

Onley Town Council Minutes of February 16, 2017

VIRGINIA: At a Special Meeting of the Onley Town Council held at the Onley Baptist Church, 25501 West Main Street, on the 16th day of February, A.D., 2017:

Members Present: Jack Pierson, Mayor  
Ned Finney, Vice-Mayor  
Ted Bliss  
Dawn Dize  
Matt Hart  
Susan Rillo  
Woody Zember

Staff Present: Jamye Salazar, Clerk/Treasurer

**Call to Order**

Mayor Pierson called the meeting to order at 5:30pm.

**Invocation & Pledge of Allegiance**

The invocation was given by Dawn Dize and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Susan Rillo.

**Closed Session**

**Motion: To go into Closed Session at 5:31pm in accordance with Section 2.2-3711(A) of the Code of Virginia of 1950, as amended for the purpose of Paragraph 1: Discussion or Consideration of contract with Eastern Shore Communications pertaining to internet services for the Town of Onley by Ned Finney and seconded by Susan Rillo. Roll Call Vote:** Hart-yes; Rillo-yes; Dize-yes; Bliss-yes; Zember-yes; Finney-yes. MOTION PASSED

**Open Session & Certification of Closed Session**

**Motion: To return to open session at 5:44pm by Ned Finney and seconded by Susan Rillo. Roll Call Vote:** Hart-yes; Rillo-yes; Dize-yes; Bliss-yes; Zember-yes; Finney-yes. MOTION PASSED

A roll call vote was taken before reconvening in Open Session, at which time each member certified by his/her vote whether only the matters previously disclosed were discussed during Closed Session: Pierson-yes; Bliss-yes; Dize-yes; Finney-yes; Hart-yes; Rillo-yes; Zember-yes.

**Public Comments**

Billye D. Custis asked how much it will cost a citizen to get connected to the internet. Mr. Bliss stated that is up to Eastern Shore Communications – not the town. Ms. Custis then asked how did the Town of Hallwood get this service without putting up any money. Mr. Hart stated that he was told that Hallwood applied for a grant over two years ago to cover the cost and the Town of Hallwood does not own the pole. Ms. Custis said that the mayor of Hallwood told her that the citizens put up the money to cover the cost and that the Town of Hallwood does not even want it in the town office. Mr. Hart said that is not what he was told by Don Imhoff from Eastern Shore Communications. Ms. Custis said that it is not going into the Town of Atlantic because they could not agree to the terms of the contract. Mr. Finney said that we are requesting some changes in the contract that they presented. Lastly, Ms. Custis spoke about HB 2108 that should it pass says that anybody can come in and say they want to be on that pole. Council said that they are aware of the bill and making provisions should it pass.

John Dennis asked who is responsible for maintaining the pole. Council stated that Eastern Shore Communications is. Mr. Dennis asked if their system goes down, how long will it take to bring it back up

again. Mayor Pierson said that they have said they are just like any other utility and they will have it up and running as soon as possible. He added that things happen just like with any other company but it will be up to them to shoulder that responsibility.

Fred Gardner asked how tall the pole is. Council said 75' with 65' out of the ground. He asked if there will be a fence. Mr. Finney said he does not think there will be a fence but he doesn't think we will need one since there is a pole there now that has never had a fence around it.

**Adjourn**

**Motion: To adjourn at 5:51pm by Ned Finney and seconded by Susan Rillo. Roll Call Vote:** Hart-yes; Rillo-yes; Dize-yes; Bliss-yes; Zember-yes; Finney-yes. MOTION PASSED

Respectfully Submitted,

Jamye Salazar  
Clerk/Treasurer

Jack Pierson  
Mayor