

**TOWN OF WACHAPREAGUE
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
December 10, 2020**

COUNCIL PRESENT: Fred Janci, Mayor; Sandie Puchalski, Vice Mayor; Robert Williams;
Robert Bilicki; Glenn Schagelin; Margo Digan; Stephen Joseph
COUNCIL ABSENT: None
TOWN CLERK: Missy Wallace-Wessells

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

- I. **Call to Order** – Mayor Janci called to Order the Town Council Meeting at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, December 10, 2020, in the Wachapreague Vol. Fire House in Wachapreague, VA.
- II. **Pledge of Allegiance** – Mayor Janci lead the Council in the Pledge of Allegiance.
- III. **Public Comments** – Mayor Janci welcomed everyone and opened the floor for Public Comments.
 - Gene Gibson spoke in regards to the letter he sent to all the council members concerning the noise issue from a waterfront business.
 - It has previously been discussed, any issue there is no Town Ordinance, the Town of Wachapreague will follow Accomack County’s followed by the State of Virginia.
 - Mr. Gibson had issue with the noise from Lilliston’s Seafood over the last several years. Mediation has been attempted and the property owner has complied per Accomack County Ordinance. Mr. Gibson feels the compliance has not corrected the issue. Mr. Gibson is requesting the Town Council to create a “noise ordinance” within the town.
 - R. Bilicki responded in support of Mr. Gibson. He has made contact with the county and Onancock for information of their noise ordinance levels. VM Puchalski explained the follow the county since town has nothing on record. She stated the fishhouse was working well below allowable volume day and evening.
 - A discussion ensued concerning this issue. Mayor Janci stated this topic needs to be brought up as an agenda item next month. Mr. Gibson stated he may not be available for the next couple meetings. G. Schagelin suggested forwarding the minutes to him.
- IV. **Council Meeting**

Mayor Janci asked if the minutes for November 12, 2020 were reviewed.

 - Councilman R. Bilicki requested a correction under HRSD; the name is Brabham.

A motion to accept minutes was made by R. Williams and seconded by Councilman VM Puchalski. A vote was taken and all approved.
- V. **Review of Financial Report**

Mayor Janci asked if everyone had a chance to review the Town Financials for November 2020.

 - Mayor Janci reviewed Profit and Loss vs. Actual. He stated we are 43% through the fiscal year.

- It was discussed the Professional Fees were at 91% for year. He advised most expenses are from legal questions with the town attorney. He advised to keep this in mind.
- G. Schagelin questioned who nothing was budgeted for landfill expense for brush. Mayor Janci explained due to the COVID, the budget was cut to prepare for loss of revenue. VM Puchalski will discuss ways to fund for tipping fees at the landfill.
A motion was made by VM Puchalski and seconded by Councilman G. Schagelin to accept the Town of Wachapreague Financials for October 2020. A vote was taken and all approved.

The Port of Wachapreague Financials for November 2020 were discussed.

- Mayor Janci explained most of the income for marina come in around April. VM Puchalski stated transient rentals have done very well this year. Mayor Janci stated this is up 110% in just 43% of fiscal year.
- VM Puchalski stated the one outstanding balance has been taken care of.

A motion was made by Councilman G. Schagelin and seconded by Councilman R. Williams to approve the financials. A vote was taken and all approved.

Councilman M. Digan questioned all the names on the outstanding balances. She was informed these are taxes bills that just went out. The due date is December 5th.

VI. Unfinished Business

A. Prayer

Councilman G. Schagelin requested to open each meeting with a prayer. He stated during these times we need Gods hand on us. VM Puchalski requested a prayer for our former mayor who have recently passed. They include: Roy Wallace and Wyllie Thornton. A discussion ensued concerning religion. It was decided everyone has the opportunity to lead. Councilman R. Bilicki stated his concern between church and state and will abstain from voting. A motion was made by Councilman G. Schagelin and seconded by VM Puchalski to adopt prayer at the beginning of each meeting. A vote was taken and approved.

B. HRSD

- Councilman R. Bilicki reported 2 more documents need signing for the USDA concerning demographics.
- A discussion ensued concerning documents needed a signature by the mayor. They will be done after the meeting.
- Councilman R. Bilicki stated VIMS is interested in the feasibility study results. He stated financing is being pursued for the Town of Wachapreague. Senator Robert Bloxom has been working on this project.
- Mayor Janci stated the ground breaking is expected earlier than expected. The plans are possibly reversing progression and beginning north moving south.
- Councilman R. Williams asked if a memorandum of intent could be obtained from businesses in town. Councilman R. Bilicki stated there are plans for these and hope to have first part of 2021.

C. Marina

- VM Puchalski stated dock work is almost completed.
- VM Puchalski presented a demo ordinance concerning "NO Wake" zone. She requested the council to review the wording. She reviewed findings of previous ordinances. She suggested updating ordinance but needs to look up more before making changes. This will be forwarding to the Ordinance Review Committee.

D. Town Maintenance/Garbage (Repairs)

- Councilman G. Schagelin discussed issue with no funds available for brush pickup.
- He spoke with Accomack County about recycling brush for mulch. He was told commercial plates will be charged dumping fees.
- He was concern with moving brush multiple times. Mayor Janci stated property needs to be maintained to have area to burn brush. It was discussed mulching brush by town and reuse for property.
- Councilman G. Schagelin suggested searching for another pickup truck. The current one is in very poor condition. A discussion ensued concerning possible solutions. It was stated Steve Joseph may sell his truck to town. Councilman R. Bilicki made a motion to table the purchase of another pick up until closer to end of fiscal year and Councilman M. Digan seconded. A vote was taken and all approved.
- Councilman G. Schagelin stated tires on the trash truck are being changed this week.
- Councilman G. Schagelin asked about the doggie waste baskets ordered. A discussion ensued and Clerk Wessells stated the request was for 2 new baskets and 1 complete station.
- Councilman M. Digan recognized the Maintenance crew for the bed rocks at Town Hall.
- Councilman M. Digan questioned the picnic table at Town Hall. Also discussed was the mosaic tile bench needs attention.
- Mayor Janci thanked all the work done for cleaning up Town Hall.

E. Powell Park

VM Puchalski stated nothing new to report.

F. Seaside Park

- Councilman R. Williams reported icicle lights needed replacing. During the storm, the Christmas tree broke and was fixed.
- Mayor Janci thanked everyone who decorated Seaside Park.
- Councilman R. Bilicki asked about the brackets on the gazebo. Councilman R. Williams stated due to the bolts have rusted and Tim Killmon was going to work on it. He suggested changing everything to steel to last longer. Clerk Wessells was asked to look up company to purchase materials.

G. Town Beautification

Clerk Wessells stated Allen Stevens did not want to be recognized for anything he did to his property. Also, Steve Joseph was not going to be present. Councilman M. Digan questioned this award. It was explained the work completed was beyond expected to beautify the town.

H. Tourism

Councilman R. Bilicki stated nothing new to report.

I. Derelict Properties

Councilman R. Bilicki reported a letter was received from the attorney of Joe Vodvarka that the trailer will be removed by the end of the year.

J. Safety and Security

- Councilman R. Williams reported stop sign replaced Custis and Brooklyn Avenue.
- Councilman R. Williams reported 4 street lights have been replaced.
- Councilman R. Williams requested installing a Stop Sign at intersection of Park Avenue and South Street. Clerk Wessells will get that done.

- Councilman R. Williams also reported the governor has mandated a gathering of 10 people or less. Mayor Janci stated this will need to be enforced.
- Clerk Wessells reported a short was found in the Christmas lights hung by the fire company. She called ANEC to report the problem and they were out to fix the next day.

K. Zoning Administrator's Report

- Mayor Janci stated the property located on Pearl Street permit will be rejected due to the lot size. They will need to submit request to the Board of Zone Appeals. Clerk Wessells needs to send letter stating set back and minimum lot size.

L. Streets and Drainage

- Councilman R. Williams discussed VDOT has stated the repair on pipe and road located near intersection of South Street and Atlantic Avenue.
- Councilman R. Bilicki stated the area near intersection of Main and Pearl floods and has large pot hole. Councilman R. Williams stated this item is still on list of problems. He also stated the drain is still needing to be finished.

M. Floodplain Administrator/CRS Coordinator/ A-NPDC/RAFT

- Councilman R. Williams reported attending a meeting for the ES Hazardous Mitigation with Shannon Alexander and Planning Commission. He will be the contact for the town. He explained things discussed including highest tidal surge (1749 was 15') and spoils being reused to build up marsh. Shannon Alexander asked him to be on the Waterway Committee. VM Puchalski stated Army Corp of Engineers were asked about the spoils and was told definitely not. Councilman R. Williams stated this was prior to the development of these committees and needs to be revisited.
- A discussion continued concerning possible projects. He also discussed the need for grants.
- Councilman R. Williams gave report on progress of verification for CRS.

N. Planning Commission

Councilman M. Digan the Planning Commission will not meet until January.

O. Historic District

Requested to move to January 2021.

P. CARE Grant

- Clerk Wessells informed the council of 11 business grant application. She reviewed applications.
- The Wachapreague Inn gave a full breakdown of expenses due to the pandemic.
- There have been 10 meetings at the Wachapreague Fire House.
- She reviewed previous decision for spending funds. She explained what has been spent and what is remaining. She reminded the funds are available until December 30, 2020.
- It was agreed to proforma funds to the Wachapreague Volunteer Fire Company for rent of the banquet hall until June 2021. This was used to conduct meetings.
- The council decided to purchase a projector, screen and things needed for virtual meetings. It was also agreed to purchase additional cleaning supplies for the town.
- A motion was made to purchase items needed for virtual meetings, cleaning supplies, the direct expense Wachapreague Inn presented and \$2,100 to each business who applied. The motion was made by Councilman G. Schagelin and seconded by Councilman R. Williams. A Roll Call vote was conducted with 4 yes and 2 abstain.

VII. New Business

Nothing new to report

VIII. Announcements

Councilman R. Williams announced his son was just promoted in the US Air Force to Chief Master Segreant

IX. Adjournment

- Motion was made by Councilman R. Williams and seconded by Councilman G. Schagelin to adjourn. All approved.

MAYOR
12/10/2020

TOWN CLERK

**A MOTION TO APPROVE FUNDS FROM THE CARES GRANT TO BE SPENT ON THE FOLLOWING THINGS:
 ITEMS REQUIRED TO CONDUCT VIRTUAL MEETINGS
 (PROJECTOR, SCREEN, ZOOM, HARDWARE),
 DIRECT EXPENSES INCURRED DUE TO PANDEMIC FROM WACHAPREAGUE INN,
 \$2100 TO EACH BUSINESS SUBMITTING AN APPLICATION FOR A BUSINESS' AFFECTED BY PANDEMIC,
 AND EXTRA CLEANING SUPPLIES FOR THE TOWN.**

Pursuant to motion made by **Councilman, G. Schagelin**, and seconded by **Councilman, R. Williams**, for a Motion to approve spending the following funds from the CARES Grant: *ITEMS REQUIRED TO CONDUCT VIRTUAL MEETINGS (PROJECTOR, SCREEN, ZOOM, HARDWARE), DIRECT EXPENSES INCURRED DUE TO PANDEMIC FROM WACHAPREAGUE INN, \$2100 TO EACH BUSINESS SUBMITTING AN APPLICATION FOR A BUSINESS' AFFECTED BY PANDEMIC, AND EXTRA CLEANING SUPPLIES FOR THE TOWN*, and the Council having voted upon the motion, as recorded below, and approved at the Town Council Meeting of December 10, 2020.

Name of Official	For	Against	Abstaining	Absent
VM S. Puchalski			X	
Robert Williams	X			
Robert Bilicki	X			
Glen Schagelin	X			
Margo Digan	X			
Stephen Joseph				X
Mayor Fred Janci (voting only in case of tie)			X	
Vote Totals	5	0	1	0

Duly recorded this _____ day of December, 2020.

Town Clerk