

Onley Town Council Minutes of April 3, 2017

VIRGINIA: At a Regular Monthly Meeting of the Onley Town Council held at the Onley Baptist Church, 25501 West Main Street, on the 3rd day of April 2017:

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

Staff Present: Rachel Kellam, Town Attorney
Jamye Salazar, Clerk/Treasurer
John Spivey, Chief, Onley Police Dept.
Joel Parks, Part-Time Clerk

Call to Order

Mayor Pierson called the meeting to order at 6:30pm.

Invocation & Pledge of Allegiance

The invocation was given by Matt Hart and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Ned Finney.

Adoption of Agenda

Mr. Finney asked to add a Closed Session pertaining to personnel as item #8E under Old Business.

Motion: To adopt the agenda with the addition 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

Presentation – Onley Recreation Association

Lori Smith, Alicia Payne, Mike Davis and Vicky Sams spoke on behalf of the ORA Board of Directors. Ms. Smith gave an update on the state of affairs at the pool. They proposed that the Town of Onley donate \$8,000.00 so that they may meet expenses and keep the pool open for another season. A copy of the proposal will be attached to the minutes. Mr. Finney asked about the maintenance and repairs on the pool noting that there is no money in their proposal to cover it. Mr. Davis said that amount falls into the overall amount to run the pool. Mr. Davis said that he does not anticipate any repairs since the pool is in good shape structurally. Mr. Hart asked how many residents of Onley are already members. They responded approximately 10 of the 57 member families. Mr. Hart asked if they are willing to give the citizens of Onley a discount if the town does give them the \$8,000.00. They agreed that should the town give them the \$8,000.00, they will allow Onley residents to purchase memberships at a 50% discounted rate. They added that they are a 501c7 non-profit agency. Mr. Hart began to make a motion and was stopped by Ms. Kellam. Ms. Kellam expressed concern about whether or not the town can legally give money to the ORA and she would like to research the matter.

Motion: To donate \$8,000.00 to the ORA, Inc. contingent upon the town attorney's approval by Matt Hart and seconded by Woody Zember. Roll Call Vote: Hart-yes; Rillo-yes; Dize-yes; Bliss-yes; Zember-yes; Finney-yes. MOTION PASSED

Consideration of Minutes

Motion: To adopt the minutes of the March 6, 2017 Regular Monthly Meeting by Dawn Dize and seconded by Ted Bliss. Roll Call Vote: Hart-yes; Rillo-yes; Dize-yes; Bliss-yes; Zember-yes; Finney-yes. MOTION PASSED

Department Reports

Police Report & Schedule

Chief Spivey said that Sergeant Bennett was hospitalized and missed most of the month but he is back at work. He added that he, too has been out with some medical issues but all of that is resolved for now. He said that he has purchased the hands free devices for the officers to use and they are working out nicely. Mr. Zember asked Chief Spivey to look into the purchase of jump packs for the patrol cars. Chief Spivey said that all of the vehicles are equipped with jump cables and they work fine. He added that jump packs are expensive and they do not last when they are not being used often.

Motion: To accept the May 2017 schedule by Ned Finney and seconded by Ted Bliss. Roll Call Vote: Hart-yes; Rillo-yes; Dize-yes; Bliss-yes; Zember-yes; Finney-yes. MOTION PASSED

Treasurer's Report

Ms. Salazar gave her monthly report adding that there are additional payables in the amount of \$2,579.49.

Motion: To Pay the March 2017 Payables by Susan Rillo and seconded by Ted Bliss. Roll Call Vote: Hart-yes; Rillo-yes; Dize-yes; Bliss-yes; Zember-yes; Finney-yes. MOTION PASSED

Zoning Administrator's Report

In the absence of Mr. Pavlik, Ms. Salazar read his report into the minutes. A copy of the report is attached.

Attorney's Report

Ms. Kellam reported that she has worked (along with Mr. Pavlik) on the clean-up of the Nicolls property. In the matter of the sidewalks, she spoke with Chris Isdell from VDOT and Mr. Isdell said that he will submit for grant money that will be available in July for the sidewalk repair. She added that he was very pleased with the packet that we have put together and she will deliver it to him as soon as tomorrow. Mr. Finney asked who owns the sidewalks should someone trip and fall. Mr. Kellam said that VDOT owns the sidewalks. Lastly, she stated that she has been working on the chicken ordinance and needs to gather some information from Council to complete it. She presented Council with a sample ordinance. There was much discussion about this matter. Ms. Kellam will have an ordinance prepared for next month's meeting.

Ms. Kellam stated that the Planning Commission must find another member before any business can be conducted.

At this time, Ms. Kellam said that she will verify with ORA that they are a non-profit agency. Mr. Hart asked that she create an agreement with them stating that town residents will receive a 50% discounted membership. John Dennis suggested that the town ask for a financial statement from them adding that when they came to us two years ago, they were \$130,000.00 in debt and facing foreclosure. Ms. Rillo said that the fact that they are still open means that PNC Bank is working with them on some things.

Public Works

Ms. Salazar said that they have worked on ditch clean up as well as storm drains and litter. They have started the sidewalk and curb clean-up and plan to start edging next week along with cutting grass. She said that Mr. Finney suggested that she look into purchasing gutter guards and she will look into that for next month's meeting. Lastly, the 30' utility pole has been removed from behind the office in anticipation of the 75' pole.

Planning Commission Report

Rose Pierson said that the Planning Commission has submitted the sign/zoning ordinance amendment for Council's approval. Ms. Pierson said that Ms. Kellam will need to look at some of the verbiage. Mr. Finney asked if we have enough members of the Planning Commission to make changes. Ms. Kellam said that we did have a quorum so it should be fine.

Old Business

Mr. Finney said that he gave the bill for the pagers to John Roache about three weeks ago and Mr. Roache said he is not going to be a member of the OVFD much longer. Mr. Bliss suggested that we give them another month since they may not meet every month any more.

The sidewalk project was discussed earlier in the night.

Mr. Zember said that he is working on the beautification project but it will take some time since he is working alone. He added that he will present it in three phases.

The chicken/foul ordinance was discussed earlier in the night.

Closed Session

Motion to go into Closed Session at 8:20pm 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 Personnel Matters pertaining to General Government, specifically related to appointing a Town Manager 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 8:37pm by Ned Finney and seconded by Ted Bliss. 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.

New Business

Council will meet for a budget workshop on April 17th at 5:15pm at Onley Baptist Church.

Mayor Pierson asked Council to consider purchasing a brick for the Jerry C. Burkhead Memorial War in Parksley. The amount of the brick is \$100.00 and they are trying to get each town's participation. Mr. Bliss gave some background about the project. The information is attached to the minutes.

Motion: To purchase a \$100.00 brick for the Jerry C. Burkhead Memorial War by Ted Bliss and seconded by Susan Rillo. Roll Call Vote: Hart-yes; Rillo-yes; Dize-yes; Bliss-yes; Zember-yes; Finney-yes. MOTION PASSED

Public Comments

There was no public comment.

Council Comments

Mr. Finney apologized to Mr. Zember for insisting that he needed to vote at last month's meeting. He stated that he was misinformed and Mr. Zember does not have to vote if he does not wish to.

He said that we have a problem with loitering at the office. He said that the town office should not be used for socializing. He stated that Ms. Salazar, Mr. Pavlik and Ms. Parks make a combined total of \$56.00 per hour. If you are in there talking with them for long periods of time, they are unable to get

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their work done as well as the expense to the town. Lastly, he stated that there are many negative things being said about the town and he wishes that if someone has concerns, complaints, comments etc., they should call him to discuss it. He would like for the rumors and ugly gossip to stop.

Ms. Rillo thanked everyone for coming and said she thought we had a good meeting.

Mr. Bliss said he is pleased with the things that are getting accomplished. He thinks that all of the Council and the town employees have the best interest of the town at heart. He agreed with Mr. Finney that it is hard to hear things from people that do not even attend the meetings and are often misinformed.

Ms. Dize agreed with everyone that has already spoken adding that the town is blessed to have such great personnel. She said that as far as things being discussed at McDonalds or Bojangles, it is a small town and we will always have that but asked that everyone remember that it is a lot easier to sit out in the audience than it is to set on the Council. She thanked Rick Hall for all he does to make the Town of Onley look nice and remain profitable.

Mr. Zember said that he thinks sometimes it's healthy to have some disagreements but that everyone works together pretty well most of the time. He thanked everyone for coming.

Mr. Hart said that tonight's meeting went well and he feels that Council's performance is getting better every month. He thanked everyone for all that they do.

Mr. Finney asked to mention our new hospital. His wife was there for a few days and he could not have asked for better treatment by the staff. He added that we are very fortunate to have a great facility so close to town.

Adjourn

Motion: To adjourn at 8:57pm by Matt Hart and seconded by Susan Rillo. Roll Call Vote: Hart-yes; Rillo-yes; Dize-yes; Bliss-yes; Zember-yes; Finney-yes. MOTION PASSED

Respectfully submitted by,

Jamye Salazar
Clerk/Treasurer

Jack Pierson
Mayor