

VIRGINIA: At a Public Hearing for Proposed 2017-2018 Budget & Regular Monthly Meeting of the Onley Town Council held at the Onley Baptist Church, 25501 W. Main Street, on the 5th day of June, A.D., 2017:

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

Council Members Absent: Matt Hart

Staff Present: Rachel Kellam, Town Attorney
Jamy Salazar, Town Manager
John Spivey, Chief of Police
Joel Parks, Clerk

Town Council Public Hearing for Proposed 2017-2018 Budget

Call to Order

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

Rules for Public Participation

Ms. Salazar read the Rules for Public Participation.

Presentation of Proposed 2017-2018 Budget

Ms. Salazar presented the 2017-2018 Proposed Budget. A copy of that budget will be attached to the minutes.

Public Comments Regarding Budget

Billye D. Custis asked about a line item in VRS for Public Works in the Proposed Budget. Ms. Salazar said that this item may be in the wrong line item but she is certain it belongs in Public Works. Ms. Custis stated that she thinks it should be banners. Ms. Salazar will look into it and give an explanation before the budget is adopted.

Ms. Custis suggested that Council consider increasing the Rainy Day Fund. Council agreed that it was a good idea and will discuss it at a later date.

Rose Pierson stated that she is happy that there is no increase in the business tax.

Adjourn Public Hearing

Motion: To adjourn the Public Hearing at 6:37pm by Susan Rillo and seconded by Ted Bliss. Roll Call

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

Regular Monthly Meeting

Call to Order

Mayor Pierson called the meeting to order at 6:37pm.

Invocation & Pledge of Allegiance

The invocation was given by Dawn Dize and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Ted Bliss.

Adoption of Agenda

Motion: To adopt the agenda by Susan Rillo and seconded by Ted Bliss.

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

In the absence of Shannon Alexander from ANPDC, Mayor Pierson asked the OVFD to proceed with their presentation.

Presentation -Onley Volunteer Fire Department

Chief Allen Nicholson introduced himself stating that he took over as Chief on May 1, 2017. Chief Nicholson said that he could not answer any questions about the fire department prior to that date. He informed the Council that they have looked for the pagers and only five have been found, the fire siren has been put back into service and a copy of the fiscal year budget has been sent to the Mayor. He added that they have bought a new ambulance and it should be delivered tomorrow and it will take another three days to put into service so that they may provide EMS services to residents. He said that there is a problem with the fire engine that was purchased by the previous Chief since it was purchased in New York and fire engines are not tagged in that state. He told Council that he has numerous applications for new members including ten people going to the fire academy in Maryland. He said that the Mayor has his phone number and he would like anyone with questions to give him a call. Lastly, he invited the town to come back and hold their meetings at the firehouse. Mr. Bliss asked about the Board of Directors and whether or not it consists of members. Chief Nicholson said that they are members, including himself although he does not feel that he as Chief should be a Board Member and he is trying to change that. Billye D. Custis asked why the fireman are being sent to Maryland for training. Chief Nicholson said that training in Virginia does not begin until December and he does not wish to wait that long. Debbie Bliss said that she is concerned that all of the Board Members work for Chief Nicholson and why he decided to exclude outside people from serving on the Board. She reminded him that he is required to advertise his Board Meetings. He stated that he does not know anyone from the community but he would be happy to have her serve if she is interested. Ms. Bliss and Jan Siglin both expressed interest in serving. Chief Nicholson said that he would have someone step down to make room for them if they are truly interested. Ms. Siglin stated again that she is interested and asked why he would need to have someone step down adding that she does believe that there is a limit on how many members can serve on the Board. Mr. Bliss asked if he is maintaining employee records according to HIPAA. Chief Nicholson said that he is.

Presentation- 2016 Hazard Mitigation Resolution

Shannon Alexander from ANPDC spoke about the Hazard Mitigation Resolution and asked that Council consider its adoption. She explained that this is something that the town needs to do to qualify for FEMA funding but nothing in the document is binding or something that the Town is required to do. Mr. Bliss said that he was not in favor of adopting the Resolution last month since there was no one here to answer questions. Ms. Alexander apologized stating that she didn't realize that Mr. Pavlik did not attend meetings since he was the Town representative at their meeting about this matter. Chief Spivey said

that he was asked by Council to look into this matter and based on his findings from meeting with Ms. Alexander, his recommendation is to adopt the resolution. He added that Mr. Pavlik did a thorough job as well. Mr. Finney stated that Mr. Pavlik needs to attend the monthly Council meetings. Lastly, Chief Spivey stated that he will start attending the Disaster Preparedness Coalition every quarter to represent the town.

Motion: To adopt the 2016 Hazard Mitigation Resolution by Ted Bliss and seconded by Susan Rillo.

Roll Call Vote: Hart-absent; Rillo-yes; Dize-yes; Bliss-yes; Zember-yes; Finney-yes. MOTION PASSED
Ms. Salazar read the Resolution into the minutes. A copy of the resolution will be attached to the minutes.

Consideration of Minutes

Motion: To accept the minutes of the May 1, 2017 Regular Monthly Meeting by Susan Rillo and seconded by Dawn Dize. Roll Call Vote: Hart-absent; Rillo-yes; Dize-yes; Bliss-yes; Zember-yes; Finney-yes. MOTION PASSED

Department Reports

Police Report & Schedule

Chief Spivey said that there is no July schedule at this time since there is a personnel matter that needs to be addressed. He added that he and Ms. Salazar have talked about the possibility of changing his rotation to allow him to be more available at the office throughout the week. He presented Council with the monthly report stating that the numbers look good and traffic is picking up for the summer. He asked Council to approve the purchase of shotgun racks for the two SUV's since weapons needs to be secured differently than in a standard patrol car which has a trunk. The total cost including installation and parts for two vehicles is \$1,574.28.

Motion: To purchase and install gun racks in two vehicles at a cost of \$1,574.28 by Ted Bliss and seconded by Ned Finney. Roll Call Vote: Hart-absent; Rillo-yes; Dize-yes; Bliss-yes; Zember-yes; Finney-yes. MOTION PASSED

Lastly, Chief Spivey stated that there was an incident with the ACSO and our department did lose radio communication for about a week. He said that he and Mr. Finney met with Sheriff Godwin and Captain Wessells and all radio communication has been restored. He said that this matter did bring to light a problem with the police department because if we lose communication through the ACSO, it cripples us. He asked for Council's permission to put together a Plan B should something like this happen again. There was some discussion about this matter but no decision was reached.

Treasurer's Report

Ms. Salazar gave her report at this time.

Motion: To Pay the May 2016 Payables including the additional payables by Ted Bliss and seconded by Susan Rillo. Roll Call Vote: Hart-absent; Rillo-yes; Dize-yes; Bliss-yes; Zember-yes; Finney-yes. MOTION PASSED

Ms. Salazar asked that Council approve the transfer of money from the regular checking account at PNC. She provided Council with a current rate sheet on Public Funds.

Motion: To transfer \$225,000.00 from the Regular Checking account at PNC Bank to the Money Market account at PNC Bank by Dawn Dize and seconded Woody Zember. Roll Call Vote: Hart-absent; Rillo-yes; Dize-yes; Bliss-yes; Zember-yes; Finney-yes. MOTION PASSED

Lastly, Ms. Salazar reported that there are two businesses in town that were almost two months' delinquent in paying meals tax but she was able to collect the funds and the late charges.

Town Manager's Report

Ms. Salazar said that she spoke with GMB about the new town office and Council has a copy of their proposal to be discussed later in the night. She said that she is going to CZA training in Charlottesville from June 20-June 23 per Council's request. She has looked into creating a Facebook page for the town and asked if anyone has any pictures or stories that they might like to share for that purpose. She said that she has attended the mandatory yearly FOIA training this past month. She met with Ms. Kellam, Mr. Bliss and the ORA to finalize the details of their agreement with the town. She has created new individual email accounts for the town employees since as of May 31, Verizon will no longer offer business email accounts. Please contact the town office to acquire the new addresses. In the matter of ES Communications, they were in town last week installing fiber optic cable, they will be in town this week doing signal testing, taking measurements and they will begin contacting the Founders Club members to begin installs. She is still working with Ms. Kellam to make changes in the procurement policy. She spoke with Ms. Kellam about the election changes that Council requested and we are still waiting to hear from the General Assembly. In the matter of the ditch issues in Town, she asked for Council's permission to contact some private companies to get quotes for work. Council agreed to let her look into the process but asked that she contact the County again as well. Lastly, she stated that we have not heard anything from VDOT about the sidewalk project but we didn't expect too since we were told that nothing will happen until July.

Zoning Administrator's Report

In the absence of Mr. Pavlik, Ms. Salazar read his report into the minutes. A copy of his report will be attached to the minutes. Ms. Dize stated that she believes that there is a county or state ordinance that says refrigerators needs to be locked or secured in some way. She has spoken with Mr. Pavlik about a residence in town that has two commercial refrigerators in the yard that are not locked or secured. She is concerned that there are a lot of children that play in that neighborhood and it is a safety issue. She added that there was also a sofa in the yard for some time that has since been removed as well as a trailer with tires and a box spring that set there for two months. She said that Mr. Pavlik has said there is nothing that we can do about this situation. She thinks there actually is an ordinance that will address the refrigerator issue and she would like to see us look into the possibility of addressing the other nuisances in the yard as well as any other yards that are not kept up.

Attorney's Report

Ms. Kellam stated that after meeting with Ms. Salazar, Mr. Bliss and two representatives from ORA, she has prepared the agreement with them. She believes they are having a board meeting tonight and we are just waiting for them to sign the agreement.

She has completed the Urban Domesticated Fowl Ordinance per Council's requests.

Lastly, she met with Ms. Salazar and Chief Spivey about the matter of lost radio communication last week.

There were some questions about the terms of the resident's discounted membership agreement with the ORA. Mr. Bliss explained that there will be a specific application for Onley residents that will need to be picked up and approved at the Town Office. Ms. Salazar said that she has received a lot of questions about how a membership works. She urged everyone to ask the ORA any questions they may have before entering into the membership with them since the town is not running the pool and will not be involved with day to day issues or problems that arise.

Motion: To adopt the Urban Domesticated Fowl Ordinance by Susan Rillo and seconded by Ted Bliss.

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

Public Works

Ms. Salazar stated that the town began mosquito spraying last week and he is spraying three days a week.

Davis Disposal had an issue last week with their truck that affected about half of the town and she worked with them to have the garbage picked up the following day.

Ms. Salazar said that there has been a lot of rain this month and she has made certain to keep the storm drains and ditches clean. In the matter of the storm drain gutter guards, she spoke with VDOT and they will not approve the use of them in town so she will not be ordering them.

Lastly, she stated that she has addressed some of our concerns with Adam Simpson. This time, she put it in writing and made him aware that he needs to address some of these issues or we will be looking into the possibility of replacing him adding that we have had someone else interested in the contract. She plans to have them weed and re-mulch the town signs as well as the beautification project. He has continued with the street clean-up as well as litter pick-up and edging. She added that Mr. Simpson has had a man here working every day this week and she thinks that writing the letter with our concerns may have done the trick. Ms. Rillo said that someone was working in front of her house at 6:30 the other night. Mr. Finney agreed that things are looking better and he did a nice job with the edging. Ms. Dize said that Mrs. Laurice Hohlt could not attend but she wanted to thank us for cleaning up several areas on Coastal that she has concerns about.

Planning Commission Report

Rose Pierson stated that they are continuing to work on zoning ordinances concerning flags and banners.

Old Business

Mr. Finney said that he gave the bill for the pagers to John Roache who has since resigned from his position at the fire company. He had Ms. Salazar make up a new bill but he may hold on to it because he thinks some things are about to happen over there. Mr. Bliss said he would take it over now since we don't know what may happen in the future.

Mr. Zember said that the beautification plan is coming along although one flower pot came in broken and had to be replaced. He plans to order the banners next month once the new budget year begins.

Ms. Kellam asked that Council refrain from making any decision about the GMB proposal until she has time to research the entire process including what has been done up to this point. Council will discuss this matter at the next meeting when we come back to adopt the budget.

New Business

Council agreed to come back on June 15, 2016 at 5:30 to adopt the 2017-2018 Proposed Budget.

Due to the July 4th holiday, Council decided to have the July meeting on July 6th at 6:30 at the Onley Baptist Church.

Council gave Ms. Salazar permission to send out RFP's to accounting firms to perform the 2016-2017 Audit.

Ms. Dize asked Council to consider the adoption of a property maintenance ordinance based on the conversation earlier in the night. She suggested that we have something in the ordinance making the property owner responsible for the clean-up costs that we incur for cleaning up property. She would also like to have something in the ordinance that states what yard items are acceptable and what are unacceptable. Ms. Pierson said there was an ordinance adopted in 1982 that addresses unsafe structures but the problem is that in 1980, the town turned over building maintenance to Accomack County. Ms. Rillo pointed out that particular ordinance deals with unsafe structures – not items in the yard. Ms. Kellam agreed adding that attractive nuisances like a refrigerator is not a building code violation. Debbie Bliss stated that the State of Virginia Code 18.2-319 specifically address the matter of

the refrigerators in the yard. Chief Spivey will look into this matter and follow up first thing in the morning on the matter of the refrigerators.

Public Comments

Rose Pierson signed up but did not wish to speak at this time.

Billye D. Custis said that the firehouse is looking a little rough adding that they have a box spring, a mattress, an upside down freezer and an old chair that needs to be removed.

Mayor Pierson said that they are really trying to make some changes there but we need to give time to get things done. He added that he wished everyone would focus a little more on the positives and less on the negatives where the fire department is concerned.

Jan Siglin said that the fire department came over and spoke with them at the train station bake sale and stated that they were enthusiastic about the possibility of us holding our town meetings there again. She feels we should seriously consider it.

Mayor Pierson said that there are a lot of things to be considered before anything like that will happen.

Council Comments

Mr. Finney thanked Ms. Salazar and said she is doing a good job. He welcomed Joel to the meeting and thanked Chief Spivey for his help with things this last week.

Mr. Bliss thinks that it's important for everyone to remember that things are happening but they do take time. He thanked Chief Spivey for dealing with a difficult situation this month. He is very pleased about the agreement with the pool and thinks that many will appreciate it. He thanked Ms. Salazar and added that she is doing a good job even though she is struggling to find her way with some of the new things that have been thrust upon her. He said that he is not in favor of moving the meetings back to the firehouse since there is still a lot of uncertainty about things over there. He added that we have worked very hard to establish that they are a separate entity from the town and he feels we want to maintain that at least for the time being.

Ms. Rillo thanked everyone for coming to the meeting as well as the employees. She thanked Ms. Salazar and added that she is impressed with her weekly reports. She asked that Council really give some thought to Chief Spivey's request to look into a contingency plan for the radio communication system.

Ms. Dize thanked everyone and said that she is happy some things got done tonight. She thanked Chief Spivey for helping to resolve the radio issue last week.

Woody Zember thanked everyone for coming. He agreed with Ms. Dize that Ms. Salazar's weekly report is very helpful and it has helped to ease his mind about things since Council normally only meets once a month.

Adjourn/Recess

Motion: To adjourn at 8:32pm by Susan Rillo and seconded by Ned Finney. Roll Call Vote: Hart-absent; Rillo-yes; Dize-yes; Bliss-yes; Zember-yes; Finney-yes. MOTION PASSED

Respectfully submitted by,

Jamye Salazar
Town Manager

Jack Pierson
Mayor

