

**TOWN OF WACHAPREAGUE
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
February 9, 2023**

COUNCIL PRESENT:

Charles Elliott, Mayor
Sandie Puchalski, Vice Mayor
Robert Williams,
Robert Bilicki,
Stephen Joseph
Aileen Joeckel

TOWN OF WACHAPREAGUE COUNCIL MEETING

Mayor Charles Elliott called the meeting to order.

I. Town Council Meeting

Mayor Charles Elliott led the prayer.
Pledge of Allegiance followed by the council and the public present.

II. Public comments

Mayor Charles Elliott asked for public comments. There were none.

IV. Town Council Meeting

January 12th 2023, minutes were reviewed.
Councilman Bilicki motioned to accept the minutes.
Vice Mayor Sandie Puchalski 2nd the motion.
All agreed.

III. Review of Financial Report

Mayor Charles Elliott asked council to review the financials for January 2023.
Councilman Bob Williams said he wanted to comment on the work required on the gazebo.
He stated that Rory has found a lot of rot. Councilman Bob Williams said that council had approved of so much money.
Councilman Bob Williams stated he believes it is going to cost a lot more than anticipated.
He went on to explain that even the wood inside the sleeves of the railing were rotten. He said the entire railing will probably need replaced.
Vice Mayor Sandy said we will need to get an estimate regarding what it will cost to replace.

Councilman Bob Bilicki motioned to except the financials.
Councilman Bob Williams 2nd the motion.
All Agreed.

Mayor Charles Elliott asked council to review the Marina budget for January 2023.

Councilman Stephen Joseph motioned to accept the marina financials profit vs actual for the port of Wachapreague January 2023.

Councilman Bob Williams 2nd

All agreed.

VI. Unfinished Business

A. Mayor Charles Elliott spoke.

Mayor Charles thanked every for voting for him. He apologized for not thanking everyone at the January meeting. He also stated he didn't mean to offend anyone at the last meeting. He wants to work well together with everyone. He stated he wants to build long term relationships. He also said he wants everyone to have a chance to speak without interruptions.

Mayor Charles Elliott introduced Carl Bundick as our town attorney. Mayor Charles Elliott stated we need to fill temporary council seat and under the guidance of Attorney Bundick the council needs to appoint someone to a temporary position until the special election. Mayor Charles Elliott said he will leave that up to council to vote.

Councilman Bob Williams made a motion according to the town charter that we place Glenn Schagelin to fill the empty seat.

Councilman Aileen Joeckel stated the town doesn't know that we are voting on this because it wasn't on the agenda. Attorney Carl Bundick stated if something is not on the agenda council can vote to add it. The charters prescribes that the council may fill the seat until the next election. He went on to say that there are two elections, one in June and one in November. November is when he thought we should have the elections. He is waiting for a response from Miss Shreives at the electoral office. He hasn't received a response from them yet. Attorney Carl Bundick said he will make sure he gives the correct advice to the town. He is in touch with Jan Proctor who is the county attorney. More than one person can be nominated.

Councilman Aileen Joeckel asked "didn't Don Motto withdraw before the election".

Councilman Bob Williams spoke about code 24.2-228 paragraph D that explains the situation.

Councilman Bob Williams said they considered Don Motto a write in. he spoke about how the

Councilman Bob Williams made a motion to for Sandy Puchalski to be the Vice Mayor.

A roll call vote was taken.

Councilman Bob Williams	-Yes
Councilman Bob Bilicki	-Yes
Councilman Stephen Joseph	-Yes
Councilman Aileen Joeckel	-No
Councilman Sandie Puchalski	- Abstained

Councilman Bob Williams made a motion to place Glenn Schagelin in the open council seat.

Councilman Stephen Joseph 2nd the motion.

A roll call vote was taken.

Councilman Bob Williams	-Yes
Councilman Stephen Joseph	-Yes
Vice Mayor Sandi Puchalski	-Yes
Councilman Bob Bilicki	-No
Councilman Aileen Joeckel	-No

Sandie Puchalski will be the Vice Mayor.
Glenn Schagelin to fill the empty seat on council until the next election.
Attorney Carl Bundick will inform the council as to when the election will occur.

B. Powell Park

Vice Mayor Sandy Puchalski said she has nothing to report.

C. Seaside Park

Councilman Bob Williams said we spoke about this during the financials.
Vice Mayor Sandie Puchalski said we will get new estimates.

D. HRSD

Fred Janci said he emailed the proposed agreements for HRSD to everyone.
The first agreement didn't include the maintenance agreement on the collection system, only the main line coming in, and the pump station. Through further discussion they did a 2nd agreement. This agreement also states HRSD will be responsible for the maintenance of the collection to the edge of the road-to the shut off valve. The owners will be will responsible for the rest. VIMS will donate the pump house directly to HRSD is the other change made to the agreement. There will be a secondary agreement regarding construction.

Councilman Bob Bilicki made a motion that we move on with HRSD recommendation to incorporate the pump station and the collection system in to the agreement.
Councilman Stephen Joseph 2nd the agreement

Councilman Stephen Joseph	-Yes
Councilman Bob Williams	-Yes
Vice Mayor Sandie Puchalski	-Yes
Councilman Bob Bilicki	-Yes
Councilman Aileen Joeckel	-No

Councilman Stephen Joseph said they are waiting for the construction agreement.
Attorney Carl Bundick stated that the town of Accomack got their funding the same way Wachapreague did. He said Attorney Jan Proctor, who is the attorney for the county, will be able to help us.
Councilman Bob Bilicki stated that ANPDC is the clerk of the works for this funding.
Attorney Carl Bundick said that he is the attorney for the ANCPD. He is not involved in the daily relationship.
Councilman Aileen Joeckel inquired ig the ANCPD collects a fee.

E. Derelict Properties

Councilman Bob Bilicki inquired about the old marina.
Vice Mayor Sandie Puchalski stated the property was sold and closed recently.
The new owner is looking into getting for permits for repairs. He is also working on getting a pump and haul permit.
She also stated that she sent him contact information for VMRC person to find out about needed permits.

Councilman Bob Bilicki asked about the property that is known as the Trout property.
He inquired as to whether it had been sold.

F. Marina

Vice Mayor Sandie Puchalski stated that dredging is supposed to start early March.

G. Tourism

Councilman Aileen Joeckel said February 27th will be the tourism summit.

Wachapreague will be one of the towns featured.

Marketing grant has been changed to be used from December 2023 to be designated by March 2024 and spent by December 2024. It is \$15,000 to be spent just on marketing.

I. Flood Plain Coordinator, CRS Coordinator

Councilman Bob Bilicki is planning to get together with Councilman Bob Williams when Charlie Gibble returns.

J. Town Beautification

Councilman Aileen Joeckel asked about a group of ladies she had heard about that would like to help with beautification. Vice Mayor Sandie Puchalski said she will get more information to Councilman Aileen Joeckel regarding who would like to be involved.

Councilman Bob Bilicki inquired about the sign, Welcome to Wachapreague and thanking them for staying. He said we had already approved \$800.00.

K. Safety and Security

Councilman Bob Williams said he didn't have much to talk about.

L. Historical

Mayor Charles Elliott talked about doing a show case at town hall.

He talked about an old pipe he found in his back yard. (One you could smoke)

M. Streets and Drainage

Councilman Bob Williams said he is still waiting to hear from Chris Isdell as to what kind of survey they are going to do. Councilman Bob Williams stated that there were pot holes filled in at Atlantic and Bayview.

Councilman Bob Williams and Councilman Stephen Joseph met with Rob Duma to check out the main drain line.

Councilman Bob Williams stated that Duma said it will not be easy to fix the existing system. It will be better to install a completely new drain system that include ditches. The cost will be close to what the HRSD expense.

Once Duma has his figures together he will present this to the town.

N. Planning Commission

Councilman Aileen Joeckel said she would like council to take a vote on extending Jim Bell and Greg Brittingham's term on the planning commission until May 27.

Councilman Aileen Joeckel made a motion to extend Jim Bell and Greg Brittingham's terms on the planning commission.

Councilman Bob Williams 2nd

All agreed

Councilman Aileen Joeckel said that two more people are needed on the planning committee.

Councilman Aileen Joeckel spoke about the new ordinance regarding Air BnBs and short term rentals.

She asked the council to read over it. If there are changes needed to get back to the planning commission regarding it.

Councilman Aileen Joeckel said they did not put limits for rental time on Air BnBs or short term rentals.

Mayor Charles Elliot said we will put it on the agenda next month.

O. Maintenance

Councilman Stephen Joseph said the drainage system needs cleaned out.

Councilman Bob Williams said we should make Mondays the day for cleaning the drains.

Councilman Stephen Joseph said that we should have a white board with jobs listed.

P. Town Hall

Vice Mayor Sandie Puchalski got the ok from Sean Fate to hook up to the fire companies piping.
She stated that Sean said to have whoever is doing the work to get in contact with him or Kerry Paul regarding certain aspects regarding the layout.
Councilman Stephen Joseph said we will only need a plumber to do the work. We will need to get an estimate.

Councilman Bob Bilicki had a display of a wood veneer to use on the floor at town hall.
Councilman Bob Bilicki spoke about creating an ADA bathroom.
He asked Councilman Stephen Joseph to design it.
Councilman Bob Bilicki said he would bring more colors next meeting.

Q .Historic District

Councilman Bob Bilicki stated he has inquired about what the owner would take for the green building on the corner.
There has been no response from the owner at this point.

Councilman Bob Williams said we need to get with Sean Fate regarding the Christmas lights.
Councilman Bob Bilicki stated that we had \$8000.00 for lighting approved.
Councilman Bob Williams said we need to get together with Kerry Paul.
He said we need to make the lights so the guys can just plug them in.

Mayor Charles Elliott thanked Councilman Stephen Joseph for installing the Mini Split at town hall.

Vice Mayor Sandie Puchalski motioned to adjourn the meeting.
Councilman Stephen Joseph 2nd the motion.
All agreed.