

**Onley Town Council
Special Meeting/Budget Workshop
Minutes of March 26, 2024
Onley Town Office, 25308 Lankford Highway, Onley, VA**

Council Members Present: Ned Finney, Mayor
 Bill Ferguson, Vice-Mayor
 Daniel Bloxom
 Brian Corbin
 Kate Hill
 Rodney Lang
 Woody Zember

Staff Present: Carl Bundick, Town Attorney
 E. J. Long, Chief of Police, OPD (arrived 6:04pm)
 Susan Rillo, Town Manager
 Jamye Salazar, Clerk/Treasurer

Call to Order

Mayor Finney called the meeting to order at 6:00pm.

Invocation & Pledge of Allegiance

Council Member Hill gave the invocation. Council Member Lang led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Adoption of Agenda

Motion: To adopt the agenda by Brian Corbin and seconded by Kate Hill. Roll Call Vote: Bloxom -yes; Corbin- yes; Ferguson- yes; Hill – yes; Lang– yes; Zember - yes. MOTION PASSED

Public Works Garage

Ms. Rillo presented Council with a handout containing a drawing of the building, the dimensions, roughly where it will be located, and an estimate for cost. A copy will be attached to the original minutes and is available upon request. Mr. Ferguson asked for reassurance that there will still be room for a new town office before Council proceeds. Ms. Rillo assured him that there is plenty of room and noted that the town's setbacks are not VDOT requirements, but town requirements that can be changed. Mayor Finney reminded everyone that this estimate does not include costs for plumbing, electrical, or concrete work. Ms. Rillo asked Council's permission to hire Norman Pitt to help oversee the project. Billye D. Custis asked Council who will do the site work. Mayor Finney said most likely the concrete company will do the site work. After a small discussion, Council decided that they wanted to move forward with the building.

Motion: To authorize the Town Manager to spend \$6,034.54 from ARPA funds as a downpayment on the new garage building by Brian Corbin and seconded by Kate Hill. Roll Call Vote: Bloxom -yes; Corbin- yes; Ferguson- yes; Hill – yes; Lang– yes; Zember - yes. MOTION PASSED

Motion: To authorize the Town Manager to advertise for bids on the concrete for the Public Works building by Rodney Lang and seconded by Kate Hill. Roll Call Vote: Bloxom -yes; Corbin- yes; Ferguson- yes; Hill – yes; Lang– yes; Zember - yes. MOTION PASSED

Motion: To authorize the Town Manager to negotiate with Norman Pitt (to secure his services) as our site manager for the new garage building by Brian Corbin and seconded by Kate Hill. Roll Call Vote: Bloxom -yes; Corbin- yes; Ferguson- yes; Hill – yes; Lang– yes; Zember - yes. MOTION PASSED

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2024-2025 Proposed Budget

Before the budget discussion started, Ms. Salazar presented Council with individual letters from the Tasley Fire Company (requesting \$15,000.00/year) and American Legion Post 100 (requesting \$2,000.00/year) asking that Council create line items in the budget for annual donations to their organizations. She also explained the budget process, noting that this will be our first pass at the budget, and we will not finish it tonight. Lastly, she said that she is waiting for answers from the Accomack County Assessor's office on the matter of real estate re-assessments and how we will need to handle them. Council reviewed the proposed 2024-2025 budget line by line. A copy of the first draft of the 2024-2025 proposed budget will be attached to the minutes and is available upon request. While discussing the "Donations" line item, there was an additional discussion about the letters from Tasley Fire Company and American Legion Post 100. Council decided not to commit to those requests at this time. At the conclusion of the budget line-item review, Mr. Ferguson asked Council to consider adding some money to the Fire Department Donations line item. Council agreed to discuss that at the next budget meeting. Ms. Salazar stated that we also need to discuss the remaining balance in the ARPA budget at another meeting.

Adjourn

Motion: To adjourn (8:23pm) by Bill Ferguson and seconded by Kate Hill. Roll Call Vote: Bloxom -yes; Corbin- yes; Ferguson- yes; Hill – yes; Lang– yes; Zember - yes. MOTION PASSED

Respectfully submitted,



Jamye L. Salazar, Clerk/Treasurer



Henry E. Finney, Mayor