

**Onley Town Council
Public Hearing(s) & Regular Monthly Meeting
Minutes of June 1, 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: Carl Bundick, Town Attorney
 E. J. Long, Chief of Police, OPD
 Jamye Salazar, Town Manager

Call to Order

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

Invocation & Pledge of Allegiance

The invocation was given by Councilman Campbell. Councilman Corbin led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Adoption of Agenda

Mayor Finney asked that Council add to the Closed Session portion of the agenda, "Discussion of a Certified Candidate to fill Police Department Vacancy".

Motion: To adopt the agenda with the addition mentioned above Bill Ferguson and seconded by Jason Campbell. Roll Call Vote: Bloxom -yes; Campbell – yes; Corbin- yes; Ferguson – yes; Lang– yes; Zember - yes. MOTION PASSED

Public Hearing for Proposed 2026-2027 Budget

Mayor Finney called the hearing to order at 6:01pm. Ms. Salazar read the rules for public participation. Ms. Salazar presented the Proposed 2026-2027 budget, noting that it is a balanced budget using a reserve of \$16,514.00, and it was properly advertised. A copy will be attached to the original minutes and available upon request. No one signed up to speak so there were no public comments. Mayor Finney adjourned the public hearing at 6:05pm.

Public Hearing for the Re-appropriation of Balance of Funds Remaining – George N. McMath Park Budget

Mayor Finney called the hearing to order at 6:05pm. Ms. Salazar presented the George N. McMath Park Budget. A copy will be attached to the original minutes and available upon request. No one signed up to speak so there were no public comments. Mayor Finney adjourned the public hearing at 6:06pm.

Public Hearing for the Re-appropriation of Balance of Funds Remaining & Additional Funds Added – New Town Hall Construction Budget

Mayor Finney called the hearing to order at 6:06pm. Ms. Salazar presented the New Town Hall Construction Budget. A copy will be attached to the original minutes and available upon request. No one signed up to speak so there were no public comments. Mayor Finney adjourned the public hearing at 6:07pm.

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Regular Monthly Meeting (cont'd)

Commission/Committee Reports

Town Office Construction Committee – Ms. Salazar reported that the committee has not met this month but there is a “kick-off” meeting planned tomorrow morning at 10:00am with Becker Morgan Group. Ms. Salazar asked Council to approve the addition of Councilman Corbin to the committee to act as an alternate committee member or a liaison between the Council, the committee, and the architectural firm. She further explained that we will begin holding weekly meetings (a condition of the contract signed with the architectural firm), and she wants to make sure that we always have a Council/Committee Member present for the meetings so we do not hinder progress should someone be unable to attend a meeting.

Mayor Finney said that he feels that it’s good to serve on a committee, but if you do not know what you are doing or you don’t have the time to attend the meetings, you should step down and let someone serve that does. He added that Mr. Corbin has the knowledge and the time to work on this project. Mr. Lang agreed that Mr. Corbin would be a great addition as a liaison since he has the time to serve. Council agreed to Mr. Corbin serving as an alternate/liaison on the Town Office Construction Committee.

Employee Committee – Mr. Campbell reported that they have not met this month but have a meeting planned for June 9th at 4:00.

Old Business

Ms. Salazar said that there have been no formal requests for donations from anyone at this time, other than the organizations that we have already given to in this fiscal year. Mr. Bloxom stated that he has mentioned it several times to CALL and they have not responded. Mayor Finney said (as far as he’s concerned) this concludes donations for this year. Mr. Zember agreed and added that we shouldn’t have to do so much work to give people donations.

Mr. Campbell said that Ms. Salazar created the Facebook poll asking about interest in the McMath Park Campout event. He said that it did get some attention but not a lot. He agreed with Mr. Bloxom’s earlier statement that it may be too hot to hold this type of event for the next few months. He would prefer to revisit this idea in the fall. He suggested that we consider a movie night at the park. He will research the costs associated with that and report back to Council at another meeting.

New Business

Council set a date of June 9, 2026, at 6:00 pm to come back and adopt the 2026-2027 Proposed Budget, the George N. McMath Park budget, and the New Town Office Construction budget.

In the matter of the fire company donation, Mr. Bloxom said he would like to donate 1/3 of the \$20,000.00 budgeted to Tasley and 2/3 to Onancock. Mr. Ferguson stated that while Onancock provides ambulance services, they now have four fire medics – not two- provided by the County and they get ambulance coverage. Mr. Campbell asked who the town’s first due provider is. Mr. Ferguson said it depends on where you are located, stating that this area (Four Corners) is Onancock but for most of Onley, it is Tasley. Mr. Campbell said he is okay with a 50/50 split. Mr. Zember agreed to 50/50. Mr. Corbin said he feels there are more ambulance calls for Onley than fire, so he agrees with Mr. Bloxom. Mr. Campbell suggested a 60/40 split. Mr. Lang said he is okay with 60/40.

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Motion: To split the fire company donation giving 60% to Onancock Fire Department and 40% to Tasley Fire Company by Jason Campbell and seconded by Woody Zember. Roll Call Vote: Bloxom -no; Campbell – yes; Corbin- no; Ferguson – abstain; Lang– yes; Zember - yes. MOTION PASSED

Ms. Salazar asked Council if they would like to stay in the Accomack County Litter Grant Cooperative or if they would like to return to our original process of having her apply for the grant on behalf of the town. She explained that while we do get a lesser amount by joining the County, it is not significant. She added that the use of funds is very strict and we do not qualify for anything except the garbage bags and litter grabbers.

Motion: To continue with the Accomack County Cooperative in pursuit of the litter grant by Jason Campbell and seconded by Daniel Bloxom. Roll Call Vote: Bloxom -yes; Campbell – yes; Corbin- yes; Ferguson – yes; Lang– yes; Zember - yes. MOTION PASSED

Ms. Salazar presented Council with a draft Charter Communications Franchise agreement (in the Council packets under separate cover). She explained that this document is what enables us to collect communications tax from the Commonwealth of VA. She added that this document was supposedly sent to us back in 2023 and never returned to them and they have just realized it. She noted that it is a ten-year agreement. Mr. Bundick asked how much communications tax we collect. She replied approximately \$3,600.00 per year.

Motion: To accept and sign the Charter Communications Franchise agreement by Jason Campbell and seconded by Woody Zember. Roll Call Vote: Bloxom -yes; Campbell – yes; Corbin- yes; Ferguson – yes; Lang– yes; Zember - yes. MOTION PASSED

Ms. Salazar said that quite a few years ago, we started to budget an additional \$1,000.00 to pay the Grant Coordinator but Council has never made the motion to actually give it to her. She asked that Council consider making the motion to increase her pay from \$1,000.00 per year to \$2,000.00 per year effective immediately so we can give her the remaining balance of \$1,250.00. She noted that Ms. Finney is quite busy with her regular job but still makes the time to help the town. She added that Ms. Finney has not asked for this and is probably not even aware that it is on the agenda tonight, but she (Ms. Salazar) thinks it would be a nice gesture to show our appreciation.

Motion: To increase the Grant Coordinator's annual pay from \$1,000.00 to \$2,000.00 effective immediately giving her the entire balance remaining of \$1,250.00 in this fiscal year by Rodney Lang and seconded by Jason Campbell. Roll Call Vote: Bloxom -yes; Campbell – yes; Corbin- yes; Ferguson – yes; Lang– yes; Zember - yes. MOTION PASSED

Mayor Finney noted that he was not involved in this discussion or decision but did add that Kristie has been doing this for the town for many years and has never had a raise nor asked for one, but he is sure she would want him to thank everyone on her behalf.

Ms. Salazar asked Council to approve the purchase of two 55-gallon drums of Biomist at a cost of \$5,174.98, noting that we only have about \$4,774.17 but she thinks we should buy some out of this fiscal budget.

Motion: To purchase two 55-gallon barrels of Biomist at a cost of \$5,174.98 by Jason Campbell and seconded by Rodney Lang. Roll Call Vote: Bloxom -yes; Campbell – yes; Corbin- yes; Ferguson – yes; Lang– yes; Zember - yes. MOTION PASSED

Mr. Campbell warned his fellow Council Members about using their personal email accounts for town business. He reminded them that doing so makes their entire personal email account subject to FOIA. He offered to help everyone with setting up their town email accounts on their phones.

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Department Reports

Police Report

Chief Long presented Council with his report, noting that the ticket numbers are not included since the internet is down at this time. He will forward them to Council once the internet is up and running. He will be attending training on Friday for Instructor Recertification and Officer Anderson will be attending General Instructor training very soon. The speed signs are working properly, and he believes that the solar panel problem has been resolved – he has not changed a battery in either sign since April. He asked where Council would like the sign moved to next. Ms. Salazar said there has been a request to set it up along Coastal Blvd. Chief Long said he will need to get permission from the property owner. Mr. Lang would like it along E. Main Street. Mayor Finney suggested that Chief Long keep moving it around to different locations.

Treasurer's Report

Ms. Salazar presented her written report to Council noting that there are two businesses that are two months delinquent on meals tax and one that is one month delinquent. Mr. Zember asked why the total cash on hand (report) didn't change much from last month. Ms. Salazar said it increased about \$100,000.00. Mr. Zember apologized, stating that he looked at it wrong.

Motion: To pay the May 2026 payables by Daniel Bloxom and seconded by Bill Ferguson. Roll Call

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

Town Manager/Zoning Administrator Report

In the interest of time, Ms. Salazar's report will be attached to the original minutes and is available upon request. She asked Council to give her guidance on one issue: the need for zoning consultation services from outside sources. She explained that we have been tasked with reviewing and approving site plans for a proposed new construction/build/business coming to town and she does not feel comfortable doing so without guidance from a professional. She added that due to our procurement ordinance, we may have to send it out for bid, but she is concerned about the turnaround time in doing that. She explained that in the past, we have utilized Kimley-Horne, a consulting firm, but Mayor Finney has suggested that we contact Norman Pitt. Mr. Pitt is able to help with this issue if necessary and that may save us some money.

Attorney's Report

Mr. Bundick reported that he has worked with Ms. Salazar about several zoning issues. He noted that in the matter of the display yard at the old Burger King location, we will not have the ability to put an end date on that endeavor. His concern is that we may not be happy with the result, so he noted that we cannot request that they make changes under the current zoning ordinance. In the matter of the Charter Communications franchise agreement, his concern is that it is a ten-year agreement that did not reveal how it was going to provide anything beneficial to the town, however, Ms. Salazar did some additional research and learned of the communications tax aspect.

At this time, Ms. Salazar asked that Council give her some guidance as to how they wish to proceed with the zoning consultation firm. She reiterated that if we follow our procurement policy, we need to issue an RFP, however, that is time-consuming. Mr. Campbell agreed, stating that he does not want to hold up the project. Several Council members agreed that we do not want to be the reason that this project is

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put on hold. Mr. Campbell asked if we could ask the county to review it for us. Mr. Bundick offered to speak with Lee Pambit and ask his thoughts, perhaps even ask him to attend the meeting next week.

Motion: To issue an RFP/RFQ for Zoning Consultation by Rodney Lang and seconded by Woody

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

Consideration of Minutes

Motion: To adopt the minutes of May 4, 2026, Regular Monthly Meeting by Bill Ferguson and

seconded by Rodney Lang. Roll Call Vote: Bloxom -yes; Campbell – yes; Corbin- yes; Ferguson – yes; Lang– yes; Zember - yes. MOTION PASSED

Motion: To adopt the minutes of May 11, 2026, Special Meeting by Rodney Lang and seconded by

Woody Zember. Roll Call Vote: Bloxom -yes; Campbell – abstain; Corbin- yes; Ferguson – yes; Lang– yes; Zember - yes. MOTION PASSED

Public Comments

Billye D. Custis said that when the RFP/RFQ is issued for zoning services, we need to verify qualifications because we have had some issues in the past, so we need a company that is insured and knows what they are doing.

Council Comments

Mr. Campbell apologized for missing the last meeting.

Mr. Ferguson thanked everyone for their hard work. He is amazed at Ms. Salazar’s level of productivity and expertise.

Mr. Bloxom said he hopes everyone decorates and participates in the Patriotic Decorating contest.

Mr. Corbin said there is a lot going on but he doesn’t want to delay the new business coming to town. He believes that it will be a real asset to Onley.

Mr. Zember thanked everyone for coming to the meeting. He thanked the employees for all they do. He thanked Ms. Salazar, adding that while her report is long, it is very informative and he now feels up to date on everything going on in town. He is disappointed that CALL didn’t come to the meeting.

Mr. Lang agreed that we don’t want to hold up the progress of the new business coming to town. He is excited about the meeting tomorrow with the architect.

Mayor Finney thanked everyone for their hard work. He told Ms. Salazar that she always does a great job. He said that he will get the other set of cornhole boards/concrete finished within a few weeks.

Closed Session

Motion: To go into Closed Session (7:04pm) 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 General Government, Public Works and the Onley Police Department, specifically related to employee evaluations and potential salary changes; and discussion of a certified candidate to fill the police department vacancy by Jason Campbell and seconded by Bill Ferguson. Roll Call Vote: Bloxom -yes; Campbell – yes; Corbin- yes; Ferguson – yes; Lang– yes; Zember - yes. MOTION PASSED

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Open Session & Certification of Closed Session

Motion: To return to Open Session (7:48pm) by Jason Campbell and seconded by Rodney Lang. Roll

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

Adjourn

Motion: To adjourn (7:49pm) by Jason Campbell and seconded by Rodney Lang. Roll Call Vote: Bloxom

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

Respectfully submitted,



Janaye L. Salazar, Town Manager



Henry E. Finney, Mayor