

Onley Town Council Minutes of August 4, 2014

VIRGINIA: At a Regular Monthly Meeting of the Onley Town Council held at the Onley Fire & Rescue Building on the 4th day of August, A.D., 2014:

Members Present: Jack Pierson, Mayor
Ned Finney, Vice-Mayor
John Dennis
Dawn Dize
Matt Hart
Susan Rillo
Don Strautz

Staff Present: Walter Marks, Chief of Police
Jamy Salazar, Treasurer
Cela Burge, Town Attorney

Invocation & Pledge of Allegiance

The invocation was given by Ned Finney and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Dawn Dize.

Call to Order

Mayor Pierson called the meeting to order at 6:32pm. He asked to add (F) Town Beautification under Old Business per Ms. Dize and add Closed Session per Mr. Finney. Mr. Finney read the motion to include a closed session into the minutes.

Adoption of Agenda

Motion: To adopt the agenda with changes by John Dennis and seconded by Susan Rillo.

Vote: Dennis=yes; Dize=yes; Hart=yes; Finney=yes; Rillo=yes; Strautz=yes. MOTION PASSED

Consideration of Minutes

Motion: To approve the Minutes of the July 7, 2014 Regular Monthly Council Meeting by Ned Finney and seconded by Matt Hart. Vote: Dennis=yes; Dize=yes; Hart=yes; Finney=yes; Rillo=yes; Strautz=yes.

MOTION PASSED

Department Reports

Police Report & Schedule

Chief Marks gave the monthly police report. He stated that Council should consider the revised September 2014 schedule included in the folder tonight.

Motion: To accept the September 2014 schedule by John Dennis and seconded by Dawn Dize. Vote:

Dennis=yes; Dize=yes; Hart=yes; Finney=yes; Rillo=yes; Strautz=yes. MOTION PASSED

Ms. Dize praised the Police Department about the way they handled an issue on her street in June.

Chief Marks asked for an approval on the Byrne Jag grant expenditure. A copy will be attached to the minutes.

Motion: To approve the Byrne Jag grant expenditure of \$1,040.93 by Don Strautz and seconded by Susan Rillo. Vote: Dennis=yes; Dize=yes; Hart=yes; Finney=yes; Rillo=yes; Strautz=yes. MOTION PASSED

Treasurer's Report

Ms. Salazar stated that the Shore Cleaning expense was from May 2014 and has been back-dated to reflect so. Ms. Salazar gave an overview of the budget.

Motion: To Pay the July 2014 Payables by Ned Finney and seconded by Dawn Dize.

Vote: Dennis-yes; Dize-yes; Hart-yes; Finney-yes; Rillo-yes; Strautz-yes. MOTION PASSED

Motion: To move \$100,000.00 from the regular checking account to the money market at PNC Bank by Don Strautz and seconded by Dawn Dize. Vote: Dennis-yes; Dize-yes; Hart-yes; Finney-yes; Rillo-yes; Strautz-yes. MOTION PASSED

Attorney's Report

Ms. Burge stated that she has been answering preliminary zoning questions in the absence of a zoning administrator but she does not approve or sign off on any matters. She has answered two questions this month – one relating to the development of a new property at the Four Corners area and another a citizen question related to a home addition.

She stated that she has made no progress with the OVFD on the matter of the MOU for the playground adding that Chief Ferguson has resigned and she is unsure who to contact.

Motion: To have Ms. Burge look into the matter of leasing property from OVFD for a playground by Ned Finney and seconded by Susan Rillo. Vote: Dennis-yes; Dize-yes; Hart-yes; Finney-yes; Rillo-yes; Strautz-yes. MOTION PASSED

Ms. Burge stated that the Town has not received the contract from Davis Disposal.

Ms. Burge stated that she has spoken with Ms. Nicolls' attorney and notice was sent to them relating to grass cutting and clean-up. Ms. Salazar will contact Mr. Simpson for a price on cutting the grass and clean-up of that property.

Ms. Burge reminded Council that it is really important that each member speak audibly when voting. Lastly, she stated that ANPDC will not be able to handle our zoning matters at this time.

Mr. Dennis asked what can be done to enforce the ordinance prohibiting grass clippings in the street. He suggested that the Police Department be allowed to go to the door and deliver a letter to violators. Ms. Burge explained that there are two separate ordinances pertaining to grass. She stated that she will have a closer look at both ordinances. Mayor Pierson stated that there are several ordinances that need to be looked at and he would like to have a work session to do so.

Old Business

Ms. Salazar read the Grant Coordinator's Report into the minutes. A copy will be attached.

Ms. Rillo asked if it will be possible for the citizens to vote on the amount they are comfortable spending on the construction of a new building. Ms. Burge stated that she did not think so but she would have to research it to be certain. Billye D. Custis suggested a straw poll at the next election. Mr. Strautz expressed concern that everyone may not realize just how much it costs to build today. He is concerned that the amount they come up with may not be realistic. Ms. Rillo suggested doing mock ups and showing several different scenarios from citizens to choose from. Ms. Burge warned Council to be careful of getting locked in to a figure and that figure not being adequate. She also reminded Council that we do not want to do anything that appears that we are fixing the bidding process and environment.

Mayor Pierson stated that he would like to have a contractor take a look at the building recently constructed in Onancock and work up some figures based on that design. Council agreed and asked that Ms. Burge hold off on researching referendums.

Ms. Salazar asked that Council adopt a revised 2014-2015 meeting schedule. A copy will be attached.

Motion: To adopt the revised 2014-2015 meeting schedule by John Dennis and seconded by Susan Rillo. Vote: Dennis-yes; Dize-yes; Hart-yes; Finney-yes; Rillo-yes; Strautz-yes. MOTION PASSED

Ms. Dize would like to create a Beautification/Clean-up Committee consisting of about 6 members to put together a plan for beautifying the Town. Council agreed. Mr. Finney suggested that Ms. Dize chair the committee and she will bring a plan before Council at next month's meeting.

New Business

Ms. Salazar asked that Council set the date for the Veterans Day Celebration. She stated that she will start planning in September and asked that anyone that has any ideas or is willing to help contact her.

Motion: To have the Veterans Day Celebration on November 8, 2014 by Don Strautz and seconded by Ned Finney. Vote: Dennis-yes; Dize-yes; Hart-yes; Finney-yes; Rillo-yes; Strautz-yes. MOTION PASSED

Public Comments

Billye D. Custis asked if she missed the discussion of Zoning Administrator Vacancy under Old Business. Mayor Pierson stated that it was discussed under the Attorney's Report and she (Ms. Burge) has one more step to take before further discussion is necessary. Ms. Custis stated that the town is looking better but some people are still cutting their grass into the streets – some that are elected to the Council.

Council Comments

Mayor Pierson asked to set up a work session to go over some of the ordinances that have been discussed at the last couple of meetings.

Ms. Rillo said that she feels that if we are going to go ahead with the building, we need some different input. We need to stop spinning our wheels. She thanked everyone for coming.

Mr. Dennis thanked everyone for coming.

Ms. Dize thanked everyone for coming and stated that she hopes to get some things accomplished in the next two years.

Mr. Finney thanked Ms. Dize for taking on the beautification project. He thanked everyone for coming.

Mr. Strautz stated that he understands where Ms. Rillo is coming from – no one wants to make mistakes but it's important to make the best decisions for the Town. He thanked everyone for coming.

Mr. Hart thanked everyone for coming. He agreed with Ms. Rillo that we need to ask the people's opinions. He stated that he does like Mayor Pierson's idea about the less expensive building.

Closed Session

Motion: To go into Closed Session at 7:37 pm in accordance with Section 2.1-344-A of the Code of Virginia of 1950, as amended for the purpose of Paragraph 1: Discussion or Consideration of Personnel Matters pertaining to the Police Department by Ned Finney and seconded by Don Strautz. Vote: Dennis-yes; Dize-yes; Hart-yes; Finney-yes; Rillo-yes; Strautz-yes. MOTION PASSED

Open Session & Certification of Closed Session

Motion: To return to Open Session at 8:11pm by Ned Finney and seconded by Dawn Dize.

Vote: Dennis-yes; Dize-yes; Hart-yes; Finney-yes; Rillo-yes; Strautz-yes. MOTION PASSED

A roll call vote was taken immediately after 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; Dennis-yes; Dize-yes; Hart-yes; Finney-yes; Rillo-yes; Strautz-yes. MOTION PASSED

Adjourn/Recess

Motion: To recess at 8:12pm until April 19, 2014 at 6:30pm by Ned Finney and seconded by Matt Hart.

Vote: Dennis-yes; Dize-yes; Hart-yes; Finney-yes; Rillo-yes; Strautz-yes. MOTION PASSED

Respectfully Submitted,

**Jamye Salazar
Clerk/Treasurer**

Approved at September 3, 2014 Regular Monthly Meeting

**Jack Pierson
Mayor**