**Onley Town Council**
**Joint Public Hearings & Regular Monthly Meeting**
**Minutes of October 13, 2026 (Postponed from October 5, 2026)**
**Onley Town Office, 25308 Lankford Highway, Onley, VA**

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| Council Members Present: | Ned Finney, Mayor<br>Bill Ferguson, Vice-Mayor<br>Daniel Bloxom<br>Jason Campbell<br>Brian Corbin<br>Rodney Lang<br>Woody Zember |
| Planning Commission Present: | Jason Campbell, Chairman<br>Billye D. Custis<br>Tom Cherry (arrived 6:02pm)<br>Andrea Zember, Vice-Chairman |
| Staff Present: | Carl Bundick, Town Attorney<br>Jennifer Clark, Clerk<br>E. J. Long, Chief of Police, OPD<br>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 Bloxom and Councilman Campbell led the Pledge of Allegiance.

At this time, Mayor Finney stated that before the agenda is adopted, Council should consider adding possible litigation involving the town to the Closed Session discussion.

**Adoption of Agenda**
**Motion: To adopt the agenda, adding possible litigation involving the town to the Closed Session discussion, 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

**Call to Order of Planning Commission Meeting**
Jason Campbell, Chairman of the Planning Commission, called the Planning Commission meeting to order at 6:02pm. He stated the names of the Commissioners that are present for the record. (see above)

**Town Council & Planning Commission Joint Public Hearings on Proposed Zoning Ordinance Amendments**
Mayor Finney called the Onley Town Council's hearing to order at 6:02pm and established a quorum. Mr. Campbell called the Planning Commission's hearing to order at 6:02pm and established a quorum. Ms. Salazar read the Rules for Public Participation. She then presented the statement of facts for the Amendments to Zoning Ordinance Section III.4.3 & III.4.5. A copy of the information will be attached to the original minutes. No one signed up to speak so there were no public comments.

**Motion: To adjourn the Planning Commission's Public Hearing by Jason Campbell and seconded by Billye D. Custis. Roll Call Vote:** Campbell – yes; Cherry – yes; Custis- yes; Zember - yes. MOTION PASSED
**Motion: To adjourn the Onley Town Council's Public Hearing by Bill Ferguson and seconded by Woody Zember. Roll Call Vote:** Bloxom -yes; Campbell – yes; Corbin- yes; Ferguson – yes; Lang– yes; Zember - yes. MOTION PASSED
Mr. Campbell adjourned the Planning Commission meeting at 6:10pm.

**Regular Monthly Meeting (cont'd)**

**Commission/Committee Reports**

***Town Office Construction Committee*** – Ms. Salazar reported that the committee has not met since the last Council meeting but there is a meeting scheduled (with the architect) for October 29th. She was hoping to have the pricing for moving the well at tonight's meeting but, unfortunately, they have not provided that information at this time. She will leave that on the agenda for next month's meeting.

***Employee Committee*** – Mr. Campbell said the committee met last week, and they have reached the end of the Administrative Policy manual. They are still finalizing some details and have another meeting scheduled. They are hoping after that meeting to have something to present to Council.

***Planning Commission*** – Mr. Campbell stated that at last meeting, they discussed the Zoning Ordinance Amendments that were discussed earlier in the night, and their recommendation was read during the Public Hearing.

**Old Business**
**Motion: To accept the Planning Commission's recommendations to amend Zoning Ordinance Section III-4.3 & III-4.5 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
Ms. Salazar asked Council to re-visit the matter of the park rules. She noted that it was recently brought to her attention that one of the rules on the current sign states "no firearms" allowed in the park. Apparently, this matter was discussed a while back under the previous Town Manager and Council did not wish to make that rule feeling that it may infringe on 2nd Amendment rights. She asked Council for a definitive decision before she orders the new park signs. Mr. Bundick said it has been held possible that a jurisdiction can limit carrying firearms into government properties if Council decides that public safety warrants the prohibition. He also mentioned the possibility of law enforcement officers in the park carrying weapons. Mr. Lang said he is in favor of allowing firearms if they are carrying them legally. Mr. Campbell said that if someone is carrying an illegal firearm, a sign is not going to stop them, but his other concern is 2nd Amendment auditors trying to prove a point at the park and we do not want "unwanted attention". Mayor Finney polled Council at this time and asked if they wish to remove that rule from the sign: Bloxom -yes; Campbell – yes; Corbin- yes; Ferguson – yes; Lang– yes; Zember - yes.

**New Business**
Ms. Salazar said that we are entering the second year of a three-year contract with C. Lee Hauling/Carl Lee Gray to install and remove our holiday decorations. The contract states if Council and Mr. Gray both agree on a price, Mr. Gray can proceed without the need for the town to re-bid the job. Mr. Gray has quoted us a price of $9,400.00 for the current year.

**Motion: To have C. Lee Hauling install and remove the holiday decorations at a cost of $9,400.00 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

Ms. Salazar asked Council to consider the possibility of purchasing cell phones for town employees to use for town business. Chief Long presented Council with pricing (through the local Verizon store) that he has acquired. A copy will be attached to the original minutes. Mr. Campbell suggested a cell phone policy be enacted if we do approve this expenditure. Ms. Salazar said that she had thought of that and plans to reach out to other towns to use their policy as a template. Chief Long said he thinks the employees should purchase their own protective cases. Mr. Cambell disagreed and said we should purchase the cases so we can choose the quality. Ms. Salazar said that there was no money budgeted for this in the current budget, but she thinks it is a necessity and we can include this line item when we amend our budget in a few months. Council decided that the phones will be distributed to all Police Officers, Town Manager and full-time Public Works employee.

**Motion: To purchase 7 (amended from 6) cell phones for employees at the rate quoted and appropriate cell phone cases by Daniel Bloxom and seconded by Jason Campebell. Roll Call Vote:** Bloxom -yes; Campbell – yes; Corbin- yes; Ferguson – yes; Lang– yes; Zember - yes. MOTION PASSED

Mayor Finney asked for Council's permission to have Ms. Salazar or Mr. Bundick write a letter from Council to Delegate Rob Bloxom asking that the General Assembly review current FOIA laws and establish some criteria for when FOIA is being used as a tool for harassment and not being used in the spirit in which it is intended. Mr. Campbell said he is concerned because we are a small town asking for the General Assembly to change a law that affects the entire state. Mayor Finney said that's how things get done. Mr. Bloxom said he cannot vote to send a letter that he has not read. Mr. Campbell agreed with Mr. Bloxom. Mr. Corbin and Mr. Zember said they do feel that we need to do something.

Mr. Bundick asked if the letter should be sent to Senator Desteph as well. Mayor Finney said he has only spoken with Delegate Bloxom, and he thinks we should start with him. Mr. Campbell asked again what it is that Mayor Finney is asking specifically (in the letter). Mayor Finney said "when does FOIA become harassment". Mr. Campbell asked if he is trying to change FOIA laws. Mayor Finney said he is not hoping to change the law – only to establish criteria for when it is being used as a form of harassment. Ms. Salazar noted that there are other agencies that have established criteria for when their agencies are being used to harass people as well as corrective actions once that criteria has been met or established. She added that she is not advocating for Council to write the letter – her job is to respond to FOIA requests regardless.

**Motion: To draft a letter to the VA General Assembly requesting how FOIA should be handled once it becomes harassment and have it brought back to Council for review by Brian Corbin and seconded by Woody Zember. Roll Call Vote:** Bloxom -abstain; Campbell – abstain; Corbin- yes; Ferguson – yes; Lang– yes; Zember - yes. MOTION PASSED

Mr. Corbin said that he visited the Public Works location this past week and he noticed that there are some repairs that need to be done to the old garage and he has supplied Ms. Salazar with a list of those things for Percy to work on. He also noted that our vehicles and our trailer should be stored in the new garage and not left outside. He added that the work benches that were built by Chief Long are not being utilized and that should change. He does not think the building is being used properly and that needs to change. Mr. Lang agreed with Mr. Corbin that the building needs to be used for storing our property and not sitting vacant or being used to store an employee's property. Mr. Corbin said he does not mind if Percy keeps his car in there as long as our property is in there as well. Mr. Campbell said that Ms. Salazar has the authority to handle this as the Town Manager. Ms. Salazar said we will discuss some of this in the Closed Session.

Ms. Salazar said that our contract with Davis Disposal will expire in November. She asked Council's permission to advertise for bids (per our procurement ordinance). She added that she was recently contacted by a company in Maryland asking when it will go out on bid again.

**Motion: To issue an RFB for trash collection 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

**Department Reports**

**Police Report**

Chief Long presented Council with his monthly reports. He noted that the 2017 Explorer had to have some repairs this month. He asked Council's permission to hold a trick-or-treat table outside of the police station on Halloween. Council agreed. Ms. Salazar asked Chief Long to confirm that the department will still do safety patrols and check points around town. She added that while she likes the idea that Chief Long is proposing, she thinks safety should be our priority. Chief Long said they will do the check points as well as utilize traffic cones to promote safety for trick-or-treaters. Chief Long said that two computers in his office need replacing so he presented Council with pricing for two desktop computers ($3016.94) and five laptops ($2,839.90), noting that he thinks it would be better and more economical to purchase the five laptops. Mr. Campbell asked if there is a docking station in the office for the tablet-based computers that are currently being used in the patrol cars so they can be used in the office. Chief Long responded that there is not and every time he contacts the company about that possibility, they have said they do make one. Mayor Finney asked Chief Long to do some more research and table this matter until next month. Mr. Corbin said that Chief Long's report is missing some information, specifically monthly checks, calls, etc. Chief Long then realized that he had not passed out several pages of his report. He did so at that time. Mr. Corbin then asked who compiles and completes the monthly report. Chief Long said he does some and Officer Lewis does the rest. Mr. Corbin asked how much time it takes for Officer Lewis to do his part of the report. Chief Long said he is unsure, but he believes that most of it is done on Officer Lewis' personal time. Mr. Corbin asked how long Chief Long spends on the reports. Chief Long stated maybe a couple of hours. Mr. Campbell said that even with Officer Lewis taking the time to create these reports, his numbers are still good. Mr. Lang asked how Chief Long feels about the ticket numbers. Chief Long said that 25% of people are excessively speeding. He noted that while his officers are no longer being forced to patrol East Main Street & Pennsylvania Avenue, he has instructed them to continue running lidar there occasionally. Mr. Campbell asked if there was a reduction in summonses on those streets because the directive was lifted. Chief Long said no and added that Officer Eder said he has only written one summons on those streets since he started working here. Mr. Bundick said that he saw three of our officers in court today and two of them had written over a hundred tickets – a large number in the category of reckless driving. He added that all three conducted themselves very professionally. He suggested that our officers split the court dates better because there were so many tickets and the courtroom was packed.

**Treasurer's Report**

Ms. Salazar presented her written report to Council, noting that this is the third month of the new fiscal year and the end of the first quarter. She noted that this will be the last month that the ARPA fund reclamation will show up on the Cash Account Balance report because that amount has been forgiven and we do not have to return it. Mr. Zember asked about meals tax. Ms. Salazar said we are at 33% collected at this time and that includes two businesses that are delinquent for last month. She told

Council that the CD at Taylor Bank is maturing on Friday, October 16th in the amount of $524,392.18. The current interest rate is 3.25%. She asked Council for a motion to roll it into a 6-month CD keeping the interest rate of 3.25%, noting all other rates are lower with longer terms.

**Motion: To roll over the CD at Taylor Bank in the amount of $524,392.18 into a 6-month CD with an interest rate of 3.25% 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

**Motion: To pay the September 2026 payables 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

At this time, Mr. Campbell asked Chief Long why there is no extra duty stuff being done. Chief Long said that he is currently waiting on the numbers to come in so he can get them to Council.

**Town Manager/Zoning Administrator Report**

Ms. Salazar read her report into the minutes. A copy will be attached to the original minutes and available upon request.

**Attorney's Report**

Mr. Bundick reported that he has worked with Ms. Salazar on some FOIA related issues and some other complaints which will be discussed in the Closed Session.

**Consideration of Minutes**

**Motion: To adopt the minutes of September 9, 2026, Regular Monthly Meeting 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

**Public Comments**

Billye D. Custis signed up to speak but stated that she did not wish to at this time.

**Council Comments**

**Mr. Campbell** said that working with the two committees to make things better for the town has been fantastic. He thanked his fellow Planning Commissioners for attending the meeting tonight.

**Mr. Ferguson** thanked everyone for coming to the meeting. He thanked the town family and stated that while we've had a few things gnawing at us – we need to remember how blessed that we are and how well things are going.

**Mr. Bloxom** said it was a great meeting. He wishes that it was a little more peaceful at times. He said that the town looks wonderful – he is very pleased with the Halloween decorations and is looking forward to what everyone does for Christmas.

**Mr. Corbin** concurred with the other Council members. He thanked Ms. Salazar for all that she does and added he's not sure how she gets it all done. He said if we can get 7 Brew in here without going broke that will be a big move.

**Mr. Zember** thanked everyone for coming tonight. He wants to be careful about the employee cell phone usage and make sure that the policy is enforced. He said he hasn't heard any bad news, and no news is good news.

**Mr. Lang** is worried about the 7 Brew expense, and he wants to keep an eye on that. He thanked Ms. Salazar for keeping an eye on those kinds of things and for keeping the Council informed about them. He said we just need to keep moving forward and make good decisions for the town.

**Mayor Finney** said he appreciates the family that we have here and he thinks that we are on the right path.
Ms. Salazar asked to speak, saying that she plans to send out the fall newsletter later this week and if anyone has something to put in it, they should contact her or Ms. Clark.
Mayor Finney thanked Mr. Campbell for the extra work that he does for the town.

**Closed Session**
**Motion: To go into Closed Session (7:21pm) 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, specifically related to (1) the end of an officer's probationary period; (2) issues within the department; and Discussion or consideration of personnel matters pertaining to the Public Works Department, specifically related to issues with an employee or employees; and the addition of Discussion of possible litigation involving the town 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

**Open Session & Certification of Closed Session**
**Motion: To return to Open Session (9:29pm) 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

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

**Motion: To remove Officer Raymond Z. Pieper from probation and give him the remaining $2,500.00 sign-on bonus 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.

**Adjourn**
**Motion: To adjourn (9:30pm) 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

Respectfully submitted,

Jamye L. Salazar, Town Manager

Henry E. Finney, Mayor