

Onley Town Council Regular Monthly Meeting of June 3, 2019

VIRGINIA: At the Regular Monthly Meeting of the Onley Town Council held at the Onley Baptist Church, 25501 W. Main Street, on the 3<sup>rd</sup> day of June, A.D., 2019:

Council Members Present: Matt Hart, Mayor  
Ned Finney, Vice-Mayor  
Billye D. Custis  
Claudia Harmon  
Rose Pierson  
Susan Rillo  
Woody Zember

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

**Call to Order**

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

Mayor Hart asked everyone to stand for a moment of silence for the victims of the Virginia Beach shooting.

**Invocation & Pledge of Allegiance**

The invocation was given by Rose Pierson and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Woody Zember.

**Adoption of Agenda**

**Motion: To adopt the agenda, adding discussion of hiring a Grant Writer to the Closed Session by Rose Pierson and seconded by Susan Rillo.**

**Roll Call Vote: Zember-yes; Rillo-yes; Harmon-yes; Pierson-yes; Custis-yes; Finney-yes.**

**MOTION PASSED**

**Consideration of Minutes**

**Motion: To accept the May 6, 2019 Public Hearing for Proposed 2019-2020 Budget & Regular Monthly Meeting minutes by Rose Pierson and seconded by Billye D. Custis.**

**Roll Call Vote: Zember-yes; Rillo-yes; Harmon-yes; Pierson-yes; Custis-yes; Finney-yes.**

**MOTION PASSED**

**Department Reports**

**Police Report & Schedule (July 2019)**

Chief Spivey provided Council a copy of the activity log totals and the July 2019 police schedule. Chief

Spivey spoke on the Police schedule, noting some officers will be using vacation time during the month. Chief Spivey pointed out all shifts will be covered. Chief Spivey stated during the testing of the purchased .40 caliber carbine some severe mechanical issues were discovered. The weapon will be returned to the manufacturer for a full refund. At this time, the AR's that are in service will serve as the primary rifles. Chief Spivey spoke on the robbery that occurred in town this previous week. The robbery is currently under investigation. Chief Spivey noted there was an unmarked unit only two blocks away from the establishment at the time of the robbery. Chief Spivey stated he will be putting a preventative plan in place and looking at the town as a whole, i.e., street lighting and marked police units. He noted that Officer Arnold is currently in General Instructor Training from June 3, 2019, until June 7, 2019. He said three officers have installed lights on their pistols. Due to the modification of the pistols, all officers were required to re-qualify with the new lights on their guns. All of the officers have completed the re-qualification process and are within the state guidelines. Chief Spivey spoke about the purchase of a new police vehicle around the first of the year. He spoke on the different options and of functionality over cost. SUV's have increased dramatically in price but would be useful during snow storms or high water. Dodge Chargers are the least expensive option, but we have had so many problems with the ones (Chargers) in our fleet. He is skeptical of purchasing additional Chargers. Chief Spivey stated that he is looking to replace the current 2010 SUV. He noted that he would like to have all police vehicles fully marked in the fleet. Chief Spivey said the Police Department would be completing two town checkpoints for town decals.

**Motion: To accept the July 2019 Police schedule by Susan Rillo and seconded by Ned Finney.**

**Roll Call Vote: Zember-yes; Rillo-yes; Harmon-yes; Pierson-yes; Custis-yes; Finney-yes.**

**MOTION PASSED**

**Motion Rescinded:**

**Motion: To adopt the agenda, adding discussion of hiring a Grant Writer to the Closed Session by Rose Pierson and seconded by Susan Rillo.**

**Roll Call Vote: Zember-yes; Rillo-yes; Harmon-yes; Pierson-yes; Custis-yes; Finney-yes.**

**MOTION PASSED**

**Motion: To adopt the agenda, with the addition of adding under A. 1 ORA report by Susan Rillo and seconded by Claudia Harmon.**

**Roll Call Vote: Zember-yes; Rillo-yes; Harmon-yes; Pierson-yes; Custis-yes; Finney-yes.**

**MOTION PASSED**

### **ORA Report**

Lori Smith, a member of the ORA Board, thanked the Council for adding them to agenda. Ms. Smith provided the Council with membership totals from 2017, 2018, and early numbers for 2019. These numbers include memberships for single, family, tennis and the swim team. She noted there are still memberships coming in for this year so the 2019 membership totals should increase. She said they should have final totals in another month. Ms. Smith said they just completed a raffle ticket fundraiser for additional revenue. She noted they would also provide four volunteer's every night at the Wachapreague Carnival. The Wachapreague Fire Department makes an end of the year donation to the ORA. There will be six summer camps this year; two weeks in June, July, and August. Ms. Rillo

inquired on stockholder information. Ms. Smith responded that letters were sent out to all members and stockholders as required by the bylaws. She said if the stockholders have not been active in several years, they might not have received a letter. Ms. Smith stated there had been no changes to the ORA Bylaws. She said there had been some request for stock refunds and at this time the ORA has not been able to fulfill those requests. They are trying to handle all stock requests the best they can. Per the ORA bylaws, if your stock is inactive for three years without payment, it becomes void. The stock certificates need additional management. Ms. Rillo said she was glad to hear of the extended hours till 6:30 pm. Ms. Smith noted that Vicki Sams would be the pool Manager this year. There is a current phone number 757-787-2689 and email address theonleypool@gmail.com to answer any additional questions or assistance. Ms. Smith and Ms. Sams thanked the Council.

#### **Treasurer's Report-Payables**

Ms. Salazar gave her report as of May 30, 2019.

Ms. Custis asked if the purchase of the camera went to Miscellaneous Expense. Ms. Salazar responded, "Yes." She will verify that entry with the auditors.

Ms. Salazar noted the Shore United Bank Franchise (\$3,000.00 -\$4,000.00) had not been received yet because the payment was made to Accomack County. There was no time frame of when the town could expect this payment from the County.

Mr. Hart noted the Meals Tax and the Bank Franchise Tax increased this year.

**Motion: To pay the payables by Billye D. Custis and seconded by Rose Pierson.**

**Roll Call Vote: Zember-yes; Rillo-yes; Harmon-yes; Pierson-yes; Custis-yes; Finney-yes.**

**MOTION PASSED**

#### **Transfer money from PNC Regular Checking Account**

Ms. Salazar provided the Council with rates from the local bank locations.

**Motion: To transfer \$150,000.00 to SunTrust Bank to an 18-month CD with a rate of 2.50% by Rose Pierson and seconded by Billye D. Custis.**

**Roll Call Vote: Zember-yes; Rillo-abstained; Harmon-yes; Pierson-yes; Custis-yes; Finney-yes.**

**MOTION PASSED**

#### **Town Manager's Report / Zoning Administrator Report / Public Works Report**

##### **Zoning Administrator**

Ms. Salazar reports:

- Issued a roof permit on Monroe Street
- Issued a demolish permit on Savage Street
- Construction permit for Ashbrook Drive
- Met with a property owner regarding potential usage of a property that is Zoned Industrial
- Met with Katie Nunez regarding the Taylor Bank property and the potential of subdividing the parcel they are interested in purchasing. Per Ms. Nunez, she recommended hiring an outside firm that handles these zoning matters. She provided a name of a company and contact information

that offers these services at affordable rates. Ms. Salazar spoke with Ms. Kellam, and they are both in agreement to retain an outside firm. Ms. Salazar will gain further information and report back to the Council.

### **Town Manager's Report**

Ms. Salazar reports:

- Mosquito spraying started on Wednesday, May 8<sup>th</sup>. He will be spraying evenings from 5-7 Monday, Wednesday, and Friday. Mr. Watson is aware of the two residents who have requested not to spray around their self-pollinated gardens.
- The deed for the park property has been recorded. VML has been notified for insurance purposes. Simpson's will keep the grass cut.
- I believe that I have resolved the issue with Shore United Bank's franchise tax. The returns were incorrectly sent to Accomack County. They have forwarded them to me and they are also making the state of Virginia aware of the issue as well as Shore United Bank. The payment is not due until May 31, 2019 so if Shore United remits payment to them, they will forward to us.
- The new computer has arrived at the office. It is set up and ready to go.
- There is a sinkhole in the median in front of McDonalds. I reported it to VDOT. VDOT reported they were unable to locate.
- The VDOT contractors cut the median along Route 13. Was advised they will only cut twice early summer and the end of fall. Will coordinate with Mr. Simpson and keep the median cut back and the litter picked up along this area.
- The park committee would like to erect a sign on the park property announcing the future site. This has been resolved and the sign is up on the property.
- There has been a complaint about the conditions of a property on Coastal Blvd. I have reached out to the property owner and I am hoping they will resolve the issue without problems. They have reached out to some contractors to rectify the situation
- I have inventoried the plans from GMB and there are 9 pages of the plans that are not stamped by an architect/engineer. All other pages of the plans have been stamped. I received an email from David Rovanssek, GMB. He stated that the building plans are stamped but the site plans are still awaiting review by the ACDP & VDOT. This step was put on hold since we did not wish to proceed with the permits from Accomack County since the whole project was placed on hold. Per Mr. Rovanssek, any changes to the site plan would result in additional design fees.
- In the matter of the letter from VDOT that we were not aware of, I was told that the letter was never sent to the town because it was not meant for us. It was written/issued by VDOT to Accomack County.
- Received numerous grass complaints. Letters were sent out to property owners. Mr. Simpson has had to cut one of these properties.
- I have issued a removal letter for an inoperable/unlicensed vehicle on an Onley Road/Lankford Highway property. They have 30 days to remove/tag the vehicle. The property owner came to the office and stated that the vehicle does not belong to him. I explained that since it is on his property – it is his responsibility. I suggested that he have it removed/towed so that we do not have to since that would mean he (the owner) would be responsible for the costs.

- I issued notices of collection to two businesses in town that were delinquent on meals tax. Both have remitted payment at this time.
- There is a new business that has not remitted Meals Tax payment, not expecting the payment should be a lot. I will follow up.
- The issue with a town business not purchasing a BPOL has been resolved.
- The Town Clean-up was completed last week. Items were not picked up from two properties. One property had drywall construction materials and the other had not pulled the debris to the road. I explained to the property owner that we cannot come into the yard/onto the property to retrieve items.
- I made contact with the owner of Rojas Tires. She is also unsatisfied with the degree of clean-up at the property. She is in the process of having the tenant removed. Ms. Salazar made the property owner aware she has not moved forward with legal action at this time only because she has not had time to do so.
- The cameras system has been installed at the town office. The audio has been disabled and the video feed can be viewed from my desk and the desk of Chief Spivey (under our logins) and the desk of Ms. Taylor.
- I have attended several Building Committee meetings. I helped (in a small way) them to meet the requirements established by Ms. Kellam so that they can proceed with the purchase of \$3,000.00 plans from Berecah. Those requirements have been met at this time. And the \$3,000.00 check has been issued.
- I had a complaint about a fire pit being constructed in town. I looked into and found no issues with the construction of the fire pit. It meets our burn ordinance standards and does not violate any zoning ordinances. I did make the property owner aware of our burn ordinance and the importance of following it.
- The flags went up for Memorial Day. I have proposed to the Beautification Committee that the U.S. Flags be our next project since there are some sparse areas in town.
- There was a major computer issue at the town office last week. With the power outage that lasted for quite some time on Wednesday night, we were left without computers in the office. Chief Spivey worked along with Cloud Server to restore computer service as quickly as possible. Everything was up and running by noon on Thursday with a temporary fix and the entire problem was corrected by Friday afternoon. Thanks to Chief Spivey for his help with this – the temporary fix was only possible because of him – otherwise we would have been without computers until Friday at noon.
- I spoke with the auditors and the 2017-2018 audit will be available in draft form by the end of next week.
- There is an issue with the pay for the Planning Commission. We have a Commissioner that wants to be paid after each meeting. Typically, they are only paid every 6 months as they only meet once a month.
- Curt Smith from the ANPDC reached out to let me know that if we are interested in a Revitalization Grant, we need to submit a letter of interest to Elain Meil, ANPDC.
- Started the process for getting a 911 address for the Park property.

**Motion: To submit a letter of interest to Elaine Meil, ANPDC by Rose Pierson and seconded by Billye D. Custis.**

**Roll Call Vote: Zember-yes; Rillo-yes; Harmon-yes; Pierson-yes; Custis-yes; Finney-yes.**

**MOTION PASSED**

#### **Attorney's Report**

- The Park deed has been recorded. The Town of Onley now owns the Park property.
- Revised the 2019 ORA agreement.
- Prepared the Off Shore Drilling Resolution.
- Revised the Local Vehicle Ordinance 005-010.

#### **Planning Commission Report**

- Continues to review Zoning Ordinances.

#### **Old Business**

##### **Property at 25571 East Main Street / New Town Office / Committee Report**

Ms. Pierson stated the Building Committee has complied with the stipulation made by Ms. Kellam regarding the motion to purchase (\$3,000.00) a set of plans from Beracah Homes for the construction of the new town building. The Committee is proceeding with the original plan, as stated in the motion. The Committee has met with some of the Council Members and has their views and comments, and will make an effort to address their concerns.

Ms. Harmon read aloud a statement regarding the Building Committee meeting with individual Council Members and asked that it be included in tonight's minutes. The typed statement will be attached to the minutes.

There was further discussion about all the different options and opinions from the Council and residents about the new town building. It was decided to have a Building Workshop Meeting on June 17, 2019 at 5:30 pm till 7:00 pm at the Onley Baptist Church.

Ms. Harmon reported:

She stated she wants what is best for this town, residents, and the property owners. The Council has to set aside personal differences and make the best decisions. She stated the Council needs to make the best-informed decisions as a group with the information that is provided. Ms. Harmon requested to see the minutes from the Building Committee Meeting that two Council Members and Mayor Hart attended. She noted that she has no agenda because she doesn't have any facts. She doesn't have an opinion between a stick-built building or a modular building. She wants a building that is going to last. Mr. Tatum said once the plans have been received from Beracah Homes, they will be sent out to contractors for estimates on stick built prices and also estimates from modular home companies. The Council will then choose between the contractors that give the town the best price and a quality building. Ms. Harmon responded that until tonight, she never heard that the plans could be used for a stick-built structure. Mayor Hart said the Building Committee has also stated the plans would be sent out on the bid and not only to modular companies.

Mr. Zember reported:

He asked that his comments and suggestions not be put in writing, would rather have them discussed verbally in front of the Council and the public. Ms. Custis stated these meetings were recorded, and she has listened to both meetings. She noted that she was one of the Council Members who did not want to have an individual meeting with the Building Committee Members. Ms. Custis voted for the Building Committee; therefore, she trusts them to complete this job. Ms. Salazar stated she expressed concern to Mr. Dennis (Tuesday of last week after the meeting with Councilman Zember) about the Building Committee meeting and three Council Members being present during this particular meeting. She noted only two Council Members were present during the Building Committee meeting on Thursday (with Vice Mayor Finney) at the town office. She stated that she ran the recorder but did not take minutes. Ms. Pierson said minutes would be completed for both of the individual Building Committee meetings. The minutes of the meeting with Mr. Zember are complete and the minutes from the meeting with Mr. Finney will be completed very soon. All the Building Committee minutes are available at the town office, or Ms. Pierson can provide them to anyone who wishes to have a copy.

Ms. Rillo reported:

She spoke in person with Mr. Dennis on two occasions regarding the Building Committee meetings. She was unaware that the Building Committee meetings were individual meetings. She had the impression it would be a group meeting. Ms. Rillo requested her meeting to be a phone conference on Thursday May 30, 2019, but never received the phone call at the reserved time of 4:30 pm. She stopped by the Town Office to pick up Council packet on Thursday May 30, 2019, at 4:45 pm and discovered a Building Committee Meeting was taking place at the Town Office with Councilwoman Pierson included via telephone. She noted an impromptu meeting ensued, off the record, because no notes were taken. She said that that all of the Council Members should have all the facts, and know everyone's opinions. Ms. Pierson said all the same questions were asked during the individual meeting with the Council Members; she reviewed the recordings. Ms. Rillo responded that Ms. Pierson was not present during her meeting, so therefore, maybe not all of the same questions were asked of all Council Members. Ms. Rillo asked if her conversation was recorded? Ms. Pierson responded, "No." Mr. Zember responded, if he was taped, then everyone should have been taped. Mayor Hart said he was unaware of the phone conference meeting that was scheduled with Ms. Rillo. He confirmed with other members of the Committee, and they also were unaware of the phone conference with Ms. Rillo. Mayor Hart apologized to Ms. Rillo for missing the phone conference call.

Mr. Tatum reported:

He explained the reason for the one-on-one meetings with Council Members was to gain an understanding as to what each Council Member wanted. The Committee is trying to find ways to compromise and get a plan that works for everyone. Ms. Rillo stated she was still under the impression the Building Committee was tasked to review the GMB plans and cut cost within those plans and re-send them out on the bid. Ms. Pierson responded, "that was not the case." Mayor Hart responded, "we have always stated we were going to downsize." Mr. Tatum replied he was not aware that the Building Committee was supposed to work with the GMB plans. He said, to be honest, he does not see the potential for compromising or willing to bend at all.

Ms. Pierson reported:

The Building Committee is trying to hear what people want.

Mr. Finney reported:

Mr. Finney presented the GMB plans before the Council Members. He asked if Beracah Homes is going to provide a set of plans like the GMB plans for \$3,000.00. Ms. Pierson said they would examine the specifications and have another meeting. Mr. Finney stated that \$200,000.00 could be cut from the GMB building plans without reducing the size.

Mayor Hart reported:

The Building Committee is working with the average budget of \$725,000.00 that was set by the Council.

#### **George N. McMath / Committee Report**

Chairman Custis provided Park Committee Minutes from May 14, 2019 and May 23, 2019.

Copy of the Park Committee minutes and the June 3, 2019 Committee Report will be attached to the Regular Monthly Council minutes.

RFP's were sent out for surveying services on May 28, 2019, to be returned by June 10, 2019. The one proposal that has been received back via email is less than \$1,000.00. Ms. Custis asked if the Council would like to wait until the next meeting to select a company to complete the surveying or would Council like to make a motion today to allow the Committee to choose the company as long as the price doesn't exceed \$1,000.00. The Committee is working on completing a Capital Budget. Ms. Custis and Ms. Salazar will meet on June 6, 2019, to finalize the budget. Ms. Harmon asked how many bids the Committee is waiting to hear back from? Ms. Custis responded, "Two." Chief Spivey stated he would like to discuss the lighting on the property. Ms. Harmon asked if the park would close at dusk? Ms. Custis and Chief Spivey responded, "Yes." Chief Spivey stated the Police Department would oversee the running of the Park other than the maintenance meaning they will open in the morning, close at dusk and patrol regularly Ms. Rillo asked if the whole perimeter will be fenced in? Ms. Custis responded that is what the committee is thinking at this time but they will not have a definite answer until the survey is completed. The quote that was received was for the whole perimeter for security reasons.

**Motion: To allow the Park Committee to choose a Surveying Company not to exceed \$1,000.00 by Ned Finney and seconded by Rose Pierson.**

**Roll Call Vote: Zember-yes; Rillo-yes; Harmon-yes; Pierson-yes; Custis-yes; Finney-yes.**

**MOTION PASSED**

#### **Beautification / Committee Report**

Ms. Salazar reported the Beautification Committee has not met since the last meeting. She says the approved banners and hardware have been ordered. To date, the hardware has come in and the banners have not. She noted the next project the Committee will proceed with in July, the next fiscal year, is the purchase of additional American Flags to fill the sparse areas around the town. Mr.



Zember would like to purchase, in the next fiscal year, Christmas trees to display in the town during the holiday season. He asked that his fellow Council Members be thinking about their ideas/suggestions for future discussions. Mayor Hart asked where the placement of the tree will be? Mr. Zember responded several areas had been discussed. Some locations of interest are: at the new town park, alongside the railroad tracks or the piece of property between Onley Road and Coastal Boulevard. Mayor Hart proposed on Route 13 near the entrance of Riverside Shore Memorial Hospital, with their permission. Ms. Rillo said she would like to see multiple trees up in the town. Ms. Harmon suggested that before the next meeting, Council Members ride around the town and inquire on available locations.

#### **Adoption of 2019-2020 Budget**

**Motion: To adopt the 2019-2020 budget by Rose Pierson and seconded by Susan Rillo.**

**Roll Call Vote: Zember-yes; Rillo-yes; Harmon-yes; Pierson-yes; Custis-yes; Finney-yes.**

**MOTION PASSED**

#### **Adoption of Ordinance 002-018 Regarding Local Vehicle Tax**

Ms. Kellam read aloud the change in the Ordinance.

"Whereas the Town Council hereby desires to amend Ordinance 005-010 by providing an exemption from the license fee for all active fire department and emergency personnel members of the Eastern Shore." The prior Ordinance specified only the Onley Fire Department.

**Motion: To adopt the Ordinance 002-18 by Susan Rillo and seconded by Rose Pierson.**

**Roll Call Vote: Zember-yes; Rillo-yes; Harmon-yes; Pierson-yes; Custis-yes; Finney-yes.**

**MOTION PASSED**

#### **Adoption of Resolution Regarding Leasing of Certain Offshore Drilling Rights**

Ms. Salazar read aloud the Resolution opposing offshore oil and gas drilling and exploration including seismic testing.

**Motion: To adopt the Resolution Opposing Offshore Oil and Gas Drilling and Exploration, including Seismic Testing by Susan Rillo and seconded by Rose Pierson.**

**Roll Call Vote: Zember-yes; Rillo-yes; Harmon-yes; Pierson-yes; Custis-yes; Finney-yes.**

**MOTION PASSED**

#### **Open RFP's 2018-2019 Audit**

Ms. Salazar reported she sent out five RFP's for auditing services. She stated only one RFP for auditing services was received back. The RFP was received on time on May 31, 2019, from Robinson, Farmer & Cox Associates of Charlottesville, Virginia. This firm is GASB 34 compliant, and their fee for the proposed audit is \$7,500.00.

**Motion: To accept Robinson, Farmer & Cox to compete the 2018-2019 Audit in the amount of \$7,500.00 by Billye D. Custis and seconded by Woody Zember.**

**Roll Call Vote: Zember-yes; Rillo-yes; Harmon-yes; Pierson-yes; Custis-yes; Finney-yes.  
MOTION PASSED**

### **New Business**

#### **Set July 2019 Meeting Date**

July 1, 2019, was set for the July 2019 Onley Town Council Regular Monthly Meeting. During this meeting, the Council will adopt the meeting dates for the upcoming fiscal year. Mayor Hart suggested changing the meeting times from 6:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. There was discussion among the Council Members.

**Motion: To change the meeting time of the Onley Town Council meetings to 6:00 p.m. for all future meetings unless otherwise specified by Rose Pierson and seconded by Susan Rillo.**

**Roll Call Vote: Zember-yes; Rillo-yes; Harmon-yes; Pierson-yes; Custis-yes; Finney-yes.  
MOTION PASSED**

#### **Railroad Scales / SPOTS Request**

Mayor Hart stated the building that houses the scales along the railroad track is in poor condition. He noted if the funds are available, he would like to see this building repaired to preserve this part of the town's history. At this point, the building poses a hazard and is an eyesore. Mr. Finney stated the first step would be to contact the owner. Ms. Custis noted the town has a contract with the railroad company but does not own the property. Her concern is spending money to repair or demolish the building, not knowing the outcome of the contract. Ms. Salazar said the owner is Bay Coast Railroad and the contact number is no longer in service. Mr. Hart asked Ms. Kellam and Ms. Salazar to review the agreement for any verbiage about the upkeep of the property. Ms. Kellam said if it is a public safety hazard, then the town could probably proceed with cleaning up the area. Ms. Rillo stated this "building had been a hazard for a while, and something needs to be done one way or the other." She would like to see if the contract could become a permanent agreement between the town and the Railroad. The Town and SPOTS have invested a lot of money and time into that location. Many organizations use the SPOTS location and provide educational benefits and is overall a huge benefit for the town. Mayor Hart closed this discussion stating, Ms. Kellam will review the agreement and Council will continue the discussion at next month's meeting.

Ms. Custis asked Ms. Salazar if the Council needed to take action regarding the Planning Commission pay. Ms. Salazar stated one Commissioner had requested his compensation after each meeting. Ms. Salazar has provided this Commissioner payment for the last couple of months. She noted this is not the regular process. She said several Council Members had expressed concern for various reasons. Ms. Harmon proposed paying the Planning Commission Members quarterly to coincide with the Council Members.

**Motion: To cut the Planning Commission checks and Council Members checks at the same time; quarterly by Billye D. Custis and seconded by Ned Finney.**

Mr. Ferguson responded full consideration would be appreciated. Ms. Rillo asked Mr. Ferguson if quarterly would accommodate his needs. Mr. Ferguson replied, "Yes." Ms. Salazar explained the change. Currently, the Planning Commission pay is every six months, but will now be quarterly every three months.

**Roll Call Vote: Zember-yes; Rillo-yes; Harmon-yes; Pierson-yes; Custis-yes; Finney-yes.  
MOTION PASSED**

**Public Comments:**

Mr. Ferguson stated the Council and Mayor are doing a great job. He said the vibes he hears on the street is that the Council needs to decide on the new town building. They should make a decision, stick with it and get the building built. Mayor Hart asked what amount Mr. Ferguson would be willing to spend on the new building? Mr. Ferguson responded, "cheap as possible - \$700,000.00 - \$500,000.00 - \$600,000.00." Mayor Hart asked if Mr. Ferguson agreed spending over one million was too much? Mr. Ferguson responded, "it seems like it - it has a bad sound to it for a town office."

Mr. Tatum had no additional comment at this time.

Ms. Hohlt noted the shrubs/trees need to be trimmed back on the poles before putting up new flags. She also noted the speed limit sign is obstructed by a bush coming into town from Locustville area. Chief Spivey will see that this gets resolved.

Mr. Gomez stated the downtown area pedestrian traffic has increased dramatically. He suggested installing visible signage that would alert the vehicle/pedestrians to utilize caution while traveling through that area. Ms. Rillo stated she had noticed more of a problem with the foot traffic around the Lighthouse Ministries area. Mayor Hart has observed the vehicles turning right off of Coastal travel at an unreasonable speed. Chief Spivey stated that corner has outgrown itself. He noted several accidents that have occurred there over the last couple of months. Chief Spivey said that area/intersection has a stoplight. In his opinion, VDOT should complete an engineering study in this area. Ms. Harmon asked if there are marked parking spots along the sidewalk? Mayor Hart responded, "there is not." Ms. Harmon stated she had seen vehicles that have not entirely pulled up into a parking spot and left the rear end of the vehicle out in the roadway. Mayor Hart inquired on the one-hour parking along the sidewalk area. Chief Spivey responded that it is a tough law to enforce, as the vehicle would need to be under surveillance for the full hour. Ms. Custis noted another problem with the corner, is the left turns off of East Main Street into the parking lot of Light House Ministries. If there is oncoming traffic, this causes a significant backup as far back as Coastal Boulevard. Mayor Hart said perhaps the grant could be structured in a way that could incorporate some issues in the downtown area.

**Council Comments:**

Mr. Finney thanked everyone for their comments who were in attendance tonight. He said he hopes everyone can come together and get the new town office built. He appreciates all the town employees - thanks for the job you do! He thanked Chief Spivey for the electronic work he completed.

Ms. Custis thanked everyone in attendance and for their input. The Park Committee is open for additional volunteers for anyone who would be interested in helping. Thanks!

Ms. Pierson appreciates everyone in attendance and their input. It is necessary for the Council to hear what people are thinking. She thanked all the town employees - you do a super job.

Ms. Harmon thanked everybody for the way the meeting was conducted tonight without the bickering. She said everyone wants the same thing for the town; it is just how we say it. She never wants anyone to think there is a division between the Council. Thank you all for the support.

Ms. Rillo thanked everyone in attendance tonight and for their comments. She thanked all the Committees. There is a lot of discussion going on, but it is a good discussion. She agrees with Mr. Ferguson that the town needs to get the building built sooner than later. The longer we wait, the more expensive it is going to get. The building estimates have more than doubled since she began the discussion with the Council. She thanked all town employees, Police Department, Attorney, Mayor, and her fellow Council Members. It was a great meeting tonight - Thank you.

Mr. Zember thanked everyone in attendance tonight and for their input. It helps the Council make the best decisions for the town. He noted the priorities are the new building and the park. He would like to break ground on the building first and then proceed with the park.

Mayor Hart thanked everyone for coming out tonight and verbalizing your thoughts, issues, and concerns.

**Closed Session – 8:23 pm**

**Motion: To go into Closed Session in accordance with Section 2.2-3711(A) of the Code of Virginia of 1950, as amended for the purpose of Paragraph 1: Discussion or Consideration of matters pertaining to General Government & Police Department specifically related to employee evaluations and the possible hiring of a Grant Writer by Billye D. Custis and seconded by Rose Pierson.**

**Roll Call Vote: Zember-yes; Rillo-yes; Harmon-yes; Pierson-yes; Custis-yes; Finney-yes.**

**MOTION PASSED**

**Open Session & Certification of Closed Session – 9:10 pm**

**Motion: To return to Open Session by Billye D. Custis and seconded by Rose Pierson.**

**Roll Call Vote: Zember-yes; Rillo-yes; Harmon-yes; Pierson-yes; Custis-yes; Finney-yes.**

**MOTION PASSED**

**A roll call vote was taken after reconvening in Open Session, at which time each member certified by his/her vote that only the matters previously disclosed were discussed during Closed Session:**

**Roll Call Vote: Hart-yes; Zember-yes; Rillo-yes; Harmon-yes; Pierson-yes; Custis-yes; Finney-yes.**

**MOTION PASSED**

Mayor Hart stated Council is back in Open Session.

**Motion: To promote Jess Long to Corporal with a \$4,000.00 raise in pay by Billye D. Custis and seconded by Rose Pierson.**

**Roll Call Vote: Zember-yes; Rillo-yes; Harmon-yes; Pierson-yes; Custis-yes; Finney-yes.**

**MOTION PASSED**

**Motion: To accept the resignation received tonight by Billye D. Custis and seconded by Ned Finney.**

**Roll Call Vote: Zember-yes; Rillo-yes; Harmon-yes; Pierson-yes; Custis-yes; Finney-yes.**

**MOTION PASSED**

Ms. Taylor thanked the Council for the opportunity to work for the Town of Onley. The Council wished Ms. Taylor well on her next journey.

**Motion: To hire Karen Emerson as a contract Grant Coordinator at \$18.00 an hour with the ability to increase by Billye D. Custis and seconded by Rose Pierson.**

**Roll Call Vote: Zember-yes; Rillo-yes; Harmon-yes; Pierson-yes; Custis-yes; Finney-yes.**

**MOTION PASSED**

**Adjourn**


**Motion: To adjourn at 9:12 pm by Rose Pierson and seconded by Susan Rillo.**

**Roll Call Vote: Zember-yes; Rillo-yes; Harmon-yes; Pierson-yes; Custis-yes; Finney-yes.**

**MOTION PASSED**

Respectfully submitted by,

Melissa W. Taylor  
Clerk



Matthew D. Hart  
Mayor