

Minutes from Onley Town Council
Public Hearing(s) for Proposed McMath Park Budget, Re-Appropriation of Town Hall Construction Funds
& Regular Monthly Meeting
August 12, 2019

Regular Meeting of the Onley Town Council held at the Onley Baptist Church Office, 25462 Coastal Boulevard, on the 12th day of August, A.D., 2019:

Council Members Present: Matt Hart, Mayor
Ned Finney, Vice-Mayor
Billye D. Custis
Claudia Harmon
Rose Pierson
Susan Rillo (arrived 6:06pm)
Woody Zember

Staff Present: Jamye Salazar, Town Manager
Alissa Yoder, Clerk
Chief John Spivey, OPD

Call to Order

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

Invocation & Pledge of Allegiance

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

Adoption of Agenda

Motion: To adopt the agenda, with the addition of New Town Office Septic Permit Renewal as Letter F under Item 9. New Business, made by Billye D. Custis and was seconded by Woody Zember.

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

Public Hearing for Proposed George N. McMath Park Budget

Mayor Hart called the Public Hearing to order at 6:04pm. Jamye Salazar read the Rules for Public Hearings. She noted that these rules will only be read one time, but the rules apply to both hearings tonight. A copy of these rules can be found at the Town Office.

Billye D. Custis presented the proposed budget for the George N. McMath Park. She reviewed the Capital Budget for the year ending June 30, 2020, she noted the revenue and expenditures were \$216,600 each, resulting in a balanced budget. Billye D. Custis then answered questions pertaining to the park, explaining that the fencing will be along all four sides, four feet tall, and have three gates. She stated that the reason for this height was because she didn't want it to feel like a prison but also wanted the fencing to be a deterrent, and that the gates are lockable. When asked if the wooded side should be higher, she stated she was not sure if that is doable. Mayor Hart also noted that this is just phase one of the projects at the park.

Motion: To adjourn at 6:10pm from the Public Hearing for Proposed George N. McMath Park Budget by Woody Zember and seconded by Rose Pierson.

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

Minutes from Onley Town Council
Public Hearing(s) for Proposed McMath Park Budget, Re-Appropriation of Town Hall Construction Funds
& Regular Monthly Meeting
August 12, 2019

Public Hearing for Re-Appropriation of Balance of Funds Remaining for the Purpose of Building a New Town Hall

Mayor Hart called the Public Hearing for Re-Appropriation of Balance of Funds Remaining for the Purpose of Building a New Town Hall at 6:10 pm. He reminded the public of the Rules for Public Hearings that Jamye Salazar had read.

The Presentation for Proposed Budget was read by Jamye Salazar. Jamye stated that at November 7, 2016 meeting, the motion was made to appropriate \$500,000 towards the construction of a new Town Hall. She noted that the auditors have suggested to hold a public meeting to re-appropriate the remaining balance that has not been spent, and move that amount into the next budget year. That amount is \$386,160.94. When asked what happens if the building comes in over the amount reserved, Jamye noted that the wording is "to begin the process". If the amount goes over, the council will have another public hearing to cover the remaining balance. Mayor Hart agreed that this would be the case.

Motion: To adjourn from the Public Hearing for Re-Appropriation of Balance of Funds Remaining for the Purpose of Building a New Town Hall at 6:13pm by Rose Pierson and seconded by Susan Rillo.

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

Motion Passed

Mayor Hart called the Regular Meeting to order at 6:13 pm

Presentation – Onley Recreation Association (ORA)

Representatives from The Onley Recreation Association provided an update for the facility, stating that there have been one single membership and 2 family memberships since the last update. She also noted that there will be an after-hours scholarship fund raising event on August 25. Larry Thomas, an Onley resident and member of the ORA, also spoke. He stated that he wanted to thank the Town of Onley and the ORA for providing the pool and discount membership to the residents of Onley. He complimented the staff for their hospitality and organization of the facility. The ORA also thanked the Onley police department for patrolling the area.

Consideration of Minutes

Motion: To adopt the July 1, 2019 Regular Monthly Meeting minutes by Rose Pierson and seconded by Billye D. Custis.

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

Motion Passed

Motion: To adopt the July 15, 2019 Special Meeting/Building Workshop minutes by Rose Pierson and seconded by Billye D. Custis.

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

Department Reports

Police Report & Schedule

Chief Spivey presented Council with an updated August schedule, the September schedule and a report for August. He also reported that, after much research, he would like to ask council for approval on proceeding with the purchase of a Dodge Charger for the new police vehicle. He stated that he had budgeted \$31,856 for a new vehicle, and that this vehicle is estimated to be \$30,917 with patrol unit accessories included. When taking questions, Chief Spivey noted that he would like to wait to do more research on a Tesla and that in the future there may be grants offered for this. After discussion, a vote was taken.

Minutes from Onley Town Council
Public Hearing(s) for Proposed McMath Park Budget, Re-Appropriation of Town Hall Construction Funds
& Regular Monthly Meeting
August 12, 2019

Motion: To proceed with the purchasing of the 2019 Dodge Charger by Ned Finney and seconded by Susan Rillo.

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

Motion: To accept the Ammended August 2019 schedule and September 2019 schedule by Susan Rillo and seconded by Woody Zember.

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

Treasurer's Report-Payables

Jamye Salazar read the Treasurer's Report for July 2019. A copy of this is available at the Town Office.

Motion: To pay the payables by Ned Finney and seconded by Susan Rillo.

Roll Call Vote: Custis-no, due to audit; Finney-yes; Harmon-yes; Pierson-yes; Rillo-yes; Zember-yes.

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

Ms. Salazar read her report for Town Manager, Zoning Administrator and Public Works. This report is available at the Town Office.

Attorney's Report

Ms. Salazar read an emailed report from Ms. Kellam, due to her absence. The email stated that July was a quiet month. She reviewed the Zoning Ordinance violation letter pertaining to feather flags and she continues to research the railroad agreement with the town.

Planning Commission Report

Ms. Bliss stated that the Commission continues to review the Zoning Ordinance. The Planning Commission saw no overlap in the ordinances referring to the junk yard and garage. They will be finished reviewing the Zoning Ordinance in the next few months and will be looking for a new project from council at that time.

Old Business

Property at 25571 E. Main Street/New Town Office/Committee Report

Rose Pierson asked the council if there are any more suggestions pertaining to the revised plans from Berecah for the new town office. After some suggestions, the council agreed that there should be a Special Meeting to review the plans. The council decided on Monday, August 19 from 5:30-7:30 at the Onley Baptist Church. The council noted that this Special Meeting will include discussion on the new town office building, the new park, and the sewage permit renewal for the new town office.

George N. McMath Park/Committee Report

A report was presented by Billye D. Custis. She read minutes from the July 31, 2019 committee meeting held in the park. She also read the committee report for the month. Both the minutes and report are available at the town office.

Beautification Committee Report

Jamye Salazar noted that the flag at the town office now has lighting at night. She also noted that the committee would like to purchase fall banners for the upcoming season and would like to replace Veteran's flags in time for Veteran's day. Jamye also let the public know that due to weather and truck issues, the crew was only able to put up about half the spring/summer banners along the street. The

Minutes from Onley Town Council
Public Hearing(s) for Proposed McMath Park Budget, Re-Appropriation of Town Hall Construction Funds
& Regular Monthly Meeting
August 12, 2019

council decided that the spring/summer banners will stay up until fall, and the committee will pick fall banners out and present them to the council at the next meeting.

Woody Zember provided the council and public with information regarding the placement and expense of Christmas trees. He reported that a 16' colored-light fake tree would be \$12,592 and a 16' clear-light fake tree would be \$9,586.50. He estimated that the price for a live tree to be purchased, delivered and planted would be \$2,500. After discussion, the council agreed that, even though the trees would need to be regularly maintained and there is no guarantee of survival, it would be worth it to have live trees. They also noted that there is only \$2,000 in the budget for Christmas decorations.

New Business

Town Yard Sale

The council decided on October 12th from 8am-12pm for a town yards sale. The rain date will be October 19th. The council also noted that this event will be in the residents' yards, and they would not like any streets to be blocked off. They also decided that they would like to have maps for people at every house participating, so that people know where they can go. Jamye will advertise the event in the paper, on the town website, and on the local radio.

Go Green Committee

Mayor Hart asked council for feedback regarding starting up a Go Green Committee. He stated that this type of committee could help the town move forward with innovative ways to help the environment and help raise awareness. Some members of council agreed that if the committee was formed, they may be interested in serving on it. Mayor Hart stated that it will be put on the agenda for next month for further discussion.

Set/Confirm Meeting Date to Adopt McMath Park & Town Hall Budgets

The Council scheduled Monday, August 19th from 5:30pm-7:30pm for this meeting

Set/Change Date for September 2019 Regular Meeting

Ms. Salazar reported that the town attorney is not available for the council meeting on September 5. After discussion, the council decided to change the date of the meeting to September 9. Ms. Salazar noted that she will get the meeting properly advertised.

ATL Grant (\$10,000)

Ms. Salazar and Mayor Hart explained that, since the town does not have a fire department, they take the ATL grant (for fire department only) given to the town and disburse it to Melfa, Onancock and Tasley. It is usually \$4500 each to Tasley and Onancock and \$1000 to Melfa. Ms. Salazar stated that she needs to provide details for how each town spends this grant in the performance report, and she has been having trouble getting Melfa to show how they do so. Chief Spivey noted that on most calls, Tasley and Onancock report, but not Melfa. After discussion among council, a vote was taken.

Motion: To split our ATL Grant between Onancock and Tasley Fire Department by Ned Finney and seconded by Rose Pierson

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

Septic Permit for New Building Expiring November 2019

Billye D Custis made everyone aware that the septic permit for the new town office will be expiring by November 2019. She noted that if it gets done within that time frame, the town gets 18 months to

Minutes from Onley Town Council
Public Hearing(s) for Proposed McMath Park Budget, Re-Appropriation of Town Hall Construction Funds
& Regular Monthly Meeting
August 12, 2019

complete the building and that the old building will go onto this new septic system. The council expressed concerns that since the septic bid from Bundick was accepted about 2 years ago, the price most likely went up and they may have to go out to bid with it again. Ms. Salazar stated that she will check with the town attorney to see if that will have to be the case. The council also noted that they will discuss the town attorney's response at the meeting on August 19th.

Public Comments

Miriam Riggs introduced herself as a candidate for the Accomack County Board of Supervisors District 7. She spoke of her background and requested that residents keep her in mind for the election in November.

Deborah Bliss noted that there are now 3 flags on West Main Street, which is fewer than East Main and Coastal Boulevard. She also expressed concern that she believed if 2 or more council members are gathered, it is classified as a meeting and it needs to be publicized for legal purposes. Deborah also noted that if the Go Green Committee forms, they may want to look into darkening the town to reduce light pollution. She explained that it is a treatment for exterior lights that directs light down and concentrates the light in one area and reduce light pollution.

Bennie Tatum responded to this by stating that A&N has now switched their lighting to LED, which is beneficial for this problem.

Laurabelle Gordy expressed displeasure with the meeting times and days being changed, being that the town pays for the convenience of a space from the church, and she requests that if possible, it should stay the same. She acknowledged that it is not the council's fault, but that it upsets her.

Council Comments

The council members expressed gratitude to town residents for coming, and also to the staff for their professional and courteous work ethic. Billye D. Custis also wanted to clarify that it takes 3 elected officials to constitute a meeting, not 2, and there has been no instance where 3 elected officials have met. She also noted that she wished the town would have acknowledged the Central Accomack Little League on their wins.

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, specifically related to the position of Zoning Administrator by Billye D. Custis and seconded by Rose Pierson at 8:07pm.

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

Open Session & Certification of Closed Session

Motion: To return to Open Session (8:22pm) by Billye D. Custis and seconded by Rose Pierson.

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

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; Custis-yes; Finney-yes; Harmon-yes; Pierson-yes; Rillo-yes; Zember-yes.

Minutes from Onley Town Council
Public Hearing(s) for Proposed McMath Park Budget, Re-Appropriation of Town Hall Construction Funds
& Regular Monthly Meeting
August 12, 2019

Adjourn


Motion: To adjourn at 8:23 pm by Billye D. Custis and seconded by Rose Pierson.

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

MOTION PASSED

Respectfully submitted by,


Alissa Yoder
Town Clerk


Matthew D. Hart
Mayor