

Onley Town Council
Regular Monthly Meeting
Minutes of September 14, 2020

Regular Monthly Meeting of the Onley Town Council held at the Onley Baptist Church, 25501 W. Main Street, on the 14th day of September A.D., 2020:

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

Council Members Absent: Woody Zember

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

Call to Order

Mayor Hart called the meeting to order at 6:25pm

Invocation & Pledge of Allegiance

The invocation was given by Rose Pierson and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Billye D Custis.

Adoption of Agenda –

Motion: To adopt the agenda as written by Billye D. Custis and seconded by Susan Rillo.

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

MOTION PASSED

Consideration of Minutes –

Motion: To accept the minutes from August 3, 2020 as written by Rose Pierson and seconded by Ned Finney.

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

MOTION PASSED

Department Reports

Police Report & Schedule (Revised September 2020 and October 2020) – Chief Spivey presented council with the Police Report from September 2020, along with Revised September and October schedules. Chief Spivey also discussed the cost of in-car camera system/body cameras and pros and cons of various systems, along with the cost, data retention, and liability. He noted that all vehicles besides his own have had no issues with the in-car cameras. Vice-Mayor Finney spoke of the need for body cameras. Chief Spivey told council that he does not have money in the budget for a new system.

Councilwoman Custis requested cost for the systems from Chief Spivey. Chief Spivey agreed that he will investigate the cost of in-car cameras with body cameras. He also spoke of qualified immunity for police officers, and the importance of cameras due to the possibility of qualified immunity being removed.

Motion: To rescind motion to repair the 2014 Impala at \$1,837.77 by Ned Finney and seconded by Susan Rillo.

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

MOTION PASSED

Motion: To repair the 2014 Impala in the amount of \$1,252.74 by Ned Finney and seconded by Susan Rillo.

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

MOTION PASSED

Motion: To approve the Revised September 2020 and October 2020 Police Schedule by Susan Rillo and seconded by Rose Pierson.

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

MOTION PASSED

Treasurer’s Report – Payables (August 2020) – Ms. Salazar presented council with the Treasurer’s Report for August 2020. A copy of this is available at the town office. Ms. Salazar also requested council’s approval for moving \$25,000 into the regular checking account from the money market account to cover possible expenses.

Motion: To transfer \$25,000 from the money market account to the regular checking account by Billye D. Custis and seconded by Susan Rillo.

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

MOTION PASSED

Motion: To pay the payables for August by Susan Rillo and seconded by Rose Pierson

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

MOTION PASSED

Town Manager’s Report/Zoning Administrator’s Report/Public Works Report - Ms. Salazar presented council with the Town Manager’s Report/Zoning Administrator’s Report/Public Works Report for August 2020. A copy of this is available at the town office.

Attorney’s Report – Ms. Kellam reported that she prepared the E-Ticket Ordinance and researched the town lot issue.

Planning Commission Report – Councilwoman Pierson noted that there is nothing new to report.

Old Business

Property at 25571 E. Main St./New Town Office Committee Report – Councilwoman Pierson reported that the committee is pursuing another possibility of a new town office. She stated that the Veteran’s building on Main Street may become available for purchase and inquired about council’s interest in it. All council members present were interested in pursuing the property, if available. Ms. Salazar was instructed to create a letter from the town to the property owner expressing interest in the building and inquiring about a price if the owner is interested in selling.

George N. McMath Park Committee Report – Councilwoman Custis presented council with the George N. McMath Park Committee Report for August 2020. A copy of this is available at the town office. She noted that the committee would like motions to purchase of a train as playground equipment, to purchase rubber mulch, signs displayed at the park, and security cameras at the park. Council discussed

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these topics with Councilwoman Custis, along with committee member Bryan Daffin and Chief Spivey. Council also discussed possible holiday events at the park.

Motion: To purchase the 4-car train for \$7,625.00 by Susan Rillo and seconded by Rose Pierson.

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

MOTION PASSED

Motion: To purchase green signs with white lettering for the McMath Park by Rose Pierson and seconded by Susan Rillo.

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

MOTION PASSED

Motion: To set park hours from 7:00am to dusk by Rose Pierson and seconded by Susan Rillo.

Roll Call Vote: Custis–no; Finney–yes; Harmon–yes; Pierson–yes; Rillo- yes; Zember-absent

MOTION PASSED

Motion: To rescind the motion to set park hours from 7:00am to dusk by Rose Pierson and seconded by Susan Rillo.

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

MOTION PASSED

Motion: To set park hours from dawn to dusk by Rose Pierson and seconded by Susan Rillo.

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

MOTION PASSED

Motion: To purchase and install cameras in the George N. McMath Park not to exceed \$4,000.00 by Rose Pierson and seconded by Susan Rillo.

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

MOTION PASSED

Beautification Committee Report – Ms. Salazar noted that all banners have been removed and there will be holiday banners going up in the fall. Ms. Salazar also discussed banner hardware, location and installation with council.

Historical Preservation Committee Report – Councilwoman Pierson stated that the committee is planning on having a telephone meeting later this month.

Survey of Town Owned Property Next to Ag. Bldg. – Vice-Mayor Finney noted that the town-owned property is still being used to park vehicles on, and he inquired with Ms. Kellam about what recourse can be taken. Ms. Kellam stated that the gravel needs to be removed by Mayor Hart, who is the property owner next to the town-owned property, and Mayor Hart can no longer park his vehicle on the property. Mayor Hart removed himself as Mayor and spoke as a citizen. Councilwoman Custis asked Mayor Hart what he believes would be the best way to resolve the issue. Mr. Hart spoke that he believes there was a driveway there before he bought the property due to remnants of a shell driveway that he observed in the grass. He stated that he also looked on the accomap website and it seemed to him that his driveway was on his property. However, he stated, when getting his land surveyed for a fence, he found that this was not the case. Mr. Hart believes that this is a personal attack on him from the council. Ms. Kellam noted that if council allows Mr. Hart to have a driveway on the town-owned property, this action sets a precedent for all the residents of the town and all property in town, which she believes should worry the council. She also noted to council that there have been issues with this particular property line. Council discussed the legal options with Ms. Kellam and Mr. Hart.

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Motion: To send a notification letter from the town to the property owner next door to the town-owned property that states the property owner needs to remove stone from the town-owned property and the property owner must cease to park on the town-owned property by Billye D. Custis and seconded by Claudia Harmon.

Roll Call Vote: Custis–yes; Finney–yes; Harmon–yes; Pierson–yes; Rillo- yes; Zember-absent
MOTION PASSED

CARES Act Update/Certification for Receipt – Ms. Salazar updated council that there has been a second disbursement of CARES Act money and the Town of Onley is entitled to the same amount of \$43,934.00. She noted to council that they may decline the amount, and that last time the Town kept \$9,000.00. Ms. Salazar suggested using some money for purchasing sanitizing equipment for the McMath Park. Councilwoman Custis inquired about COVID signs for the park. Ms. Salazar stated that she will look into using it for that as well.

Motion: To keep \$3,934.00 from the CARES Act money by Billye D. Custis and seconded by Susan Rillo.
Roll Call Vote: Custis–yes; Finney–yes; Harmon–yes; Pierson–yes; Rillo- yes; Zember-absent
MOTION PASSED

Motion: To donate \$40,000.00 back to the Cares Act by Billye D. Custis and seconded by Susan Rillo.
Roll Call Vote: Custis–yes; Finney–yes; Harmon–yes; Pierson–yes; Rillo- yes; Zember-absent
MOTION PASSED

New Business

Ordinance #004-20 E-Tickets – Ms. Kellam reported that after speaking with Chief Spivey, she has created Ordinance #004-20 E Tickets, and explained the contents of the ordinance.

Motion: To approve Ordinance #004-20 E-Tickets by Billye D. Custis and seconded by Susan Rillo.
Roll Call Vote: Custis–yes; Finney–yes; Harmon–yes; Pierson–yes; Rillo- yes; Zember-absent
MOTION PASSED

Open Bids for Purchase of 2010 Ford Explorer – Ms. Salazar opened the bids for the purchase of the 2010 Ford Explorer. She noted to council that all the bids were received before the deadline, and they have remained sealed and locked. The bids were opened in the order that they were received and are attached.

Motion: To accept Forest Drummond’s bid in the amount of \$3,600.00 by Billye D. Custis and seconded by Rose Pierson.

Roll Call Vote: Custis–yes; Finney–yes; Harmon–yes; Pierson–yes; Rillo- yes; Zember-absent
MOTION PASSED

Public Comments – There were no public comments made during this time.

Council Comments- Councilwoman Rillo thanked everyone for coming as well as all town employees, and she was sorry Councilman Zember was not able to make it. She noted that she believed it was a productive meeting.

Councilwoman Harmon stated that she was excited about how the meeting went and everyone behaved during the meeting. She thanked Ms. Kellam for keeping the meeting “on track”. Councilwoman Harmon also thanked John Dennis for all his work at the park.

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Councilwoman Pierson thanked everyone for coming and noted that she believed it was a very good meeting.

Councilwoman Custis thanked council for all the motions made for the park this evening. She encouraged everyone to look at the progress that has been made there. She also thanked Ms. Salazar for her assistance.

Councilman Finney thanked the town employees, especially the Police Department. He noted that the gesture of a police officer stopping at his driveway to say hello recently showed a genuine concern for the town and its' residents. Councilman Finney also thanked John Dennis and Councilwoman Custis for all their hard work on the park. He noted that they have saved the town a lot of money with their help.

Closed Session

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 Personnel Matters pertaining to the Police Department & General Government, specifically related to employee evaluations at 9:03 pm by Billye D. Custis and seconded by Susan Rillo.

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

Open Session & Certification of Close Session

Motion: To return to Open Session at 9:40pm by Billye D. Custis and seconded by Rose Pierson.

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

Adjourn

Motion: To adjourn at 9:42pm by Rose Pierson and seconded by Susan Rillo

**Roll Call Vote: Custis–yes; Finney–yes; Harmon–yes; Pierson–yes; Rillo- yes; Zember-absent
Motion Passed**

Respectfully Submitted,

Alissa Yoder, Clerk

Matthew D. Hart, Mayor