mayor, Flector Fosque



Town Clerk, Debbie Caton