

TOWN OF WACHAPREAGUE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING December 8th, 2022

COUNCIL PRESENT:

Fred Janci, Mayor
Sandie Puchalski, Vice Mayor
Robert Williams,
Robert Bilicki,
Stephen Joseph
Glenn Schagelin
Margo Digan

Town Council Meeting

Mayor Fred Janci called the meeting to order.

Councilman Glen Schagelin prayed.
Pledge of Allegiance

I. Public comments

Mayor Fred Janci asked for public comments.

Chris Wardius thanked the council and everyone that worked on the HRSD Project. He also spoke about how many people left and did not stay for the council meeting. He said there should be a way to encourage people to stay and participate.

II. Town Council Minutes

November 10th 2022, minutes were reviewed.
Councilman Bob Bilicki motioned to accept the minutes for November 10th, 2022.
Councilman Glen Schagelin 2nd the motion.
All agreed.

III. Review of Financial Report

- Mayor Fred Janci asked to review the town budget for November 2022.
Councilman Glen Schagelin motioned to except the financials November 2022.
Councilman Bob Bilicki 2nded.
All Agreed.
- Mayor Fred Janci asked to review the Port of Wachapreague's financials.
Councilman Bob Bilicki motioned to approve the financials for the Marina November 2022.
Councilman Bob Bilicki motioned to accept the marina financials for November 2022.
Councilman Bob Williams 2.^{nded.}
All agreed.

Mayor Fred Janci reviewed the financial fiscal year ending statement for 2021-2022.
He said we are in very good shape for the marina and the town.

IV. Unfinished Business

A. HRSD

Councilman Bob Williams made a motion that all our future HRSD work to be developed by a formal committee. The motion was made to establish the Hampton Road Sanitation Wachapreague Committee. This committee will consist of Fred Janci as chairmen and two other members, Robert Bilicki and Stephen Joseph.

*Councilman Glenn Schagelin 2nd the motion.
All Agreed.*

Mayor Fred Janci stated in order to move ahead with HRSD and DEQ we need to make a motion that the town is behind the project.

Mayor Fred Janci read what he thought should be in the motion.

Be it resolved the Wachapreague Town Council on 12/08/2022, fully endorsed the Wachapreague Sewer Feasibility Study done 12/09/2021 by Davis Bowen and Friedel, and has agreed to move forward to full implementation of said subject to the availability of full funding.

Councilman Bob William stated he motioned as it was written.

Councilman Bob Bilicki 2nd the motion.

A roll call was taken.

<i>Councilman Robert Williams</i>	<i>YES</i>
<i>Vice Mayor Sandi Puchalski</i>	<i>YES</i>
<i>Councilman Bob Bilicki</i>	<i>YES</i>
<i>Councilman Glenn Schagelin</i>	<i>YES</i>
<i>Councilman Stephan Joseph</i>	<i>YES</i>
<i>Councilman Margo Digan voted</i>	<i>YES by proxy</i>

6 yes and 0 nos.

Mayor Fred Janci said this insures we are moving along.

A letter will be written and put on the town's letter head regarding our decision to go ahead with the sewer project.

Mayor Fred Janci said we need to send a letter to John Dano of the HRSD, Delegate Rob Bloxom, Anne Doyle, and Ashley Mills of the ANCPD, Lynnwood Lewis, Jen Higgins and Karen Duram of DEQ. We will need to have an agreement signed before DEQ will release the money.

B. Seaside Park

Mayor Fred Janci stated that Margo Digan recommended the Bocce Ball Court be removed. She said there is no interest and the maintenance guys do not like to maintain it.

Vice Mayor Sandy said Richie would remove it.

Councilman Bob Williams said we should not keep the lights on the gazebo all year long.

Councilman Bob Williams asked if we received an estimate on fixing the gazebo.

Town Clerk Charlie Gible had received an estimate from Rory McGlown.

She had included his pricing in the meeting packet.

Rory's estimate are for labor only. The amount was \$1500.00 She stated that he thought he would be able to reuse most of the materials. The biggest expense would probably be the stainless-steel bolts that will need replaced.

Councilman Stephen Joseph was going to order the spindles.

Councilman Bob Bilicki motioned to have Rory do the work on the gazebo at the cost of \$1500.00.

Vice Mayor Sandie Puchalski 2nd the motion.
All Agreed.

Mayor Fred Janci stated that Santa would be coming to Seaside Park Gazebo on Saturday the 10th at 6:00 PM.

C. Powell Park

Vice Mayor Sandie Puchalski said the buffer is up at the basketball court.
She said the signs that posted the times have disappeared. She stated we need 2 signs.
There was a discussion regarding what times should go on the signs regarding usage.

Vice Mayor Sandie Puchalski suggested the Park will be closed Dusk to Dawn and Court activity will end at 8:00 pm.

D. Maintenance

Councilman Glenn Schagelin stated there was nothing to report.

E. Marina

Vice Mayor Sandie Puchalski said the dredging will start sometime after February 15th.
The Coastguard, VIMS, Island House and the town Marina are definitely having the dredging done.
The marina has been winterized and she was waiting to find out when the pressure tanks will be replaced.

F. Tourism

Councilman Bob Bilicki spoke about the T shirt sales. He said our tourism financial report shows that we received a \$399.00 dollar check. Councilman Bob Bilicki said that offset the cost of the tent rental. He stated there are more t shirts available for sale at The General Store.

Councilman Bob Bilicki spoke about doing the tour of lights. He stated that the judging would take place on December 23. Councilman Bob Bilicki said he would post the event on the Facebook page.

G. Flood Plain Certification

Councilman Bob Williams had nothing to report.

H. Beautification

- Councilman Sandie Puchalski said the outhouse would be remove after Christmas.
Mayor Janci stated if we are going to take down the enclosure, he had donated the materials for the outhouse and would like them back. He said the entire structure had been screwed together.
Mayor Fred Janci suggested cutting the 2X4 at ground level because they had been cemented in to the ground. He said the one post nearest the building and Main St has a power line very close to it. He said to be careful when you pull it out. Mayor Fred Janci said we will need to take two boards out for them to remove the toilet.
Vice Mayor Sandie Puchalski asked when we should bring the porta pot back. Councilman Glenn Schagelin suggested April 15, 2023, prior to the flounder tournament.
Councilman Bob Bilicki asked if we could move the porta pot to another location or do a bathroom rehab.
Councilman Stephen Joseph said he is getting a ditch witch to hook up to a well.
Discussion ensued as to the possibility of hooking town hall to the well in the park.
Councilman Stephen Joseph said we need to find out which is less expensive, digging a new well or connecting to an existing one.

Vice Mayor Sandie Puchalski said we should have a porta pot in Powell Park this summer.

I. Safety and Security

- Councilman Bob Williams stated a few Street lights have been replaced.

J. Historic District

- Nothing new to report

K. Streets and Drainage

- Councilman Bob Williams reported he is still waiting to hear from Rob Duma.
- Mayor Fred Janci asked if the guys were vacuuming ditches.
- Council Glenn Schagelin said he has spoken to the guys regarding the ditches.

L. Zoning

- Mayor Janci said he had nothing to report.

M. CBES

Councilman Bob Bilicki stated that the CBES would be welcome for another event, but the town does not need to sponsor them for \$2000.00.

He said the motel and the Island House does well. He reported most of the people don't stay long after the ride, probably the fatigue factor.

Councilman Bob Bilicki said the only money the town made was on t-shirt sales.

Town Clerk Charlie Gible stated that someone from the store told her the day the CBES riders were in town was their best day ever.

Councilman Stephen Joseph agreed that this event gave the town a lot of exposure. The restaurant, motel and The General Store were full.

It was agreed that the town would like to have the CBES riders back, but not pay the \$2000.00.

N. Derelict Properties

- Mayor Fred Janci spoke about the many homes that have been renovated in town.
- Councilman Stephen Joseph has been responsible for many of the derelict homes being improved.
- Chris Wardius mentioned two homes that need improvement, 22 Main St. needs repairs and a home on the corner near Joe's house.
- Councilman Bob Williams said the old gas tanks need to be removed at the campgrounds.

O. Planning Commission

- Aileen Joeckel said they are getting ready to hold a public meeting January 17th 6:00 at VIMS.
- Mayor Fred Janci question Aileen Joeckel's position on the planning commission. He stated it wasn't fair to Councilman Margo Digan when she was a councilman going to the meetings that she was only allowed to be an observer. Mayor Fred Janci questioned Aileen as to why Aileen could stay on the planning commission as chairman and serve on council and Councilman Margo Digan couldn't participate.
- Aileen Joeckel stated there is nothing in the VA code that would prohibit her from serving on council and the planning commission. She stated that Jim Bell had a problem with it. His opinion was that Councilman Margo Digan could not participate.
- Councilman Stephan Joseph stated "I want it on the record that it was very crappy the way the situation with Councilman Margo was handled. It should have been brought to the council."
- Mayor Fred Janci said you chased her away by not letting her participate.
- Vice Mayor Sandie Puchalski said they always had a person from council be in correspondence with the planning commission.
- Mayor Fred Janci said he would like to see the VA code .

- Aileen Joeckel said she will send it.
- Aileen Joeckel said she told Jim Bell that we are a small town and Councilman Margo Digan should be allowed to participate. Aileen said she thought it was unfair to not to let her participate. Aileen Joeckel said they went into closed session and the committee decided to not let her be active in the meetings.

P. New Business

Town Clerk Charlie Gible discussed Santa coming to town at the gazebo December 10th at 6:00 and the Christmas Tree Lighting.

She reported that Sean Fate informed her they were working on the old red firetruck to bring Santa in town.

Town Hall Repairs

Town Clerk Charlie Gible handed pricing for repairs and work for the town hall. She stated this is for labor only. The town will incur the cost of the materials.

Councilman Bob Bilicki said he has vendors that would like to donate materials to the town. They would just like to receive a letter of recognition regarding their contribution. Councilman Bob Bilicki stated he will need to know the square footage of the floor.

There was discussion of what type of flooring. Town Clerk Charlie Gible discussed the benefits of doing a laminate flooring. She felt it would be easier to keep clean. Vice Mayor Sandie Puchalski liked having an indoor outdoor carpeting. No decisions were made regarding the floor.

Town Clerk Charlie Gible discussed moving the counter that splits the office. She said her idea was to split it, make it more of an L shape and place it against the side wall near the Art Studio and the other portion under the front window. She stated this would make a nice area for a work station.

Town Clerk Charlie said if we needed to have a council meeting we could set up two tables into an L shape. It would save money building a desk for meetings and it would make more space in town hall.

Councilman Bob Bilicki stated we haven't used town hall for meetings since pre Covid. VIMS have given us use of their facilities.

Councilman Bob Williams stated that we also have been able to use the fire hall.

Councilman Stephen Joseph motioned to Adjourn
All Agreed.