

Onley Town Council Special Meeting Minutes of May 17, 2018

VIRGINIA: At a Special Meeting of Charter Changes of the Onley Town Council held at the Onley Baptist Church, 25501 W. Main Street, on the 17th day of May A.D., 2018:

Council Members Present: Ned Finney, Vice-Mayor
Ted Bliss
Matt Hart
Susan Rillo

Council Members Absent: Jack Pierson, Mayor
Dawn Dize
Woody Zember

Staff Present: Jamye Salazar, Town Manager
Rachel Kellam, Town Attorney
John Spivey, Chief of Police, OPD
Melissa Taylor, Clerk

Call to Order

Vice-Mayor Finney called the meeting to order at 6:31 pm.

Invocation & Pledge of Allegiance

The invocation was given by Ted Bliss and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Susan Rillo.

Adoption of Agenda

Motion: To adopt the agenda of May 17, 2018, Special Meeting by Ted Bliss and seconded by Susan Rillo.

Roll Call Vote: Hart=yes; Bliss=yes; Finney=yes; Rillo=yes Dize-absent; Zember-absent. MOTION PASSED

Discussion of Charter Changes

Ms. Kellam presented Council a copy of the current Town Charter, Code of Virginia Title 15.2-1540, and a copy of Cape Charles Town Charter, copies will be attached to the minutes. Ms. Kellam stated that the Council would possibly like to change the Town Charter by incorporating a Town Manager position into the Charter, which will be placed under appointed officers, and add as a Chief Administrative Officer (i.e., Town Manager). The Virginia Code already has this in place to protect the town. Ms. Kellam stated that in the interim that Code of Virginia already protects the town with Code section 15.2-1423, in the event, there is no CAO it will be the duty of the Mayor to see that the functions outlined in 15.2-1541 are carried out if the governing body has not acted otherwise (acting otherwise meaning appointing a Town Manger in the interim). Mr. Bliss and Mr. Finney commented they would like the Charter to be changed so that there is something in writing. Ms. Kellam state in section 3.4 of the Virginia Code we can alter the first sentence stating the Mayor shall be the Chief Executive and Administrative Officer of the town in the event there is no appointed Chief Administrator or Town Manager. In Chapter Four, the position of Chief Administrative Office will be added. Ms. Kellam referenced the Cape Charles Charter stating they have included in their Charter all of the State Code fiduciary duties of the Town Manager. Cape Charles also spelled out in the absence of the Town Manager and Mayor; the Town Council can appoint somebody in the interim to be the acting Town Manager until that position is filled. Mr. Bliss asked for an updated copy of the Town Charter with the proposed corrections at the next Town Council

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meeting for review. Ms. Kellam will have the Charter available (revisions in italics) at the June 4, 2018, Council meeting. Ms. Kellam recommends advertising and making the proposed changes available to the public in the event any town residents have any concerns about the changes. Ms. Custis asked if the Election dates were changed because on the Virginia Board of Election website, they are incorrect. Ms. Kellam stated dates were changed and had been verified with Pat White, Accomack County Voter Registrar Office. Ms. Salazar asked if the Charter will supersede the towns Policies as some policies state that the Mayor is the CAO. Ms. Kellam noted that the Charter is governed, so, therefore, it will supersede the town policies. Ms. Kellam said town policies could be changed with the majority vote of the Council at any time; whereas the Charter can only be amended by the General Assembly. Mr. Bliss recommended reviewing all current Policies and Procedures making all necessary changes.

Adjourn

Motion: To adjourn at 6:48 pm by Ted Bliss and seconded by Matt Hart.

Roll Call Vote: Hart-yes; Rillo-yes, Dize-absent; Bliss-yes; Zember-absent; Finney-yes. MOTION PASSED

Respectfully submitted from audio,

Melissa Taylor
Clerk

Henry E. Finney
Vice Mayor