

**TOWN OF WACHAPREAGUE
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
March 12, 2020**

COUNCIL PRESENT: Fred Janci, Mayor; Sandie Puchalski, Vice Mayor; Robert Williams; Peter Peyton; Robert Bilicki; David Goauk; Katherine Bilicki

COUNCIL ABSENT:

TOWN CLERK: Missy Wallace-Wessells

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

- I. **Call to Order** – Fred Janci, Mayor called to Order the Town Council Meeting at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, March 12, 2020, in the Wachapreague Town Hall.
- II. **Pledge of Allegiance** – Fred Janci, Mayor lead the Council in the Pledge of Allegiance.
- III. **Public Comments** – Fred Janci, Mayor welcomed everyone and opened the floor for Public Comments.
 - A. Joeckel spoke concerning the pole light along her property on Whileaway Lane. She has been previously told the pole was privately owned and maintenance was her responsibility. She informed the Council that ANEC came out and replaced the light after a phone call. R. Williams stated a call was made concerning this pole light and was told it was privately owned. If the pole was to be included within the town, contact by mayor was needed. Mayor Janci and R. Williams discussed looking into this matter.
- IV. **Council Meeting**

Fred Janci, Mayor asked if everyone has reviewed the minutes from February 12, 2020 meeting. R. Bilicki noted a correction concerning the variance request regarding the maintenance shed. The correction was noted. A motion was made by P. Peyton to accept and seconded by VM Puchalski. A vote was taken and all approved.
- V. **Review of Financial Report**

Fred Janci, Mayor stated the budget was 8 months and 66% through the year. Mayor Janci reviewed the finances with the Council.

 - A motion was made by R. Bilicki to accept the Town Financials for February 2020 and seconded by VM Puchalski. A vote was taken and all approved.
 - A motion was made by R. Williams to accept the Port Financials for February 2020 and R. Bilicki seconded the motion. A vote was taken and all approved.
- VI. **Unfinished Business**
 - A. **HRSD**
 - Mayor Janci and R. Bilicki stated the meeting was rescheduled to next Friday.
 - Mayor Janci stated the HRSD has received notice that about half of the funds have been granted to run the sewage to the Town. Mayor Janci explained this information was being investigated and the correct information would be distributed to the Town citizens. At that time the citizens will have the option to present their views during a Public Hearing.
 - R. Williams stated VDH was contacted and they will not require anyone to connect to the sewage district. This information will be presented during the Public Hearing.

- It was discussed that VIMS would have money to help with bringing this project to its facility. It was reported they will no longer need the sewage line. The council discussed this was not completely accurate. A temporary solution was discussed by VIMS due to the time frame of their project.
- Mayor Janci stated this would be an ongoing topic on the Town's Agenda for months to come. It was agreed to move on and table this discussion.
- R. Bilicki requested the minutes be reviewed by the Mayor prior to publishing for clarification.
- After a discussion, the Council wanted everyone to understand the purpose of the Feasibility Study by ANPD was to find the funds and to explore the need for these projects.

B. Marina

- VM Puchalski reported dredging pipes were installed and will start dredging today at town marina.
- VM Puchalski reported many people have requested slip rentals for flounder tournament. She stated she will not know availability until the end of month due to the yearly leases.
- P. Peyton asked who is responsible for the fees to dredge the other marinas. VM Puchalski stated the owners of the properties. The dredging company contracts with them. The dredger charges \$1/cy extra from all owners. This is refunded to the Town for spoil site repairs.
- R. Williams asked how often the spoil site must be graded. VM Puchalski stated between 10-12 years and depends on the quantity of spoils collected. It was discussed the possibility to sale some spoils. R. Bilicki stated this could be a profit for the town. They will need to be tested.
- VM Puchalski stated no word on the VPA request but usually don't find out until May or June. She stated the reimbursement process will begin once the dredging is complete.
- A discussion of marinas that received the permits.
- Mayor Janci explained the town pays mobilization and owners pay for service.

C. Town Maintenance/Garbage (Repairs)

- D. Gouak reported on the issue with the pickup truck. The ignition switch was broken. R. Puchalski is in the process of ordering and repairing it.
- D. Gouak stated the new leaf vacuum is doing well and being used.
- D. Gouak reported tractor will need maintenance soon. He reported new truck is doing well.
- D. Gouak stated the maintenance crew does not do repairs or maintenance on equipment. R. Puchalski has been a great help with doing repairs for the town.
- R. Williams asked about the garbage truck condition. It was discussed a hole was in the bottom and it loses garbage. Mayor Janci asked if it can be taken to Johnson's Welding for repairs. D. Gouak will have it fixed.

D. Powell Park

- VM Puchalski stated the Senior Softball League has requested to use the park on May 16. The plan was to have a tournament to raise money for the league. They will donate a portion to the town. The council was pleased that the ball field was being used. It was suggested to post ads so the public could attend.
- VM Puchalski stated the USCG will do an annual cleanup at the park and possible the marina.
- R. Williams showed examples of a sign installed outside the grave yard to identify the sites. He hopes this will prevent people from entering the fenced area. It was agreed money was available to purchase the sign. The council agreed on the tan sign. R. Williams will move forward to have it made. The council also thanked R. Williams for all the work to maintain the grave site.

E. Seaside Park

- The council discussed the location for the bocce court and it was approved. The location will be across from firehouse, along hedgerow. Materials will be ordered with marina wood.
- VM Puchalski suggested memorial stones for the park instead of benches.

F. Town Beautification

- Nothing to present.

G. Tourism

- R. Bilicki stated Clerk Wessells has forms for Mayor Janci to sign concerning the HRSD, Raft and motel feasibility study. It is due by March 17.
- R. Bilicki stated the Easter Bunny will be at Easter Egg Hunt on April 11th at 11 am. Volunteers were need to provide cookies and egg hiding and asked to be at park at 10 am.
- R. Williams introduced Jim Bell, a new resident of Wachapreague. J. Bell has been involved with lots of tourism across the bay. He is also interested in helping with advertising and updating the town's internet. He also has experience with judging professionally.

H. Derelict Properties

- K. Bilicki stated Planning Commission got together on Monday. They went over ordinances concerning keeping up property. It will be reviewed and presented next month. It was discussed to have an Ordinance Officer and Charles Elliott has volunteered to do job.
- Clerk Wessells explained things she has done to try and remedy this problem.
- A discussion of possible having owners allow for a control burn. Mayor Janci stated the property would need to be maintained.
- It was discussed the procedures have already been done but there is nothing to hold accountable. The penalty has no "TEETH" to force. Ideas of possible things that can be done. This will be brought back next month.

I. Safety and Security

- It was discussed VIMS was broke into and a truck and tools were stolen. It is being investigated by ACSO. Truck was recovered in Northampton County.
- A discussion of an incidence on Bayside Road where the ACSO was called. It seemed to be a party that got out of hand. The property owner will be contacted. The house is currently being rented to cable installers. D. Gouak reported a problem with calling 911. Jeff Flourney was contacted at 911. Problem will be looked into.
- The speeding issue was again discussed. Ideas to slow traffic on side roads.

J. Zoning Administrator's Report

- Mayor Janci stated 4 permits request were received. These were for the 3 VIMS projects. Mayor Janci was able to approve 2. The will be reviewed by Board of Zoning Appeals (maintenance shed). The additional request was for an accessory shed on Pearl Street. This was also approved.
- Clerk Wessells will contact the Board of Zoning Appeals members and schedule an appointment.

K. Streets and Drainage

- R. Williams reported the leaf vacuum was being used. Plans for the maintenance crew to use it on Liberty Street next week.
- R. Bilicki discussed best route to use for spoil removal from VIMS project. It was decided to use Brooklyn Avenue and out Richardson Avenue.

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

- R. Williams stated everything has been discussed.

M. Planning Commission

- K. Bilicki stated Ordinance I-6 has been reviewed and will be presented next meeting. She also reported on the bocce court location. Next meeting will be April 6, 2020.
- Mayor Janci requested to look at the clause concerning the 7 day notice of RV's in yards being stayed in. He stated the days need to be defined. Enforcement issues were discussed. R. Bilicki requested contacting lawyer to write a "boiler plate" letter and sign by mayor or council. K. Bilicki requested a copy of letter sent to residence.

N. Legal

- Nothing new to report.

VII. New Business

- VM Puchalski suggested doing a flounder tournament next year for a fundraiser.
- R. Bilicki stated a flooring contractor has offered to donate flooring for the town hall. A letter signed by the mayor for thanks and the value of the donation. All thanked R. Bilicki for looking into this.
- R. Bilicki has researched replacing the tourism signs (Painter and Kellar). The estimate given was \$1722 for both to be installed. Council discussed ideas for signs. This will be brought back next month.
- It was reported the electrician has been in to give estimate for gazebo repair.
- R. Bilicki requested if restrooms at marina could be left open year around. VM Puchalski stated the restrooms need to be winterized and closed.

VIII. Adjournment

- Motion was made by R. Bilicki and seconded by P. Peyton to adjourn. All approved.

MAYOR
03/12/2020

TOWN CLERK