

TOWN OF WACHAPREAGUE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING September 12, 2019

COUNCIL PRESENT: Fred Janci, Mayor; Sandie Puchalski, Vice Mayor; Robert Bilicki; Robert Williams; Peter Peyton; David Goauk; Katherine Bilicki
COUNCIL ABSENT: None
TOWN CLERK: Missy Wallace-Wessells

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

- I. Call to Order** – Mayor Fred Janci called to Order the Town Council Meeting at 7:00 p.m. on September 12, 2019, in the Wachapreague Town Hall.
- II. Pledge of Allegiance** – Mayor Janci lead the Council in the Pledge of Allegiance.
- III. Public Comments** – Mayor Janci opened the floor for Public Comments.
 - Ann Swick spoke about the interest in town with bocce Ball. She has requested permission to construct a bocce court at Seaside Park. Pictures were presented to Council of Cape Charles's bocce court. A. Swick has spoken to Nikki Wardius at the Wachapreague Inn about keeping the balls for checking out. She was good with the idea.
 - A. Swick has also suggested setting an area up for disc golf at Seaside Park. She added that most people who play carry the equipment in their vehicles. A description of the game was discussed. More information will be gathered and brought back to the Council.
 - Randy Powell requested information concerning the septic system project and the Town's plans. K. Bilicki stated she and Fred attended the meeting held in Onley. The Hampton Roads Sanitation District was offering to front the cost up to 3 miles toward the town of Wachapreague. A meeting with VIMS prior to the HRSD meeting was conducted and VIMS was very interested in this project due to the expansion of its complex with plans to construct a wastewater treatment facility. She stated the residents would not be affected by this project, strictly commercial properties. In the future, the residents may have the opportunity to connect to the line. A date of 2023 was projected for this project. Mayor Janci stated the citizens will not pay for this project. This will be on the commercial owners including VIMS. This project is in the information gathering stage. Before any decisions for the Town of Wachapreague, public hearings will need to be conducted. A discussion continued and final comment was by Mr. Powell requesting to keep the citizens informed on this matter.
 - Chris Wardius spoke representing the Wachapreague Inn. He presented plans and drawings for recreating the Old Wachapreague Hotel erection on the current property of Wachapreague Inn. The plans included 62 rooms, conference room, wedding venue and spa. He continued explaining the contacts made concerning the project including Senator Lewis, Delegate Bloxom, and the Accomack-Northampton Planning Commission. The ANPD suggested conducting a Feasibility Study. They also stated applying for a USDA Rural Business Development Grant. C. Wardius stated the plans for the septic system and storm water plan needed to be included with this grant application. The grant would include \$15,000 for Feasibility Study, \$3,500 Engineer Study for storm water drainage, \$5,000 USDA Development Grant and \$20,000 similar study plan. C. Wardius asked the Town to join him in applying for this Feasibility Study and pay \$2,500 each towards the grant writing application. A discussion ensued. R. Bilicki made a motion to use \$2,500 from the Tourism Reserve to

participate in this project and P. Peyton seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken with 6 yes and 1 abstain.

- R. Powell asked R. Bilicki if he should vote on funding of this study due to working on project and if this is a conflict. R. Bilicki stated the Deputy Director of Accomack County has been asked. The response was due to the close connection of the area, it is not uncommon for a business owner to be involved with projects that overlap. R. Powell asked R. Bilicki to abstain from involvement in this project and allow C. Wardius to be the direct contact for this project. R. Bilicki stated his concern will be noted.

IV. Council Meeting

- Mayor Janci asked if everyone has reviewed the minutes from August 8, 2019. A motion was made by VM Puchalski to accept the minutes. A vote was taken and all approved.

V. Review of Financial Report

Mayor Janci reviewed the financials with the Town Council.

- **Incomplete Financials for FY 2018-2019** –
Clerk Wessells explained the FY 2018-2019 is still being completed. The final information should be available on the October 2019 meeting.
- **Town Of Wachapreague-**
Mayor Janci reviewed the financials for August. Mayor Janci stated the town is 2 months into the year and everything is looking good. Mayor Janci asked if contact has been made concerning the outstanding taxes. Clerk Wessells stated some money has been collected and not posted. The others have letters sent.
- **Port of Wachapreague-**
Mayor Janci asked if there are any questions or concerns with the financials for the Port of Wachapreague ending August 30, 2019.
A motion was made by K. Bilicki and seconded by VM Puchalski to approve the financials for the Town and Port. A vote was taken and all approved.
- **Money Market-**
Clerk Wessells reported interest has already been gained in the short period of activity.

VI. Unfinished Business

A. Marina

- Vice Mayor Puchalski stated everything was going well and minor work needs to be done. She stated some baseboards need replacing and applying water-sealer on dock boards.
- VM Puchalski stated the dredging project is underway with planning. She stated estimates are being accepted for the spoil site work.
- VM Puchalski stated a mock oil spill was being conducted tomorrow with the USCG which involves many stations, organizations and first responders. Due to the weather, this has been put on hold for a couple weeks. She will be informed when the next date will be.
- VM Puchalski stated everything has been good for the year.

B. Town Maintenance/Garbage (Repairs)

- D. Gouak state the brush truck failed inspection. D. Gouak stated several things needed repairs. Most were done with the help of R. Puchalski. D. Gouak stated the manifold needed replacing and was at Colonna's.
- D. Gouak stated with the help of R. Puchalski looking for a replacement for the brush and pickup truck with a dump body. Also adding a chipper was discussed to make mulch with brush. R. Puchalski volunteered to do the chipping for the town. Discussion ensued concerning the process of replacing a vehicle.

- A motion was made by K. Bilicki and seconded by R. Williams to approve up to \$7,000 to replace brush and pickup trucks with one truck with dump body. VM Puchalski, R. Puchalski and D. Gouak will be in charge of this task. A roll call vote was taken with 6 yes and 1 abstain.
- D. Gouak stated a meeting with the maintenance crew and VM Puchalski was had and things went well.

C. Powell Park

- VM Puchalski stated another USCG event is planned for a flag football game.
- VM Puchalski stated she will try to get a USCG volunteer crew together to trim up around the park and along the south ditch.
- VM Puchalski stated mulch was delivered but needed to be spread by the maintenance crew.
- R. Bilicki thanked VM Puchalski and R. Puchalski for the work at the park. He stated his grandchildren had a great time. R. Williams was thanked for all his work with the cemetery repairs.

D. Town Beautification

- K. Bilicki was not present.

E. Streets and Drainage

- R. Williams reported on the meeting with VDOT and Chris Isdell. They went around town and discussed areas of concerns. Mr. Isdell called back yesterday and stated culvert boxes and drains were placed on the schedule to be done. R. Williams stated some culverts will need replacing including the one at High and South Street. He stated some culvert covers need replacing. A discussion of the areas of concerns were discussed. VM Puchalski stated Johnson's Welding may be able to make some. Mayor Janci may have some culverts.

F. Safety and Security

- Clerk Wessells revisited an estimate for a solar powered speed limit sign. K. Bilicki had some ideas she will forward. A discussion of possible stop signs on Main Street ensued. Other ideas were discussed such as rumble strips and speed bumps. Mayor Janci stated to talk with Supervisor Donald Hart concerning funding for this matter. It was decided to request assistance for the ditched first. This matter will be continued next month.

G. Derelict Properties

- Clerk Wessells stated the concern over the "Barnes" property by a resident. This person was planning to clear the property themselves and take possession. It was explained this could not happen this way.
- Mayor Janci stated the property on Brooklyn was sold and work will begin soon.
- The Council discussed several properties and letters to be sent.
- R. Williams stated the campground managers were told to secure the trailers which are not permanent. Mayor Janci stated there should not be any permanent campers. A conversation of enforcement ensued.
- The Council discussed issues with overgrowth of several properties. R. Bilicki asked the status of the Planning Commission on ordinance compliances.

H. Tourism

- R. Bilicki reported on the status of the Tesla Charging Station. He has spoken with Chief Sean Fate of the WVFC and the location was determined to be on the south side of the parking lot along Seaside Park on High Street. R. Bilicki is getting an estimate for trenching of the electric line.

- R. Bilicki clarified the process of payment for the Tesla Charging Station. It was explained the driver will pay for electricity by credit card to the account set up by the Town. It was asked if Tesla receives payment and R. Bilicki stated it was a gift to the Town.
- R. Bilicki reported on the advertising with Jim Baugh's media company. The final shoot will be tomorrow. Promotion of the Milky Way event April - June should be stated now.
- R. Bilicki reported the ESCC Shore Surf and Turf will be held tomorrow. He expressed concern with trash and the after-party. Also the Crab Cake Cook-off will be tomorrow afternoon. This will be for noncommercial due to the conflict of events this year.
- R. Bilicki reported on the September 21, 2019 Town Wide Yard Sale and VIMS Marine Day. The yard sale map was discussed.

I. Zoning Administrator's Report

- Mayor Janci stated nothing new to report.

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

- R. Williams stated over a hundred signed letters in support of the cell phone tower has been turned in to Supervisor Hart. He thanks Amanda at the Wachapreague Inn for her assistance.
- R. Williams reported 4 street lights were turned in for repair with ANEC. These will be replaced with led bulbs that will save electricity.

K. Planning Commission

- K. Bilicki stated the Planning Commission did not meet Monday but changes are being made to correct wording.

L. Mosquito Control

- VM Puchalski stated nothing to report.

M. Seaside Park

- Mayor Janci stated work was done to weed the park.

N. Legal

- Nothing new to report.

VII. New Business

- Nothing new to report.

VIII. Announcements

- Clerk Wessells has asked for a volunteer to make the annual Christmas Ornament for the Governor's Tree in Richmond. R. Williams volunteered Tomeka to make it again this year.

IX. Adjournment

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

MAYOR
09/12/19

TOWN CLERK

MOTION TO APPROVE THE AMOUNT OF \$2,500 TOWARDS APPLYING
FOR THE ACCOMACK COUNTY FEASIBILITY STUDY. THIS WILL BE DEDUCTED
FROM THE TOURISM RESERVE. THIS GRANT APPLICATION WILL BE JOINT WITH
THE TOWN OF WACHAPREAGUE AND THE WACHAPREAGUE INN.

Pursuant to motion made by **Councilman, R. BILICKI**, and seconded by
Councilman, P. PEYTON, for a Motion to approve spending \$2,500 to participate in a
Feasibility Study in conjunction with the Wachapreague Inn and the Council having voted
upon the motion, as recorded below, and approved at the Town Council Meeting of
SEPTEMBER 12, 2019.

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	6	0	1	0

Duly recorded this _____ day of SEPTEMBER 2019.

Town Clerk