

Onley Town Council Minutes of March 22, 2012

VIRGINIA: At a Recessed Meeting of the Onley Town Council held at the Onley Fire & Rescue Building on the 22nd day of March, A.D., 2012:

Members Present: Billye D. Custis, Mayor
Billy Chance
Dawn Dize
Lance Eller
Ned Finney
Jack Pierson, Vice-Mayor
Don Strautz

Staff Present: Jamye Salazar, Treasurer

Call to Order

The Recessed Town Council meeting was called to order by Mayor Custis at 6:30pm. The invocation was given by Dawn Dize. The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was led by Jack Pierson.

Adoption of Agenda

Mayor Custis asked to add the holiday decorations to the agenda as well as the purchase of Biomist.

Motion: To adopt the agenda adding the discussion of holiday decorations and Biomist by Lance Eller and seconded by Don Strautz. Vote: Chance-yes; Dize-yes; Eller-yes; Finney-yes; Pierson-yes; Strautz-yes. MOTION PASSED

2012-2013 Budget Workshop

Mayor Custis stated that the Biomist is \$1,784.53 for a 55 gallon drum. Ms. Salazar stated that Mr. Shaw recommends buying two since we are completely out. Mr. Eller asked if there is a savings for buying two. Mayor Custis stated that she believes that we will save on shipping.

Motion: To purchase two 55 gallons drums of Biomist at \$1,784.53 each by Lance Eller and seconded by Don Strautz. Vote: Chance-yes; Dize-yes; Eller-yes; Finney-yes; Pierson-yes; Strautz-yes. MOTION PASSED

Mr. Finney added that we may need help with getting the Biomist off of the truck. Mr. Eller stated that Ms. Salazar should call him if the Biomist needs to be moved into the garage.

Mayor Custis stated that a motion was made at the last meeting to purchase holiday decorations however when Ms. Salazar tried to place the order she was told that the price quoted was not for LED lights although she and Mayor Custis previously stated that we wanted LED lights. The new quote from Mosca Designs is \$12,080.00 with an additional \$600.00 for shipping. Mayor Custis stated that we have gotten a new quote from a manufacturer that she would like Council to consider. The amount of the quote is \$11,722.00 for thirty 6' LED snowflakes (two different designs) with mounting hardware and warranty for 10 holiday seasons on the steel frames and 3 seasons on electrical components. This also includes thirty banners (10 with personalization) and 2% extra LED bulbs. The amount also includes \$600.00 for shipping. Mayor Custis added that the difference in this company and the others is that this company is the manufacturer whereas the other companies are selling them for someone else. There was some concern about the size of the snowflake. The general thought was that 6' will be too large to allow for the 13'6" necessary clearance. Mr. Finney would like to check on the height of the utility poles to make sure they can accommodate 6' snowflakes.

Motion: To purchase the holiday decorations from Holiday Designs at a price of \$11,722.00 by Ned Finney and seconded by Don Strautz. Vote: Chance-yes; Dize-yes; Eller-yes; Finney-yes; Pierson-yes; Strautz-yes. MOTION PASSED

Mayor Custis stated that a decision needs to be made about the Public Works department so that the correct amount can be decided for budget purposes. Mr. Finney and Ms. Dize stated that they feel we need to hire a company to take care of our public works needs. Mr. Strautz suggested that we ask Jamie Coulbourne to continue cutting grass until a company can be contracted. Mr. Eller asked Council for specific dates and information that needs to be included in the RFP. He expressed the need for an airtight contract. Ms. Salazar stated that she has a list of locations for grass cutting as well as additional jobs that will need to be done. Mr. Eller will get together with Ms. Salazar to put together the RFP.

Motion: To have Jamie Coulbourne continue to cut grass at the rate of \$25.00 per hour until a RFP can be created and a company contracted by Lance Eller and seconded by Don Strautz. Vote: Chance-yes; Dize-yes; Eller-yes; Finney-yes; Pierson-yes; Strautz-yes. MOTION PASSED

Mayor Custis stated that she and Ms. Salazar have not worked on the rainy day fund but asked if Council still wished for them to do that. Council was in agreement that it needs to be done.

Mayor Custis asked if there are any questions about the proposed budget. Mr. Pierson asked why there is only \$500.00 in the budget for holiday decorations. Ms. Salazar explained that the purchase of the holiday decorations will come out of the current budget. Mayor Custis stated that the state has proposed making it mandatory that employees now pay their 5% (that the Town now pays) into their retirement account with employers giving a 5% pay raise to cover this cost. If this happens, the proposed VRS amount will decrease. Council asked to add \$5,000.00 to donations. Mr. Finney asked where the money for the new signs will come from. Mayor Custis stated that she is hoping that money will come out of the current year's budget. Mayor Custis pointed out that while raises have been included in the proposed budget, Council will need to vote to actually spend the money. She also explained that some of the proposed money will also be allocated from one year to the next for larger expenses. Mr. Finney wondered if the Town will have to go to 24 hour police coverage once Royal Farms opens. Mayor Custis stated that she feels that concern will need to be addressed when the time comes and Council will need to decide where that money will come from. Mr. Eller agreed. Mayor Custis stated that the grant information has not come in yet but the revenue will match the expenditures so it will be a wash. Ms. Salazar stated that an officer approached her and asked how much the Town is willing to pay towards the purchase of new boots. After some discussion, Council decided that since \$80.00 seems to be the average amount spent in the past, they would like to keep it at that amount.

Mayor Custis stated that there has been an issue with decals and asked if Council was in agreement to discuss it. Everyone agreed. Mayor Custis reminded Council that last year they adopted a new decal ordinance allowing only the active members of OVFD to receive a free decal. After contacting the OVFD for the list of active members, we were advised that lifetime members are considered active as well. She asked Council to make a decision as to whether or not we will give the free decal to members that are not actually active since our ordinance does not allow for that. She has contacted Mike Mason at Accomack County for a list of members covered by LODA. Mr. Finney would like for lifetime members to receive decals. Ms. Dize agreed. Mayor Custis stated that the ordinance will need to be changed to that effect and that's not going to happen before this decal season.

Council thanked Mayor Custis and Ms. Salazar for their work on the budget. Mayor Custis would like to send it to public hearing in May.

John Dennis asked Council if they knew that the Town has been supplying water to the agriculture building. Mayor Custis stated that someone from the County called and thought that the vacant lot went with that building.

Motion: To adjourn at 7:40p.m by Lance Eller and seconded by Don Strautz. Vote: Chance-yes; Dize-yes; Eller-yes; Finney-yes; Pierson-yes; Strautz-yes. MOTION PASSED

_____, Jamye Salazar, Treasurer _____ Billye D. Custis, Mayor