

Onley Town Council
Public Hearing & Regular Monthly Meeting
Minutes of June 7, 2021

Public Hearing & Regular Monthly Meeting of the Onley Town Council held at the Onley Baptist Church, 25501 W. Main Street, on the 7th day of June A.D., 2021:

Council Members Present: Billye D. Custis
 Bill Ferguson
 Claudia Harmon

Council Members Absent: Matt Hart, Mayor
 Rose Pierson, Vice-Mayor
 Brian Corbin
 Woody Zember

Staff Present: Jamye Salazar, Clerk/Treasurer
 Carl Bundick, Town Attorney
 John Spivey, Chief of Police, OPD

At 5:57pm, before the meeting was called to order (below), Mr. Ferguson was asked to call Mr. Corbin and ask him if he was coming to the meeting. Mr. Ferguson did so and told everyone in attendance that Mr. Corbin stated he was not coming since Mayor Hart cancelled the meeting. Mr. Bundick stated that Mayor Hart could not do that. Ms. Custis and Ms. Harmon asked Mr. Bundick if he would be willing to repeat that to Mr. Corbin. Mr. Bundick agreed, and Mr. Ferguson asked Mr. Corbin to speak with Mr. Bundick. Mr. Corbin agreed. Mr. Ferguson advised Mr. Corbin that he was turning on his speaker on his phone. Mr. Bundick repeated to Mr. Corbin that Mayor Hart cannot cancel an advertised meeting. Mr. Corbin stated that he was still not coming to the meeting and added that he was not comfortable meeting without Mayor Hart, Ms. Pierson and Mr. Zember in attendance. Mr. Corbin also asked Mr. Bundick why he has not been communicating with Mayor Hart – only Ms. Salazar. Mr. Bundick stated that when he was hired, he was told that Ms. Salazar was his “point of contact”. Ms. Custis and Ms. Harmon agreed. Mr. Corbin stated that may have been true when he was hired but Ms. Salazar is no longer the Town Manager. Ms. Custis asked Mr. Corbin if he was in favor of running the budget ad again at a cost of \$300.00. Mr. Corbin said that he is doing what he believes is right and if he finds out he is wrong, he will admit it. At this time, Ms. Bliss said that Mr. Corbin is wrong. Mr. Corbin did not hear Ms. Bliss and asked her to repeat her comment. She did so at that time. Mr. Corbin asked Mr. Bundick why he (Mr. Bundick) told Mayor Hart that polling Council Members about issues is not allowed but only today a Council member polled him about the meeting tonight. He added that polling is either allowed or it isn't, but it shouldn't be okay for some and not for others. Ms. Custis stated that she was not polling Council today – she was calling Council Members because Mayor Hart asked her to. Mr. Bundick said that polling should not be done at all because it constitutes a meeting and therefore could be a FOIA violation. Ms. Harmon asked Mr. Bundick if we should even be doing this (meaning having the current discussion). Mr. Bundick said no. Ms. Salazar agreed and stated had she known that this conversation was going to consist of more than Mr. Ferguson calling to ask Mr. Corbin if he is attending the meeting, she would have started the recorder. At this time, the phone conversation with Mr. Corbin ended. Ms. Harmon asked Mr. Bundick what (if anything) can be done about this situation. Mr. Bundick stated that he feels there is a huge issue with communication among the Mayor and Council Members and it needs to be addressed. Ms. Salazar agreed and said that she feels that information is being routed through her that should be handled among the Mayor and Council one-on-one. Ms. Custis stated that Mayor Hart told her that Ms. Salazar told him that he could cancel the meeting. Ms. Salazar stated that

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she did not tell him to cancel the meeting, but she also did not tell him that he couldn't when he called her about the matter. She reiterated that she is not the Town Manger and no longer in charge adding that it is her understanding that the Mayor is in charge as the CEO and CAO of the town. She suggested that maybe everyone needs to communicate to him what exactly is covered under his authority as Mayor, adding that she would like to know herself to avoid confusion in the future. Once again, she reiterated that we need to discontinue this discussion and start the meeting.

Call to Order

Ms. Salazar called the meeting to order at 6:20pm. A roll call was taken, and it was determined that the Council did not have a quorum. No meeting was held. The meeting was adjourned at 6:20pm by Ms. Salazar.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jamye Salazar, Clerk/Treasurer

Matthew Hart, Mayor