

**Onley Town Council
Regular Monthly Meeting
Minutes of March 3, 2025
Onley Town Office, 25308 Lankford Highway, Onley, VA**

Council Members Present: Ned Finney, Mayor
Bill Ferguson, Vice-Mayor
Daniel Bloxom
Jason Campbell
Brian Corbin
Rodney Lang

Council Members Absent: Woody Zember

Staff Present: Carl Bundick, Town Attorney
E. J. Long, Chief of Police, OPD
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

The invocation was given by Councilman Corbin. Vice-Mayor Ferguson led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Adoption of Agenda

Mr. Ferguson asked to remove item #6A. Fire Department Water Supply Portable/Floating Fire Pumps from the agenda. He stated he has not received the documentation needed on this matter at this time.

Motion: To adopt the agenda with the change by Jason Campbell and seconded by Bill Ferguson. Roll

Call Vote: Bloxom -yes; Campbell – yes; Corbin- yes; Ferguson- yes; Lang– yes; Zember - absent.

MOTION PASSED

Commission/Committee Reports

Public Works Garage Committee – Ms. Rillo reported that the metal building has been installed at the site. She has contacted ANEC, and they will be installing above ground service at the site within the next four weeks. She has contacted Bundick Well & Pump, and she is now waiting to hear back from them. She plans to get exterior lighting, cameras and possibly an alarm installed very soon.

Procurement Policy Committee – Mr. Corbin reported that due to illness and bad weather, they have only had one meeting but they plan to meet again on Wednesday, March 5th at 4:00.

Town Office Construction Committee – Ms. Rillo reported that the Committee has decided that they will need to meet at 8:30am to accommodate everyone’s schedule. She said that they had their first meeting this morning at the site. Mr. Lang said he thinks until the public works garage is complete, it may be hard to figure out the footprint for the new town office. He would like to see something around 2400 – 2500 square feet with three offices and a nice meeting space. He would like to see two handicapped accessible bathrooms and some storage. He asked that everyone give their input – not just the committee members. He said he did not realize until recently that the town has been trying to build

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something since 2012. Mr. Bloxom agreed with Mr. Lang’s statement and reiterated that he would like to have everyone’s input also.

Old Business

There was no old business to discuss.

New Business

Council will meet on March 19, 2025, at 6:00pm to start working on the 2025-2026 Proposed Draft Budget.

Department Reports

Police Report

Chief Long presented Council with the monthly report(s) for his department. He stated that he has had a request from the Book Bin to do a “Coffee with a Cop” event. He will also have his officers participate in a read-along there as well. Lastly, he said his department normally helps with security at the CALL’s Spring event. He said that no one has reached out to him at this time but if they do, we will be participating. Mayor Finney suggested that Chief Long reach out to them. Mr. Corbin stated that the report numbers look much better – he praised Chief Long for turning things around so quickly.

Treasurer’s Report

Ms. Salazar presented her financial report to Council, noting that the numbers are as of February 27, 2025. She asked to make a correction from last month’s meeting. She noted that the amount of the CD that was closed at PNC Bank was \$515,827.83 – not \$898,893.32. She said she picked up the amount (on last month’s agenda) that was in the PNC Bank money market account – not the CD. She added that the CD has been closed, and those funds have been deposited into the PNC Bank money market account. She presented Council with current CD rates from the three banks in town that accept public funds. She noted that the rates on the currently open money market accounts are higher than the CD rates, but they are not locked in for a specific term.

Motion: To keep the funds in the money market accounts and give Ms. Salazar the authority to make changes as necessary (based on rates) by Rodney Lang and seconded by Brian Corbin. Roll Call Vote:

Bloxom -yes; Campbell – yes; Corbin- yes; Ferguson- yes; Lang– yes; Zember - absent. MOTION PASSED

Ms. Salazar also reported the following: (1) the 2024 supplemental tax bills were mailed this month, (2) two restaurants are delinquent on meals tax payments, two hotels are delinquent with transient occupancy tax (3) the VRSA yearly renewal questionnaire has been completed (4) there are about 12 businesses that have not renewed their BPOL’s (5) James Elliott is preparing to sell two properties in town for delinquent real estate – she approved the ad for the newspaper today. She has not reported anyone to the DMV for delinquent taxes at this time since the DMV is having some issues that they need to resolve. Lastly, she told Council that the Virginia Department of Taxation is now requiring that someone from the Town be certified to accept bank franchise tax. She is in the process of taking about 20 classes that are required for the certification.

Motion: To pay the February 2025 payables by Bill Ferguson and seconded by Daniel Bloxom. Roll Call

Vote: Bloxom -yes; Campbell – yes; Corbin- yes; Ferguson- yes; Lang– yes; Zember - absent. MOTION PASSED

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Town Manager's Report

Ms. Rillo reported that the garage building is complete. She has decided to do an egg hunt at the park on April 5, 2025, at 2:00 with a rain date of April 12, 2025. She asked that all Council Members help with the event. Mayor Finney suggested a committee – guaranteeing that everyone on the committee attend and help. Ms. Rillo asked for volunteers to serve. Mr. Campbell volunteered to serve with Ms. Rillo. There is a birthday party booked at the park for late March. Percy is planning to fill the pond at the park and check for leaks. If there is still a leak, we will need to decide how to proceed since they do not make liners big enough for what we have out there. She issued one domesticated fowl permit.

Attorney's Report

Mr. Bundick reported that while he was preparing last month to write a letter to the building company, we got word that it was being delivered so he did not need to write the letter.

Consideration of Minutes

Motion: To adopt the minutes of February 3, 2025, Regular Monthly Meeting by Daniel Bloxom and seconded by Bill Ferguson. Roll Call Vote: Bloxom -yes; Campbell – yes; Corbin- yes; Ferguson- yes; Lang– yes; Zember - absent. MOTION PASSED

Public Comments

Billye D. Custis said that the discussion of building a new town office starting back in 2006. She thinks the “Coffee with a Cop” and the reading event sound good, but she reminded everyone that they now have a DARE officer on Council. She asked if maybe he could participate in some events. Mr. Campbell said he will see what he can do.

Toni Nelson stated that she hasn't been to a meeting in a while, but it is nice to meet Mr. Campbell. She thanked everyone for all that they do for the town.

Council Comments

Mr. Campbell thanked everyone for coming. He said he is excited about the new town office construction.

Mr. Ferguson thanked everyone for all that they do for the town. He feels there is no reason that they can't get a town office built this term.

Mr. Bloxom thanked everyone for coming. He thinks the new public works garage looks great and he can't wait to see the inside completed.

Mr. Corbin said he thinks everything is going well. He noted that the new garage and McMath Park both look great. He is happy to see some changes within the police department.

Mr. Lang stated that as a citizen of the town, he really appreciates how nice the park looks, and he is proud of the public works garage. It makes him feel like he is living in a nice town. He told Chief Long that he likes the changes he sees within the police department report.

Mayor Finney thanked everyone for all that they do in this town. He feels that if we don't have a lot of complaints and a lot of people showing up at the meetings, then things must be going well.

Closed Session

Motion: To go into closed session (6:38pm) 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 Onley Police Department, specifically related to a continued discussion (from last month) of the evaluation of Officer Philip Barringer; the resignation of a police officer and

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discussion of the upcoming vacancy within the police department by Bill Ferguson and seconded by Rodney Lang. Roll Call Vote: Bloxom -yes; Campbell – yes; Corbin- yes; Ferguson- yes; Lang– yes; Zember - absent. MOTION PASSED

Open Session & Certification of Closed Session

Motion: To return to open session (6:51pm) by Bill Ferguson and seconded by Rodney Lang. Roll Call Vote: Bloxom -yes; Campbell – yes; Corbin- yes; Ferguson- yes; Lang– yes; Zember - absent. 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:** Finney – yes; Bloxom -yes; Campbell – yes; Corbin- yes; Ferguson- yes; Lang– yes; Zember - absent.

Motion: To rescind the probationary status of Officer Barringer effective immediately by Bill Ferguson and seconded by Rodney Lang. Roll Call Vote: Bloxom -yes; Campbell – yes; Corbin- yes; Ferguson- yes; Lang– yes; Zember - absent. MOTION PASSED

Adjourn

Motion: To adjourn (6:52pm) by Jason Campbell and seconded by Bill Ferguson. Roll Call Vote: Bloxom -yes; Campbell – yes; Corbin- yes; Ferguson- yes; Lang– yes; Zember - absent. MOTION PASSED

Respectfully submitted,



Jamye L. Salazar, Clerk/Treasurer



Henry E. Finney, Mayor