

Onley Town Council Minutes of October 6, 2014

VIRGINIA: At a Regular Monthly Meeting of the Onley Town Council held at the Onley Fire & Rescue Building on the 6th day of October, 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 Matt Hart and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Don Strautz.

Call to Order

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

Adoption of Agenda

Motion: To adopt the agenda by Don Strautz and seconded by Susan Rillo.

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

Presentation of 2013-2014 Audit

Mayor Pierson introduced David Foley from Robinson Farmer Cox Associates. Mr. Foley presented the results of the 2013-2014 Audit and thanked Ms. Salazar for her help. A copy of the audit will be attached to the minutes.

Consideration of Minutes

John Dennis stated that the first sentence under Public Comments should read that Billye D. & Rosebud Custis have picked up 225 bags of garbage since June 4th.

Motion: To approve the Minutes of the September 3, 2014 Regular Monthly Council Meeting with the change by Ned Finney and seconded by Dawn Dize. Vote: Dennis-yes; Dize-yes; Hart-yes; Finney-yes;

Rillo-yes; Strautz-yes. MOTION PASSED

Department Reports

Police Report & Schedule

Chief Marks stated that while there are several holidays and some vacation in November, all shifts will be covered. He added that everyone will work on November 8th for the Veterans Celebration. There are no day shifts planned for Thanksgiving and the day after but he will listen for calls and he is planning to work the night shift. Mr. Strautz asked for an explanation as to why there are holidays scheduled on days that are clearly not holidays. Chief Marks explained that in order to cover all shifts, some officers may take their holiday on another day within the pay period. Mr. Finney asked if two officers are scheduled to work Halloween. Chief Marks stated that he and Officer Long will both be on duty that night. Mr. Strautz thanked the whole department for quickly responding to some concerns that he had

on several occasions. Chief Marks stated that Council has an event report by each officer per request from Mr. Finney. There were numerous questions about this report from Mr. Strautz and Mr. Finney. Mr. Finney stated that all he wanted was to see the number of tickets that Chief Marks wrote appear on the monthly citation report along with the amount written by the other officers. Chief Marks stated that his tickets are on the event report. Mr. Finney asked Chief Marks if he wrote any tickets for the month. Chief Marks stated that he wrote 10 speeding tickets and 1 seatbelt violation. Mayor Pierson asked why some of the information differed from the event report and the citation report that they received at tonight's meeting. Mr. Finney and Mr. Strautz agreed and expressed concern that the information doesn't seem accurate. Chief Marks stated that he did not understand the differences adding that there has always been a difference in the two reports. Ms. Dize stated that she feels that someone needs to work the day shift on Black Friday due to the high volume of shoppers. Chief Marks will make that change.

Chief Marks asked for Council's approval to send Officer Long to an Armorer's Course in Virginia Beach in October at a cost of \$195.00.

Motion: To send Officer Jess Long to the Armorer's Course in Virginia Beach by Ned Finney and seconded by Don Strautz. Vote: Dennis-yes; Dize-yes; Hart-yes; Finney-yes; Rillo-yes; Strautz-yes. MOTION PASSED

Motion: To accept the November 2014 schedule with the requested change by Dawn Dize and seconded by Ned Finney. Vote: Dennis-yes; Dize-yes; Hart-yes; Finney-yes; Rillo-yes; Strautz-yes. MOTION PASSED

Treasurer's Report

Ms. Salazar asked if Council should adopt the 2013-2014 Audit. Ms. Burge suggested that they add it as item (F) under New Business. Ms. Salazar gave an overview of the budget adding that we are at the end of our first quarter of the year. Billye D. Custis asked about a difference in the amount of meals tax posted and the amount of court fines. Ms. Salazar stated that she believes that is a posting error and she will get it corrected.

Motion: To Pay the September 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

Ms. Salazar gave a Rainy Day Fund Update. A copy of this update will be attached to the minutes. No changes were made to the fund.

Attorney's Report

Ms. Burge stated that she answered a question relating to storm water from St. Peter's Church. She is expecting a site plan for that project to come in the future. She has also worked on a re-zoning application presented by Riptide Real Estate/Matt Hart. This matter has not come up since she has been the Town Attorney so she has put together a list of what the Town Council should consider when looking at a re-zoning inquiry. Ms. Salazar put that list in an application format. The application was passed along to Mr. Hart for his completion. Ms. Burge explained that essentially this would mean a zoning map amendment. She stated that she has done a site visit to go along with the application. She will not make a recommendation about whether to re-zone or not but she can say that the application is complete based on the current zoning ordinance. She said that the next step will be the advertisement of a Public Hearing on the matter and adjoining property owners need to be notified 5 days in advance. She recommends that at the time of the hearing, Mr. Hart remove himself from his Council position as well as from the room once discussion of the matter begins.

Ms. Burge has notified the OVFD that no action on the playground will be taken at this time.

Public Works

Ms. Salazar asked for some clarification as to whether or not Council wants a Public Works Report each month. Ms. Strautz stated that he does not wish to put additional work on Ms. Salazar but he would like to see how things are going. Ms. Salazar stated that she is keeping a list of the things that Antwan is working on as well as some things that are planned for the coming weeks. A copy of the list will be attached to the minutes. She asked that if anybody has a job for him to do, they contact her and get it on the list.

Ms. Salazar stated that there are still a number of Waste Management cans at the office. Antwan has picked up about 25-30 cans this month. Ms. Burge suggested contacting Waste Management and giving them a date to have the cans picked up.

Mr. Dennis suggested that Council consider making some arrangements for the two air conditioning units that were sitting next to the pod. They are just sitting in the middle of the lot now that the pod is gone. Mr. Finney stated that he will pick them up and get them to the dump if no one objects. No one did.

Old Business

In the matter of the new town office, Mr. Finney stated that if everyone agrees, he would like to send an RFP for Architect and start from there. Mayor Pierson stated that he has a sample RFP provided by Mike Higgins and he would like Ms. Burge to review it before it is mailed. There were no objections.

Ms. Siglin introduced Scott Whitaker to everyone. Mr. Whitaker was appointed to the Planning Commission at last month's meeting. Mr. Strautz stated that he does not feel there needs to be a Planning Commission report every month – he will let Ms. Salazar know when there is a need for one. Mayor Pierson stated that we are still looking for a zoning administrator. Council instructed Ms. Salazar to advertise the position in the newspaper.

Ms. Dize reported that there have been two meetings of the Beautification Committee. She added that they have met with Waste Watchers and they suggested adopting a road. She does not feel that is an achievable goal at this time so that matter was tabled. She did thank them for providing safety vests to Billye D. & Rosebud Custis to wear while picking up trash. Laura Belle Gordy has resigned from the committee due to previous commitments. Ms. Dize stated that the committee now consists of Chandra Harrison, Ann Byrum, Matt Hart, Scott Mears and herself. The committee will meet again in November and the plan is to do some additional decorating for Christmas.

Mr. Strautz is still waiting to hear from Mike Davis about the cost of renting a container for Onley Neighborhood Clean-up Day. He suggested that we wait and look into the possibility of having an Onley Neighborhood Clean-up Day in the spring.

Mr. Finney asked if everyone has seen the GPS demo video. Mr. Dennis stated that he has not but he knows about the product. Mr. Finney said that he feels the only down side to the GPS is that Telogis requires a three year contract. Chief Marks stated that there was a misunderstanding at last month's meeting. He proceeded to add that the Town Council trusts the officers with their lives, their property and their town. He does not feel that GPS is cost effective and he is not in favor of purchasing it but he understands that they are the Town's vehicles and if they wish to purchase GPS it is not a problem.

Motion: To purchase GPS for the Onley Police Department by Ned Finney and seconded by John Dennis. Vote: Dennis=yes; Dize=yes; Hart=yes; Finney=yes; Rillo=yes; Strautz=no. MOTION PASSED

New Business

Mayor Pierson asked if anyone is interested in representing the Town of Onley as a Hazard Mitigation Committee member. There was some discussion as to when they meet, how often and what kind of information they will be discussing. Mr. Strautz stated that he will check with Ms. Morrison and see if it will fit into his schedule.

Mayor Pierson asked that Council consider attending a groundwater presentation being held on October 30th at the ESCC.

Niall Finnegan spoke briefly about SPOTS' latest accomplishments. He thanked Council for the donations made in the past and asked that they consider giving another at this time to help with insulation of the building. Mr. Finney stated that he is in favor of giving SPOTS the \$5,000.00 currently in the budget but he feels that this should be the last donation from the town.

Motion: To donate \$5,000.00 to SPOTS by Ned Finney and seconded by Matt Hart. Vote: Dennis-yes; Dize-yes; Hart-yes; Finney-yes; Rillo-abstain; Strautz-yes. MOTION PASSED

Mayor Pierson and Ms. Salazar asked that Council consider hiring someone to clean the Town Office.

Motion: To re-hire Preston Ewell or someone comparable to clean the town office as long as it can be done for no more than \$100.00 per month. Vote: Dennis-yes; Dize-yes; Hart-yes; Finney-yes; Rillo-yes; Strautz-yes. MOTION PASSED

Mr. Finney stated that he feels Ms. Salazar should have a gas allowance. She uses her personal vehicle to do a lot of town errands.

Motion: To give Jamey Salazar a \$70.00 per month gas allowance by Ned Finney and seconded by Matt Hart. Vote: Dennis-yes; Dize-yes; Hart-yes; Finney-yes; Rillo-yes; Strautz-yes. MOTION PASSED:

Ms. Burge said that Council has a complete application for re-zoning property at 21033 Front Street. The next step in the process is for Council and the Planning Commission to set hearing dates and times to be advertised. She instructed Council that this issue warrants considerable discussion and findings on the record. Ms. Burge stated that there may be time to have a separate hearing for the Planning Commission at their next meeting and then one for Council at next month's Regular Meeting. Mayor Pierson asked that Ms. Siglin set up her meeting and Ms. Burge stated that Ms. Salazar will take care of getting the advertisements in the newspaper.

Motion: To accept the 2013-2014 Audit presented by David Foley from RFCA by Don Strautz and seconded by Susan Rillo. Vote: Dennis-yes; Dize-yes; Hart-yes; Finney-yes; Rillo-yes; Strautz-yes. MOTION PASSED

Public Comments

Billye D. Custis signed up to speak but stated that she did not wish to speak after all.

Jan Siglin asked that the Police Department accompany her Christmas caroling group on December 13th. Chief Marks will take care of it. She stated that she previously had an agreement with Mayor John Kellam to provide help from the town with taking care of some crepe myrtles planted near her house. She stated that she now pays someone to take care of the trees. She offered to pay for azaleas to plant between the crepe myrtles if the town will have their public works guy dig the holes. Mayor Pierson agreed.

Council Comments

Mr. Hart stated that he feels progress is being made and he thanked everyone for coming to the meeting.

Mr. Strautz thanked the Planning Commission for attending and welcomed Mr. Whitaker. He also thanked SPOTS for their work. He thanked everyone for coming to the meeting.

Mr. Finney thanked everyone for coming and sharing their opinions. He added that he was elected to represent the citizens of Onley and he will do his best to look out for the best interest of the town and its citizens.

Ms. Dize thanked Ms. Salazar for her hard work on the audit. She thanked everyone for coming and stated that sometimes there are hard decisions to be made and she feels that everyone does their best to make the right ones.

Mr. Dennis thanked everyone for coming. He added that he enjoyed the SPOTS presentation and asked that they come back every couple of months and let everyone know what they are doing.

Ms. Rillo thanked everyone for coming. She thanked Ms. Burge for all she does and added that she feels this meeting was very productive.

Closed Session

Motion: To go into Closed Session at 8:08pm 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 Matt Hart. 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 8:35 by Ned Finney and seconded by Susan Rillo. Vote: Dennis-yes; Dize-yes; Finney-yes; Hart-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; Finney-yes; Hart-yes; Rillo-yes; Strautz-yes.

Adjourn/Recess

Motion: To adjourn at 8:36pm by Ned Finney and seconded by Susan Rillo. Vote: Dennis-yes; Dize-yes; Hart-yes; Finney-yes; Rillo-yes; Strautz-yes. MOTION PASSED

Jamye Salazar, Treasurer

Jack Pierson, Mayor