

Onley Town Council  
Special Monthly Meeting  
Minutes of May 17, 2021

Special Meeting of the Onley Town Council held at the Onley Baptist Church, 25501 W. Main Street, on the 17th day of May A.D., 2021:

Council Members Present: Matt Hart, Mayor  
Rose Pierson, Vice-Mayor  
Brian Corbin  
Billye D. Custis  
Bill Ferguson  
Claudia Harmon  
Woody Zember

Staff Present: Jamye Salazar, Clerk/Treasurer  
Carl Bundick, Town Attorney

**Call to Order**

Mayor Hart called the meeting to order at 6:00pm. Mayor Hart stated that (per Councilwoman Custis) in compliance with the Governor's Order, if you have not had a COVID vaccination, you should continue to wear your mask for the meeting. Ms. Harmon asked who has been vaccinated. Mayor Hart said that he is unsure if we can ask that question of individuals. Ms. Harmon said she would like to ask if everyone has been vaccinated. Mr. Ferguson stated that everyone is at least 6' apart. Ms. Custis asked Mayor Hart to roll call and ask if everyone has been vaccinated. Mayor Hart agreed and the response was as follows: **Hart – no; Corbin- did not answer – stated that is personal; Custis-yes; Ferguson- no; Harmon – yes; Pierson – yes; Zember - yes.**

Ms. Custis stated that she agrees with Mr. Corbin that it is personal, but it is personal to her too.

**Invocation & Pledge of Allegiance**

The invocation was given by Councilman Ferguson and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Councilwoman Harmon.

**Adoption of Agenda**

**Motion: To adopt the agenda by Rose Pierson and seconded by Billye D. Custis.**

**Roll Call Vote: Corbin- yes; Custis-yes; Ferguson- yes; Harmon – yes; Pierson – yes; Zember - yes.**

**MOTION PASSED**

**Open RFB's for Mosquito Spraying**

Mayor Hart opened the RFB's received for mosquito spraying. The first was from Browder Hite in the amount of \$14,400.00 for the season consisting of \$300.00 for 48 applications. The second was from Michael Scott in the amount of \$3,600.00 for the season consisting of \$75.00 for 48 applications. Mr. Scott also quoted placing mosquito dunks in the ditches and spraying weeds in town. Those two things were not considered at this time since it was not advertised in the RFB. Mayor Hart stated that he feels that weed spraying should be included in the Public Works contract. Mayor Hart also stated that regardless of who Council chooses, he will make sure that they are held accountable and that they are doing what they have been contracted to do. Mr. Bundick recommended a contract be created for the services.

**Motion: To accept Michael Scott's bid to spray for mosquitoes twice per week at a cost of \$75.00 per spray pending proper licensure and insurance with an attorney review/contract by Bill Ferguson and**

Onley Town Council  
Special Monthly Meeting  
Minutes of May 17, 2021

seconded by Rose Pierson. Roll Call Vote: Corbin- yes; Custis-yes; Ferguson- yes; Harmon – yes; Pierson – yes; Zember - yes. MOTION PASSED

**Discussion of Public Works RFP**

Council reviewed the Public Works RFP from 2018 and updated it to make appropriate changes. A copy of changes will be attached to the minutes. Mayor Hart asked Ms. Salazar to help him create a checklist for the Public Works duties to help keep the contractor accountable.

**Motion: To advertise the IFB for Public Works in the ES Post and to get the paperwork together to go with it by Billye D. Custis and seconded by Bill Ferguson. Roll Call Vote: Corbin- yes; Custis-yes; Ferguson- yes; Harmon – yes; Pierson – yes; Zember - absent. MOTION PASSED**

**2021-2022 Proposed Budget**

Ms. Bliss presented the 2021-2022 Proposed Budget having incorporated the changes made at the May 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting. She added that with the decision to hire Mr. Scott for spraying mosquitoes, we now have an extra \$10,800.00. Mayor Hart asked to discuss the Clerk's pay adding that he knows that the amount budgeted is not enough. Council asked Mr. Bundick if it would be appropriate to go into Closed Session for a proper discussion. Mr. Bundick agreed that it would be appropriate.

Ms. Harmon stated that she had a town resident call her to speak against the Town giving gift cards to residents. They told her that they feel that there are many businesses hiring, and many people are choosing to stay home and not work. Mr. Zember feels that we have already told the residents that we are doing this, and it is risky not to follow through with the decision. Ms. Custis stated that just because the money for the cards is in the budget, it does not mean that we are going to spend it.

**Closed Session**

**Motion: To go into Closed Session at 7:31pm 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 Personnel Matters pertaining to Clerk's Pay for the purpose of the budget by Billye D. Custis and seconded by Woody Zember. Roll Call Vote: Corbin- yes; Custis-yes; Ferguson- yes; Harmon – yes; Pierson – yes; Zember - yes. MOTION PASSED**

**Open Session & Certification of Closed Session**

**Motion: To return to Open Session at 7:40pm by Billye D. Custis and seconded by Woody Zember. Roll Call Vote: Corbin- yes; Custis-yes; Ferguson- yes; Harmon – yes; Pierson – yes; Zember - yes. MOTION PASSED**

A roll call vote was taken 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:

**Roll Call Vote: Hart-yes; Corbin- yes; Custis-yes; Ferguson- yes; Harmon – yes; Pierson – yes; Zember - yes.**

Mayor Hart stated that Ms. Salazar's pay will increase from \$20.00 to \$25.00 per hour. Ms. Bliss asked where the money is coming from in the budget. Mr. Corbin and Mr. Zember asked why we cannot use reserve money to balance the budget. Ms. Bliss said that we cannot adding that is called deficit spending. Ms. Salazar stated that we can use the reserve funds to balance the budget, we have done so in the past, but have not actually had to go into the reserve due to the amount of revenue collected.

Onley Town Council  
Special Monthly Meeting  
Minutes of May 17, 2021

Council made the appropriate change in the proposed budget taking the money from Mosquito Spraying and the Capital Outlay fund line item.

Ms. Harmon expressed concern that the Court Fines line item may be affected due to a new judge that is dismissing tickets as well as offering Driver Improvement classes. Mr. Bundick stated that he does not believe that tickets are being overly dismissed. Ms. Salazar agreed and added that dismissal of tickets as well as Driver Improvement is not a new thing. She stated that while she does not want to speak for Chief Spivey, she is sure that he takes that information into consideration when he sets the budget numbers. Mr. Bundick agreed with Ms. Salazar's statement and added that by no means does the Onley Police Dept. have a large number of dismissals, but it does happen to everyone on occasion.

Council discussed the amount of fuel being used by the Police Department and the use of take-home vehicles. Mayor Hart stated that he would like to suspend the take-home policy indefinitely. No decision was made about the take-home policy.

Mr. Zember asked if we can make Ms. Salazar's pay rate retroactive to when she was hired. Ms. Salazar said that would not be appropriate at this time since the previous discussion was only for budget purposes. Council agreed to discuss the matter at the June 7<sup>th</sup> meeting.

**Motion: To send the Final 2021-2022 Proposed Budget to Public Hearing by Billye D. Custis and seconded by Rose Pierson. Roll Call Vote: Corbin- yes; Custis-yes; Ferguson- yes; Harmon – yes; Pierson – yes; Zember - yes. MOTION PASSED**

**Adjourn**

**Motion: To adjourn at 8:09pm by Billye D. Custis and seconded by Rose Pierson.**

**Roll Call Vote: Corbin- yes; Custis-yes; Ferguson- yes; Harmon – yes; Pierson – yes; Zember - yes. MOTION PASSED**

Respectfully Submitted,



Jamye Salazar, Clerk/Treasurer



Matthew Hart, Mayor