

**Onley Town Council
Special Meeting/Budget Amendment Workshop
Minutes of January 13, 2026
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
Woody Zember

Staff Present: 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 Vice-Mayor Ferguson. Councilman Lang led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Adoption of Agenda

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

Proposed 2025-2026 Budget Amendment(s)

Ms. Rillo presented the proposed 2025-2026 Budget Amendments to Council. A copy of the amendment worksheet will be attached to the original minutes. She noted that we have a balanced budget and that we no longer have a reserve to balance amount. The following questions were asked by Council:

1. Mr. Campbell asked if the amount set for interest income is sustainable. Ms. Rillo said that it is.
2. Mr. Corbin expressed concern that the credit card service charges are higher than anticipated. He asked why we are not recouping more of those costs from the card users. Ms. Rillo explained that we can only pass fees along to people using actual credit cards – debit card users cannot be charged fees. He asked why we even have the credit card machine to begin with because we did fine for many years without it. Ms. Rillo responded that people have asked for it. Mr. Corbin said he doesn't think too many people have asked for it since we've only made \$8.00 in fees. Mr. Campbell asked if we need the credit card machine to accept debit and credit payments. Ms. Rillo said that we do. She noted that she thinks we have been able to collect more taxes since we have had the credit card machine. Billye D. Custis said if people are using their debit card, they should be able to write a check. Ms. Rillo said that people do not use checks anymore.
3. Mr. Corbin asked how many officers we can hire with the reduced amount of police salaries. Ms. Rillo said there is enough there to cover the cost of hiring an additional two officers, if possible. She noted that there is also enough to cover the 100-hour overtime program that was implemented a few months ago.
4. Mr. Corbin asked how come we were so far off on the original police equipment expense amount. Ms. Rillo reminded him that we had two Axon bills in the amount of \$16,000.00 each that we did not plan for in the current budget.

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5. Mr. Zember asked if the fact that we were able to cut police salaries (due to lack of officers) was a big factor in balancing this budget without the need for reserves. Ms. Rillo said that it is. Mr. Campbell said while he doesn't like that reason, he does appreciate the fact that Ms. Rillo and Ms. Salazar were able to balance the budget without going into the town's reserve funds.

Motion: To send the Proposed 2025-2026 Amended Budget to Public Hearing by Brian Corbin and seconded by Daniel Bloxom. Roll Call Vote: Bloxom -yes; Campbell – yes; Corbin- yes; Ferguson- yes; Lang– yes; Zember - yes. MOTION PASSED

Adjourn

Motion: To adjourn (6:16pm) by Daniel Bloxom and seconded by Jason Campbell. Roll Call Vote: Bloxom -yes; Campbell – yes; Corbin- yes; Ferguson- yes; Lang– yes; Zember - yes. MOTION PASSED

Respectfully submitted,



Janie L. Salazar, Clerk/Treasurer



Henry E. Finney, Mayor