

Onley Town Council Minutes of September 7, 2016

VIRGINIA: At the Onley Town Council Public Hearing for Re-Zoning Property & Regular Monthly Meeting held at the VVA Building, 25534 East Main Street, on the 7th day of September 2016:

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

Council Members Absent: Matt Hart

Staff Present: John Pavlik, Zoning Administrator
Jamy Salazar, Treasurer
Sgt. George Bennett, OPD
Michael Sterling, Town Attorney

Regular Monthly Meeting

Call to Order

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

Invocation & Pledge of Allegiance

In the absence of Mr. Hart, the invocation was given by Ned Finney and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Ted Bliss.

Adoption of Agenda

Motion: To move item 9A. Re-zoning of property (Pound Net LLC) from New Business to be discussed before Department Reports 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

Motion: To adopt the agenda with the change 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

Town Council Public Hearing for Re-Zoning Property

Call to Order Public Hearing & Establishment Quorum

Mayor Pierson called the Public Hearing to order at 6:34pm and established that there was a quorum.

Mr. Sterling read the Rules for Public Participation.

John Custis, Attorney for Pound Net LLC presented the Statement of Facts on Re-Zoning the Property located around Shore Parkway. A copy of the Statement of Facts will be attached to the minutes. Alan Caison, owner of Pound Net LLC spoke briefly about this matter as well as answered several questions. Mr. Finney asked several questions pertaining to any proposed entrances from Route 13 and septic issues.

Public Comments

Rose Pierson stated that she feels this will be an advantage to Onley.
Jan Siglin signed up to speak but did not wish to at this time.

Planning Commission Recommendation

Rose Pierson stated that the Planning Commission approves the re-zoning of the property and recommends that the Council pass the Ordinance.

Zoning Administrator Recommendation

Mr. Pavlik stated that before he gives his recommendation that he would like it noted that all of the advertising requirements were met and all of the adjoining property owners were informed of the proposed change. He stated that he feels that leaving the property as residential will be doing the Town a disservice. He thinks the Town should adopt the ordinance to re-zone the property adding that it is a win for the Town.

Adjourn Public Hearing

Motion: To adjourn to Public Hearing (at 6:50pm) by Ned Finney and seconded by Ted Bliss. Roll Call Vote: Hart-absent; Rillo=yes; Dize=yes; Bliss=yes; Zember=yes; Finney=yes. MOTION PASSED

Regular Monthly Meeting (cont'd)

Consideration of Minutes

Motion: To accept the minutes of the August 1, 2016 Regular Monthly Meeting by Dawn Dize and seconded by Susan Rillo. Roll Call Vote: Hart-absent; Rillo=yes; Dize=yes; Bliss=yes; Zember=yes; Finney=yes. MOTION PASSED

At this time, Mayor Pierson asked for Council to approve the Ordinance Re-Zoning of the Property owned by Pound Net LLC.

Motion: To make a motion to approve the re-zoning of the property from residential to commercial by Ned Finney and seconded by Susan Rillo. Roll Call Vote: Hart-absent; Rillo=yes; Dize=yes; Bliss=yes; Zember=yes; Finney=yes. MOTION PASSED

Department Reports

Police Report & Schedule

Chief Spivey stated that he and Sergeant Bennett have both been to training this month and have learned quite a bit. He stated that he thinks he has a lead on a new officer. At the Mayor's request, he is working on a proposal to purchase a new vehicle but he will not have that information until next month's meeting. Officer Long is back from medical leave and things are progressing nicely.

Motion: To approve the October 2016 schedule by Ned Finney and seconded by Ted Bliss. Roll Call Vote: Hart-absent; Rillo=yes; Dize=yes; Bliss=yes; Zember=yes; Finney=yes. MOTION PASSED

Treasurer's Report

Ms. Salazar stated that as a follow-up from last month's meeting, Mr. Sterling asked about the re-appointment of the BZA members. She said that John W. Kellam and Kerry Anderson both need to be re-appointed but have not been at this time. She will continue to work on this matter.

She stated that the auditors were here last week to perform the 2015-2016 audit and they will be attending the October meeting to present their findings.

At this time, she gave the Treasurer's Report adding that Council should consider the Additional Payables when making the motion to pay.

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

MOTION PASSED

Attorney's Report

Mr. Sterling explained that in order to amend the zoning of the property located at Shore Parkway discussed earlier, Council will need to adopt Ordinance 002-16. Mr. Sterling read that ordinance into the minutes and a copy of such will be attached to the minutes. Upon reading the ordinance, Mr. Sterling asked that each Council Member signify their vote on adopting the ordinance. The following vote was taken: **Roll Call Vote: Hart-absent; Rillo-yes; Dize-yes; Bliss-yes; Zember-yes; Finney-yes. MOTION PASSED**

PASSED

He added that he is working on potential zoning violations, the fire ordinance and conferring with the voting administrator regarding changing the voting place, the time of the election and the Special Election to fill the vacant Council seat.

Zoning Administrator's Report

Mr. Pavlik read his report into the minutes. A copy of his report will be attached to the minutes. In the matter of the RSMH proposed signage, he stated that in June, he met with a representative from the hospital about the sign and the sign was huge and had an electronic screen. He advised them that the sign would not meet our zoning requirements. They have made application for a special use permit to erect a sign without the electronics but still larger than our zoning allows. It is also a sign that is not attached to the building. Mr. Pavlik does not feel the Planning Commission needs to be involved with this process nor make a recommendation to Council. Ms. Rillo agreed that it wasn't necessary to have a Planning Commission recommendation and asked if the Council was in agreement with that. Mr. Bliss agreed but expressed concern about setting a precedent for future businesses. There will be a public hearing on this matter at the October meeting.

Public Works

Ms. Salazar reported that Public Works has been cutting grass, litter pickup and cleaning storm drains. They removed some poison sumac and overgrown bushes from the garage as well as helped Ms. Siglin with some beautification work.

Mr. Finney stated that the mosquito problem has gotten better but he wondered if we need to spray three times a week. Mayor Pierson asked that each Council member state their preference of two or three days. Everyone agreed to three days.

Planning Commission Report

Rose Pierson asked that Council appoint a Council liaison to the Planning Commission.

Motion: To appoint Susan Rillo as the Council liaison to the Planning Commission by Ted Bliss and seconded by Dawn Dize. Roll Call Vote: Hart-absent; Rillo-yes; Dize-yes; Bliss-yes; Zember-yes; Finney-yes. MOTION PASSED

Old Business

There was no Old Business discussed.

New Business

Mayor Pierson stated that in the matter of flags and banners, he would like Councilman Zember to speak but added that he feels this topic should be re-visited closer to the holidays because that will be the optimal time to figure out where we would like to add some banners. Mr. Zember said that he has checked into the possibility of getting some banners with the town seal and he would like to have them up year round with the exception of the holidays. He will get back to Council with some pricing and let them make a decision at that time. Ms. Dize said that she would like to purchase some more holiday lights adding that she counted about ten poles that need lights. Mr. Finney explained that it's not as simple as ordering the snowflake lights – the poles will need to be wired for electric. There was quite a bit of discussion about this matter and Mr. Zember volunteered to mark the poles in town where we might want to add some electricity and lights.

Mayor Pierson stated that per a telephone poll, the Council is planning to move the meeting location to the Onley Baptist Church, therefore, we will need to adopt a new meeting schedule.

Motion: To adopt the re-vised 2016-2017 meeting schedule of the Onley Town Council by Dawn Dize and seconded by Ted Bliss. Roll Call Vote: Hart-absent; Rillo-yes; Dize-yes; Bliss-yes; Zember-yes; Finney-yes. MOTION PASSED

Mayor Pierson stated that we have discussed moving the Regular Election from May to November. He has secured a copy of a resolution from another town and he will have Ms. Salazar use that as a template to create one for us. He asked if there was any objection from Council to proceeding with this matter. There was none.

Mayor Pierson stated that the Veterans Day Celebration has gotten to be very large and quite a bit of work and unfortunately we have very little help with the celebration. He added that he feels we have lost track of paying tribute to the Veterans. After much discussion, Council decided to scale down the celebration making it more of a picnic/luncheon. Ms. Dize will see if the Accomack Community Band will come and play.

In the matter of the crosswalk proposal, Council decided that it is a good idea and that Mr. Hart should proceed with VDOT in making this happen.

Public Comments

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

Jan Siglin signed up speak but did not wish to at this time.

Billye D. Custis signed up to speak but did not wish to at this time.

Debbie Bliss asked how the RSMH sign will be seen over the other signs at the shopping center. She feels they may need two signs to be visible and that would require two variances. She would like for Council to consider a 25 mph speed limit on W. Main Street & Coastal Blvd. She stated that she has seen grass clippings blown into the street and they wash down to her house. She thinks the banners are a great idea and she would like to see us honor our sons and daughters in the military much like Chincoteague does.

Billye D. Custis said that she also likes the idea of the military banners. She said that on the subject of speed limits, the Town has been trying for years to have that done and VDOT will not allow it.

Council Comments

Ms. Rillo thanked everyone. She said that she has decided to take the Planning Commission liaison position.

Ms. Dize thanked everyone especially Ms. Rillo for her willingness to serve on the Planning Commission.

Mr. Bliss thanked everyone for coming and asked that they continue to do so.

Mr. Zember thanked everyone adding that he would like to put some of these goods ideas in motion.

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He asked that anyone that wants to help him or give in some ideas of what they expect to spend on the new town office contact him.

Mr. Finney thanked the employees and Mr. Bliss and Ms. Rillo for stepping up and being there when we needed them. He is very pleased about the zoning change to the property earlier in the night and feels it is a plus for the town.

Adjourn/Recess

Motion: To adjourn at 8:03pm by Ned Finney and seconded by Susan Rillo. Roll Call Vote: Hart-absent; Rillo-yes; Dize-yes; Bliss-yes; Zember-yes; Finney-yes. MOTION PASSED

Respectfully submitted by,

Jamye Salazar
Clerk/Treasurer

Jack Pierson
Mayor