

The Parksley Town Council met on Monday, April 9, 2007 at 7:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers on Dunne Ave. Present: Mayor Rick Chase; Council: Rodney Smoot, Ellen Boyce, James Eichelberger, Carter Parks (Frank Russell arrived at 7:45 p.m.); Chief of Police Tommy Carpenter; Director of Public Works/Zoning Administrator Fred Matthews; Atty. Lynwood Lewis and Clerk Denise Bernard

Visitors: Charles Marshall, Barbara Schwenk, Matt Hart, Parks Phillips and Phil Evans

Mayor Chase called the meeting to order and Councilwoman Boyce led the Invocation and Pledge.

Mayor Chase introduced P. Evans, from CSB, who was going to give an update on the high speed internet.

P. Evans stated that he understands that the main trunk will be run to Wallops. Three phases – 1st is the trunk, which is really not much; 2nd is putting the loops to the trunk (money would probably come from grants); 3rd would be to connect to the businesses. He did some research on how other areas got money for this, some started a co-op, and some connected wirelessly. The fiber optic may be able to piggy back with the sewage or the ANEC. The high speed internet would attract high tech businesses to town; the main trunk will take approximately 12 to 18 months. They are working with VDOT and going to use their right of ways right down the highway. Every 3 miles or so there will be a junction, to connect the two cables together.

B. Schwenk, from the A-NPDC, stated that the State funded the engineering, but not construction. The last she heard was that it will start at Wallops and go south. Lynwood Lewis and his assistant Laurie Naismith are working hard to get the money from Congress; Governor Kane has put this on his priority list. This is an open access network, there should be competition. Parksley doesn't want to be left out of any planning money and want a loop to connect the town. It is the way to the future; Wallops needs this internet, the Navy won't be able to function without it which would hurt the whole shore. Some places that have grants are USDA Utility Service Grants, EDA and CDBG.

P. Evans stated that CSB could offer more services with this high speed internet.

Mayor Chase stated that the town needs to move forward with this; he asked Phil Evans if he would be on a committee to work on this. *Phil said he would help.* The Town needs to fill the vacant council seat and there are two citizens present that are interested in the seat.

Charles Marshall and Parks Phillips both expressed their desire to work on the town council.

M. Hart stated that he had purchased the old D&M Furniture and is restoring it. With the sewage like it is, he can't open a restaurant. He would like to open an arcade. No alcohol or smoking and it would be geared to teenagers. The apartment above is being renovated, hopefully for his residence.

Councilman Russell stated that he and his brother had an arcade in town several years ago. He suggested that he have constant supervision; but has no problem with it.

Dir. Of Pub. Wks/Zoning Administrator Matthews stated that the town's zoning does allow arcades with a Special Use Permit. One issue is the Health Dept., but he is not going to prepare food.

Chief Carpenter stated that he didn't have any problems with an arcade, the kids are around town, and this way he would know where they are. The kids don't have anything to do, so with supervision it should be good.

Councilman Parks asked about the hours of operation.

M. Hart stated that he would probably open Friday and Saturday night through the fall and winter and extend the hours in the summer.

Dir. Of Pub. Wks/Zoning Administrator Matthews stated that the town would decide the time.

Chief Carpenter stated that there is an 11:00 curfew; it would need to close before that.

The minutes from the March meeting and the Special meeting were approved as read.

Councilman Eichelberger made the motion to pay the bills. Motion was 2nd by Councilman Smoot. Motion passed unanimously.

Unfinished Business – Barb Schwenk talked about Marcor's new bid of \$1, 215,000; and stated that the most that the system can be raised is 1 ft. (Marcor had read the plans wrong).

Mayor Chase stated that Marcor left the 30 septic tanks in; they changed the figures, but not the design.

B. Schwenk has emailed and called Ken Nowakowski since Thursday, but has had no response. She had checked on the HR 569 (as requested by Mayor Chase), it looks like it is a re-authorization for water pollution control. She also tried to talk to Walter Gill at the DEQ, but couldn't. It is called a grant, which would go from the Federal Government to the state, and the state decides how to use it. She believes that this is the money that the DEQ uses for the Chesapeake Bay Act and Clean Bay Act, which are revolving loans. She had talked to Walter Gill from the DEQ before and he had said that the town is eligible for but not high in priority for these loans. These are specifically for municipalities that are putting out dirty water.

Councilwoman Boyce talked to Supervisor Sandy Mears about the \$300,000 the county has; she said she thought it was spent.

B. Schwenk stated that she was told by W. Gill that the county hadn't decided on what to spend the money on.

Dir. Of Pub. Wks/Zoning Administrator Matthews stated that something will be done in Melfa (water treatment) before the Sept. expiration date.

Atty. Lewis stated that the Council needs to work on the County; they were awarded the Stag money; need to talk to the Supervisors. *Councilwoman Boyce stated that she would talk to Supervisor Laura Belle Gordy.*

Dir. Of Pub. Wks/Zoning Administrator Matthews stated that the money came to Thelma Drake's district and she probably would not want to see the money go back.

Mayor Chase stated that the town needs to look into this. It is a long way from affording the system, but close.

Councilman Russell stated that Wayne Parsley is also interested in the Council seat, but couldn't make tonight's meeting; then stated that he would like time to talk this over.

Mayor Chase stated that the town was going to have a work session, and could discuss the seat then. He gave the council a new Organizational Chart. *Council agreed with the chart.* He would like to have a work session each month on the 4th Monday of the month at 7:30 p.m. to work out any obstacles.

Committee Reports – Councilman Russell stated that he thought that Matt Hart's arcade is a good idea.

Councilman Smoot agreed, with proper supervision. It would give M. Hart some revenue until the sewage is in place and he can do more with the building.

Councilman Parks' concern was with the hours. Where he used to live, the arcades worked with the school system and didn't allow school age kids in during school hours.

Dir. Of Pub. Wks/Zoning Administrator Matthews suggested that they close at 10:00, so they are home before the 11:00 curfew.

Chief Carpenter stated that he didn't see any problems, the kids are bored and they will know where they are, and close at 10:00.

Councilman Russell asked about the school property.

Dir. Of Pub. Wks/Zoning Administrator Matthews stated that the town is waiting to hear from them. They applied for a zoning permit to build a house on a 50 ft. lot which was turned down.

Councilman Parks stated that he had a GPA member told him that they don't go to the meetings due to smoking. This is a public building shouldn't have smoking in it, and smoke bothers him too.

Councilman Parks made a motion to make the building a smoke free building.

Council agreed to put a no smoking sign on the town office.

Mayor Chase stated that this building is a smoke free area.

Councilman Eichelberger gave out a handout on taxing powers.

Councilwoman Boyce stated that Wayne Parsley will be out of the parsonage on May 1st. He has a collection to give to the train museum. They discussed the south end, but don't want it on the cement floor; they want to move the wall between the ESRM and the 2 offices. Wayne Parsley will pay for a large part and the museum will pay for a small part of it there will be no expense to the town.

Councilwoman Boyce stated that they had started work on this building in the 2001-2002 budget and have done it in phases.

Dir. Of Pub. Wks/Zoning Administrator Matthews stated that the siding materials are ordered for the front of the building. The soffit and the customizing around the windows are done the sign on top was redone. Need rain gutter on the front and work on the north end; will have to patch the underpinning for now.

Mayor Chase wants the numbers for the work session.

Chief Carpenter asked about the three year contract with the new police officer; there are just some minor changes to make on the contract that Bob Fetterman had. No crimes have been reported for several years for Parksley, since we don't have the IBR System, starting July 1st the funds will be held if not in compliance. It could cost between \$11,000 and \$12,000, but would get back at least \$21,000. It wouldn't take long to get it in place, need a check for \$6,000 and may be able to cut the cost by sharing the school with Bloxom. He could attend Bloxom's Town Council meeting and see if they are interested in sharing the school cost.

Dir. Of Pub. Wks/Zoning Administrator Matthews stated that he is getting ready to work on this building and 14 alleys. Need to replace two trash receptacles; and for the past two years have discussed expanding the west end of the park. He wants to put in two picnic tables, 2 grills and another security light.

Atty. Lewis stated that a response has been filed in the condemnation suit. He will look at it and send a copy.

New Business – Mayor Chase stated that the town had acquired the materials from the garage.

Dir. Of Pub. Wks/Zoning Administrator Matthews stated that he had the lumber.

Councilman Russell asked if the building materials can't be used for a shed for the Maint. Dept. could they be used to close in the Pavilion.

Atty. Lewis stated that the A-NPDC is the contact for the "Last Mile" for the broadband. He is hopeful that there is enough money from the State to lay some of the pipe. It's reasonable because of the flat land and going through VDOT.

Councilman Parks made the motion to adjourn. Motion was 2nd by Councilman Smoot. Motion passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 9:20 p.m.

Clerk

Mayor