

Town of Onancock  
Planning Commission Meeting  
Monday  
March 04, 2024  
6:00 P.M.

Call to Order and Roll Call:

Chairman Scott Schreiber called the meeting to order at 6:00 P.M.

Commission members Bill Bagwell, T. Lee Byrd, Jacob Dillon, Larry Frey, Carol Tunstall and Chairman Scott Schreiber were present. Commission member Brandon Brockmeier was absent. A quorum was established.

Town Manager Matt Spuck and Deputy Clerk Mariellen Mearsheimer were present.

Minutes:

Chairman Schreiber asked for a motion to approve the February 05, 2024 meeting minutes.

*Commission member Jacob Dillon moved to approve the February 05, 2024 meeting minutes as presented. Commission member T. Lee Byrd seconded the motion. The motion was approved by unanimous voice vote.*

Items of Business:

- a) Article II. Stopping, Standing and Parking: Second review of this ordinance

Public Comment:

Priscilla Hart, resident of the Town of Onancock on Market Street, voiced her concern about the proposed housing development at Four Corners and the need to think about parking in Town now. Ms. Hart then presented the Commissioners a hand drawn map of the Business Downtown zone with highlighted areas for two and three hour parking during business hours and also suggested forty-eight hour parking.

Greg Felthousen, resident of the Town of Onancock on Ames Street, voiced his concern about the future of the Town and asked if the Town's Planning Commission planned on attending Accomack County's Planning Commission meeting. He stated that Planning Commission minutes need to be available to the public after seven days. He also stated that there had been months of discussion about the Friends of Onancock School needing a special use permit to operate the pavilion but nothing has been done. He stated the need to do something. He asked if the Town of Onancock will be providing water to the Ryan Homes project and if so, will the Town profit or will the water be given away. His asked if the water supply was safe.

Planning Commission Comment:

Commissioner Bagwell asked if golf carts would be allowed to park in parking spaces. (Sec.26-38) Town Manager Spuck stated he would insert the word "motorized". Commissioner Bagwell also asked that the word "to" East Street be added to (Sec.26-42) and noted there were no marked spaces for parking on East Street.

Commissioner Tunstall stated the 5:00A.M. through 5:00P.M. restriction takes care of restaurants.

Commissioner Byrd disagreed stating it would be a problem for the restaurants at lunch time.

Commissioner Frey asked to consider amending the Town's Business License to state that owners and employers need to park in the King and Queen Street parking lots and register their cars with the Town Office.

Town Manager Spuck stated keeping track of employee cars would be difficult.

Commissioner Dillon commented on the enforceability issue stating that he believed forty percent of the population is law abiding enough to honor things like parking limits and having signs there would make a difference. He added he did not know what the investment is but it sounds like a worthwhile endeavor.

Chairman Schreiber stated he spoke with residents that want Sundays excluded from parking restrictions and want forty-eight hour resident parking. Chairman Schreiber stated there is ample parking available in Town and asked if the Queen Street lot was appealing enough for people to use. He added there are not enough premium spots. He agreed that new apartment residents could cause some problems with downtown parking and that the new residential area being planned at Four Corners could also cause problems.

Commissioner Byrd stated the lighting was good on Queen Street and plantings would make the lot more visually attractive.

Town Manager Spuck said he put a capital plan together for Council to review that includes Queen Street.

Commissioner Bagwell asked if the Planning Commission should get the business owners together.

Commissioner Tunstall stated business owners want their customers to have access to their businesses.

Commission Chair Schreiber asked if the Planning Commission wanted to make a recommendation to Town Council.

Discussion followed.

Key points the Planning Commission agreed on included three-hour parking limits from 5:00 A.M. until 5:00 P.M. Monday through Saturday in the downtown area and no parking restrictions on Sunday in the downtown area and the townwide forty-eight hour parking rule will remain in place.

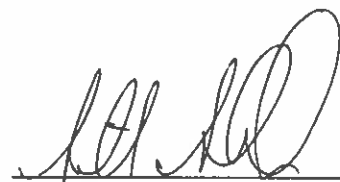
Town Manger Spuck stated the next agenda will include discussion of the Comprehensive Plan, specifically, where are we going with it.

Adjourn:

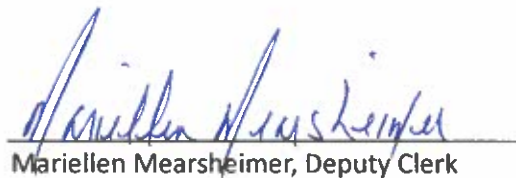
Chairman Schreiber asked for a motion to adjourn.

*Commission member Tunstall moved to adjourn. Commission member Dillon seconded the motion. The motion was approved by unanimous voice vote.*

The meeting adjourned at 6:57 P.M.



Scott Schreiber, Chair



Mariellen Mearsheimer, Deputy Clerk