

**TOWN OF WACHAPREAGUE
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
February 13, 2020**

COUNCIL PRESENT: Sandie Puchalski, Vice Mayor; Robert Williams; Peter Peyton;
Robert Bilicki; David Goauk
COUNCIL ABSENT: Fred Janci, Mayor; Katherine Bilicki
TOWN CLERK: Missy Wallace-Wessells

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

- I. **Call to Order** – Sandie Puchalski, Vice Mayor called to Order the Town Council Meeting at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, February 13, 2020, in the Wachapreague Town Hall.
- II. **Pledge of Allegiance** – Sandie Puchalski, Vice Mayor lead the Council in the Pledge of Allegiance.
- III. **Public Comments** – Sandie Puchalski, Vice Mayor welcomed everyone and opened the floor for Public Comments.
 - Nature Conservancy Director Jill Bieri and Coastal Scientist, Bo Lusk presented a presentation of the efforts to preserve the Barrier Island. The oyster castle project was discussed in length. A discussion of different organizations who were involved including UVA, ANPD and Fish and Wildlife. The project will be located along the island in Bradford’s Bay. The project will require many volunteer hours over a 3 year span and cost approximately \$1.65 million dollars. They encouraged everyone to volunteer to help with this project. A discussion ensued. John Joeckel spoke on this subject and clarified aspects to benefit Wachapreague.
 - ANPD Clara Vaughn spoke about the feasibility study proposal for a new hotel in Wachapreague. She explained the grant application process and the request will be \$23,000. She also presented documents for the town officials to sign to proceed to Phase II. Resident Jack Sherman spoke on what will bring people to Wachapreague to build a hotel. He expressed a concern of the cost to the resident. The topic will be continued.
 - Mark Brabham, VIMS Director of Facilities Management presented a diagram of future plans of the VIMS complex. He stated the development was in compliance with all zoning regulations except a maintenance building. He presented a request for a variance for the maintenance building to allow a freeboard of 2’. The Town of Wachapreague requires a flood plan freeboard of 3’ above median high tide. Clerk Wessells stated the procedure for this approval. She explained a permit request must be presented. The request will be denied and forwarded to the Zoning Board of Appeals for consideration. Mr. Brabham will move forward with this process. This topic will be continued.
- IV. **Council Meeting**

VM Puchalski asked if everyone has reviewed the minutes from December 12, 2019 meeting. A motion was made by R. Williams to accept and seconded by R. Bilicki. A vote was taken and all approved.

V. **Review of Financial Report**

VM Puchalski asked if everyone had a chance to review the financials. The Council has reviewed the financials previously by email. There were no questions or concerns.

- A motion was made by P. Peyton to accept the Town and Port Financials for December 2019. R. Bilicki seconded the motion. A vote was taken and all approved.
- A motion was made by R. Bilicki to accept the Town and Port Financials for January 2020. P. Peyton seconded the motion. A vote was taken and all approved.

VI. **Unfinished Business**

A. HRSD

- VM Puchalski stated Clara Vaughn discussed the status of the project.

B. Marina

- VM Puchalski reported dredging will start the beginning of March. She asked if all the permissions were received from property owners. Clerk Wessells stated the forms were received.
- VM Puchalski stated the VPA Grant request will be small for 2021. The Port will only request \$12,000 of which \$3,000 will be the responsibility of the Port. The work needed will be repairs of the dock step support beams. The only other thing needed will be scrapings.

C. Town Maintenance/Garbage (Repairs)

- D. Gouak reported the maintenance budget has been hit hard this past month.
- D. Gouak stated the new brush truck needed work to pass inspection due to front end problems. The work was completed and has a current inspection.
- D. Gouak reported the pickup truck needed brake repairs. The garbage truck was leaking fuel from ruptured filters. Finally the JD grass cutter needed a new battery.
- D. Gouak wanted to thank Richie Puchalski for all his assistance in repairing the town's equipment. Dave stated Richie has saved the town a lot of money with volunteering to fix things.

D. Powell Park

- VM Puchalski stated the USCG will help clean up the ditch area and help cut back brush. She stated a backhoe will be needed to dig out the area.
- R. Williams stated he would like to have a sign installed outside the grave yard to identify the sites. He hopes this will prevent people from entering the fenced area.

E. Seaside Park

- The bocce court was presented again. Margo Digan presented documentation requested for a location. VM Puchalski stated wood can be ordered but the exact location needs to be decided. The Council decided to table this once more and come up with a solution next month. The area will be staked for optional locations.
- Clerk Wessells reported on the situation of repairs needed at gazebo. Chamber of Commission will repair damage but the estimate must be broke down. Big Woods will prepare the estimate and it will be forwarded to Robie.

F. Town Beautification

- K. Bilicki was not present. Council stated nothing new to present. .

G. Tourism

- R. Bilicki stated everything has already been discussed.
- Clerk Wessells reported ES Antique Car Club has requested to use Seaside Park in July.

H. Derelict Properties

- R. Williams stated a lien has been discovered on the Barnes property. The council will look into raising the property.

I. Safety and Security

- R. Williams stated everything is safe and secure.

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J. Zoning Administrator's Report

- Mayor Janci was not present.
- Clerk Wessells stated there are several things needing to be reviewed.

K. Streets and Drainage

- R. Williams reported the leaf vacuum was being used.
- R. Williams stated a new grate/culvert has been made and installed at corner of South Street and High Street.
- R. Williams will submit a request for VDOT to reimburse the town for the culvert expense.

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

- R. Williams stated everything has been discussed.

M. Planning Commission

- K. Bilicki was not present. Nothing new to report by Council.

N. Legal

- Nothing new to report.

VII. New Business

- R. Williams presented the issue of storage for the equipment. He has suggested constructing a metal building on lot east side of ball field. The building suggested is 30'x50' and cost approximately \$35,000. It was suggested the fire house may be available in a few years for purchase.
- VM Puchalski stated the town will need a new trash truck soon. These items will be discussed in the near future.
- R. Bilicki stated a proposal has been presented to rezone parts of the town. He has discussed this with the mayor. R. Bilicki asked if the council can move forward with this. Clerk Wessells asked if she can contact the current members to help move forward with the Planning Commission. All agreed.
- Clerk Wessells asked the council to assist the WVFC with help to repair the parking lot due to mail trucks turning around. Clerk Wessells stated \$1,000 is donated yearly to WVFC. VM Puchalski made a motion to give \$1,000, to WVFC to help with repairs to the parking area. P. Peyton seconded the motion. A Roll Call vote was taken with 5 yes and 2 absent. Motion passed. Jack Sherman donated the remaining \$500 to WVFC. Clerk Wessells thanked everyone for the donation.

VIII. Adjournment

- Motion was made by VM Puchalski and seconded by R. Bilicki to adjourn. All approved.

MAYOR
02/13/2020

TOWN CLERK

MOTION TO APPROVE \$1,000 TO BE GIVEN
TO WACHAPREAGUE VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY
AS A YEARLY DONATION.

Pursuant to motion made by **VM Puchalski**, and seconded by **Councilman P. Peyton**, for a Motion to approve the donation of \$1,000 to the Wachapreague Volunteer Fire Company.

Name of Official	For	Against	Abstaining	Absent
VM Sandi Puchalski	X			
K. Bilicki				X
P. Peyton	X			
D. Gouak	X			
Robert Williams	X			
Robert Bilicki	X			
Mayor Fred Janci (voting only in case of tie)				X
Vote Totals	5	0	0	2

Duly recorded this _____ day of FEBRUARY 2020.

Town Clerk